

## **BELOW ARE MINUES FOR THE BOARD MEETING**

### **RKIFMC BOARD MEETING**

**Thursday, November 13, 2014**

**0811-1630**

Meeting called to order: 0811 by VP Jack Jarvis

Opening greeting from Vice President

Rules of the meeting

Roll Call of Officers:

Chris Gadway, President (excused)  
 Jack Jarvis, VP  
 Bill Snodgrass, Secretary  
 Scott Ryan, Treasurer  
 Gil Rekken, Region 5  
 Tom Delboi Region 7

Norm Beausoleil, Region 1  
 Leo Patry, Region 2  
 Tim Reinard, (Excused)  
 Joey Powell, Region 4  
 Joe Connors, Region 6

#### **1. REPORTS:**

##### **MALs:**

*521 paid and in good standing for 2014, 100 still on book but have not paid. Using Directors to check on why chapter members want to become MALs.*

##### **REGION 1:**

*Have 3-4 new chapters in region, working with committee for the Yankee Rally to be held on May 29-31, 2015 in New York. Attended the European meeting and the funeral for Steve Mickle. Will be seeking re-election as Regional Director.*

##### **REGION 2:**

*Making contact with all chapters, working to set up a meeting with Chapter Presidents in Region.*

##### **REGION 3:**

*Working with WI 5 on hosting convention, working on holding Regional meeting in 2015. New chapter in Ohio (OH 17).*

##### **REGION 4:**

*Working with new chapter in Virginia, Dixie Rally will be held in New Orleans on May 18-19, 2015. Wanting to start a Big Brother program for new members. Working to set a meeting of all Chapter Presidents in region.*

**REGION 5:** *Working with committee for the Western Rally, to be held June 19-20, 2015 in Alberta, Canada. Hosted by Alberta 4.*

**REGION 6:**

*Learning duties of Regional Director Send out information letters to fire departments in region has a meeting set up with Hell Angels in Arizona.*

**REGION 7:**

*Gave highlights of European Meeting, approximately 300 in attendance. Took part in escort of motorcycles for people who died in plane crash. Send letter to all government officials introducing the Red Knights. Still have some problems over chapters building club houses and wanting members to pay for them. Still some problems between MALs and Association. 2015 European Meeting will be held in Switzerland September 11-13, 2015. Attended funeral in Region.*

**2. CONVENTION REPORTS:**

**2015:** *Hotel is set; rate is \$124.00 for 130 rooms. After that is goes to \$170.00. Parking for motorcycle is \$10.00 per day and cars is \$21.00 per day. Off sight parking for trucks with trailers is \$25.00 for week upon request (30 minutes from hotel on private gated property). Alamo tour, boat cruise and more.*

**2016:** *Will be held at the Kalahari Resort in Wisconsin Dells, Wisconsin. Room Rate is \$149.00. Contract is ready to be signed. They are expecting 350 to attend.*

**2017:** *Hotel has been selected, plans on ride to, Vine County, casino.*

**2018:** *Hotel has been selected, plans on ride to Memorial of 911 plane crash,*

**2019:** *NH chapters working together to host in the White Mountain region.*

**THE FOLLOWING WERE CARRIED OVER FROM THE 2014 SPRING AND SUMMER MEETINGS**

1. MAL application in both Germany and French, Jack and Tom are working on this

*The MAL in German is finished and has been submitted to web master for posting on web site. Still working on application in French.*

2. Application for Hosting Convention, Scott is to re-write By-Law section 2:02 on Annual Meeting/Convention.

*Will bring report to spring meeting. A CD will be send to all hosting chapters and the by-law change to the by-law committee.*

3. Region 3 Director arrived at 1530 hours
4. *SOG Updates:* Each Board member is to take the following sections and submit their changes/updates or deletions to the International Secretary, all deletions are to be shown in **YELLOW** with a ~~line through them~~ and all updates/changes are to be shown in **GREEN**.

Secretary- Table of contents and formatting

Chris- sections 1 & 2

Jack – Section 3 & 4

Leo- Section 5 & 6

Norm- Section 7 & 8

Scott- Section 9 & 10

Tim- Section 11 & 12

Joey- Section 13 & 14

Gil- Section 15 & 16

Flint- Section 17&19

*Reviewed and approved each section of the SOGs as assigned. Secretary is to finish the formatting and submit the draft to Board for final approval before submitting to the Web Master for posting on the web site.*

5. Ability for International officer to enact a suspension pending board approval:

*This was **tabled** to the Spring Board 2015 meeting.*

6. A discussion on having a First and Second Vice President and term limits

*Suggestion was made that if this was to happen, the First Vice President would be in charge of Region 1, 2, 3 and 4. the Second Vice President would be in charge of Regions 5, 6, 7, MALs and Oversea chapters. It was decide that more information and study was needed on this. The Secretary asked all Board members to submit their ideas on term limits to him. He is looking to submit a by-law proposal in 2015.*

7. Back patch (new one with Harley)

*After reading the comments on Face Book when this question was ask it was overwhelming that the membership was not in favor of changing our patch design. All chapters can apply for a TMLA for a 4'' front chapter patch.*

8. Different design on challenge coin, Norm is having photos taken of Memorial, Jack is working on design and will forward to Board members for review

*This was **tabled** to the spring 2015 meeting.*

9. Jackets for International Board members, Tom to show the International Board possible Jackets for board members

*Tom showed sample of jacket with our three piece patch on back. It was suggested that he have sample made with the International Seal on back instead and have what I on the front of the golf shirts on the front of the jacket. He will have this for the 2015 spring meeting.*

**PRESIDENT:**

10. Board Reports to web master (Chris)

*Chris reminded all Board members of the need to submit their reports quarterly to the web master for their page. He asked that all Board members submit an article to the newsletter editor for the December issue.*

11. GEO Mapping to Regional Directors (Chris)

*The International Treasurer assumed the duties of maintaining and updating the GEO mapping section on our web site. For 2015, Region 3 has the Perry Carter award and Region 7 is in charge of the Red Knight Face Book site. The International Treasurer will assume the duties of maintaining and updating the GEO mapping section on our website once provided access and instructions on how to make changes.*

12. Clarification of system for posting information on web site (Chris)

*Chris clarified the system for posting on the web site. All official items from the Red Knight Board go to the Secretary who will work with the web master to have them posted. Each board member may submit items for their web page themselves. The Communication Chair may have items posted on the web page.*

## VICE PRESIDENT

13. Ordering of Heaven One name rockers – allowing chapters to order name rockers of people that are not RKIFMC members. (Jack)

*After discussion on this subject, Motion 2014-038 was approved that only bottom rockers for the name of our members would be ordered and sold by the RKR Quartermaster.*

14. Three inch rockers with awards

*Motion 2014-039 was made to amend SOG 13:04 so that a 4 inch upper arch would be given with the awards for Life Saving, Life Member and Grand Tour.*

15. The wearing of "ROCKERS" in Australia and/or New Zealand is not permitted, therefore cannot be purchased by a chapter or individual from these countries.

Australia Rockers will not be manufactured at any time by the International.

The color of your chapters back patch will be decided on at your raising meeting. Please keep in mind that the Red and White back patch is the only one approved by the 1% community here in Australia.

The use of the "M.C" initials in Australia on merchandise is not permitted as this is highly regarded within the 1% community.

The ONLY piece of merchandise with the "M.C" initials permitted is the International Flag. (Jack/Ross)

*Discussion was held on this issue resulting in Motion 2014-040 being approved for a new SOC Section (3:07) being written, which reads: The wearing of "rockers" in Australia is not permitted, therefore cannot be purchased by an Australian chapter or individual. The color of the back patch will be decided at the initial meeting for the chapter. The Red & White patch is the one suggested in Australia. The use of the "MC" initials in Australia on merchandise is not permitted. The only piece of merchandise with the "MC" initials permitted is the International Flag.*

16. European MAL's - How do we fix the separation of MAL and Chapter Member? (Jack)

*The problem is that the MALs in Europe and the European Association are not working together and the MALs want to be their own chapter and be treated as a chapter, allowing them to apply for TMLAs be approved to have their own clothing line. Jack is*

*working with the European MAL Representative on the issues and will report to the Board.*

17. By-Laws not updated on web site

*Since the by-law committee has not updated the by-laws on the web site since the convention, The President ask the Secretary to take this duty back and see that the by-laws were updated ASAP.*

**SECRETARY**

18. Need to display all flags at convention (Bill)

*Discussed that the flags of all countries are to be displayed at the Convention. Joe stated that this would be done in Texas for the 2015 convention.*

19. Budget and Attendance at the KORT (Bill)

*A line item budget of \$500.00 as startup funds for the 2015 KORT, hosted by the Red Knights would be set. It was suggested that the President or Vice President should attend every year as this is an event of the International Blue Knights, International Green Knights and the Red Knights.*

20. Corrections to Minutes (Bill)

*The Secretary thanked the Board members for reviewing the minutes and submitting corrections. He advise that when the same corrections where made on the same article, he would only the only difference was the wording.*

21. Status and plan for Business Plan (Bill)

*It was agreed that the Business plan would be discussed on Saturday morning from 8am to noon at the spring meeting. All Board members are encouraged to review and be ready to discuss changes at that time.*

22. Maine 8 Charter to Millinocket instead of Lincoln

*The Board approved the moving of the charter location of Maine 8. The Secretary is to issue a new charter certificate.*

23. Read motion 2014-036E and 2014-037E

*The Secretary read Motions 2014-026E and 2014-037E into the record.*

## **TREASURER**

24. According to the bylaws & SOGs, the dues are:

New Chapter \$35 + \$16/member (\$12 after Aug 1, \$8 after Oct 1) BL 2:01 V SOG 12:08=\$25

New Member \$16 SOG 12:08

Renewal Active/Associate \$13 SOG 12:08

Renewal Social/Honorary \$7 SOG 12:08

Junior \$0

Late Chapter renewal (after Feb 15) \$50 fee SOG 12:08

New MAL \$10 + dues SOG 12:08

Renewal Active MAL \$15 (\$11.25 after Jul 1, \$7.50 after Oct 1 BL 2:01 IV) SOG 12:08

Renewal Social MAL \$10 SOG 12:08

Late MAL \$10 plus dues after March 31 BL 2:01 IV

MAL to Chapter credit Chapter \$13 Active, \$7 social (\$9.75/\$5.25 Jul 1, \$6.50/\$3.5 Oct 1) SOG 12:04

At the very least, either Bylaw 2:01 V or SOG 12:08 need to change so the new chapter application is the same (I suggest changing the SOG).

Under the current scheme, there is a late year reduction in dues for members joining a new chapter and new MALs but not for new members in an existing chapter. There is a penalty and a dues reduction for late renewing MALs but only a penalty for late renewing chapters.

I believe the practice may have been to extend the reduction to new chapter members joining an existing chapter late in the year but this is not how the bylaws and SOGs are written. I would lean toward extending them the break.

With the MAL renewal dues being reduced as the year goes on (even with the \$10 late fee), there is a disincentive for them to pay dues before October 1 if they miss the March 31 deadline. I would lean toward treating MAL renewals the same as chapter renewals and charge a late fee only with no proration of dues. (Scott)

*New SOG 12:05 was done to show the correct rates*

25. What about having a Chapter Member classification – they would NOT be members on the International Roster, not pay International dues, not be included in the numbers for convention grants, not be considered “in good standing” from an International point of view, but would be able to wear the bottom rocker of the second chapter. I’m not sure what sort of top rocker would apply, are we stepping into the 1% world if they have no top rocker. (Scott)

*After discussion it was agreed not to take any action on this item. If you belong to more than one chapter, you pay the dues required by the International and Chapter.*

26. Bylaw 2:01 V. states that New Chapters dues shall pay a \$35 application fee. SOG 12:08 states New Chapter applications will be \$25. I propose we change the SOG to reflect a \$35 application fee. New chapters require seven active members, this works out to \$5 per member which should not prevent chapters from forming. (Scott)

*New SOG 12:05 was done to show the correct rates*

27. SOG 9:01 B encourages Regional Directors to hold a Regional meeting – and encourages them to combine it with other multi-chapter events. This SOG states expenses will be covered for the Regional Director for one of these meetings per director per year.

There are more than one multi-chapter event in most regions each year, it has been suggested that past practice has been to assist directors with costs to attend these, beyond the one meeting.

In a review of the SOGs and Bylaws, it appears the only travel that is covered is that mentioned above, three board meetings (including the convention), European convention, convention liaison, and funerals. If it is the board's wish that other travel be covered (either for more than one regional meeting or for President/Vice President/Secretary/Treasurer) the SOGs or bylaws will need to be changed accordingly. (Scott)

*SOG Section 9:01 B deals with the Regional Director attending either a Regional Rally or a meeting of State/ Province Representatives each year. Scott is to work on a SOG and by-law change for more than one regional meeting or for President/Vice President/Secretary/Treasurer travel.*

28. Roster information. What information in the rosters should be shared and with whom? Now that we are pushing chapters to use the Red Knights e-mail addresses, should we be sharing any other addresses? Should we be providing phone numbers and home addresses to people beyond the board? (Scott)

*The Master Roster is submitted to the Regional Directors by the Secretary. If is up to the Regional Directors to use the rosters as they see fit.*

**MEETING ADJOUNED AT 1700**



**RKIFMC BOARD MEETING**  
**FRIDAY, November 14, 2014**  
**0757-1700**

29. Line item budget for 2015 (Scott)

*The line item budget was submitted by the International Treasurer and reviewed by the Executive Board. A copy is on file with the Secretary and Treasurer. Motion 2014-044 was made on Saturday, November 15, 2015 to approve the 2015 budget as amended.*

**REGION 1**

30. 2019 Annual Convention to be hosted by NH 3 (Norm)

*NH chapters working together to host in the White Mountain region, more information when it comes available. This will have to be approved at the 2015 ABM.*

31. 2 agenda items, details to follow. I received word that there are 2 by-law change proposals (that will be coming from the Massachusetts Red Knights (Norm)

*The two by-law proposals were read and discussion was led by Norm on the reasons for the proposals. No endorsement was given by the Board on either proposal.*

**REGION 2**

**REGION 3**

32. Grandchildren becoming Social Members (Tim)

*Tim is to work on by-law proposals for Sections 5:06 and 5:09 of the by-laws and submit to the by-law committee.*

33. Future Guidelines when a Board members steps down during their term (Tim) (there is a by-law proposal from MA on this)

*This is covered in the by-law proposals submitted the Massachusetts chapters.*

**REGION 4**

34. Red Knights chapter pages for social media. How do we control what it posted? There have been recently items posted about different situations about other chapters, members and the International board. Maybe look at the By-laws and SOG's to add what we can do about it in more detail. (Joey)

*The TMLA for chapter business states that the web site must be controlled entirely by a Chapter, not an individual. The Chapter is responsible for all content on the Web site. Therefore it up to the chapter to police the social media sites.*

35. Region Director meeting with State Rep. See if we can bring in all of State Reps in for a Region meeting at a central location in the Region and the international maybe somehow pay for the hotel room. (Joey)

*Scott is to work on a SOG and by-law change for more than one regional meeting or for President/Vice President/Secretary/Treasurer travel.*

## **REGION 5**

## **REGION 6**

36. Custom Red Knights back patches for Texas 1 vs. grandfather rights (Joe)

*This was moved to Executive Session*

## **REGION 7**

37. Need for Country Representatives in Europe only, like State/Province Representatives in North America. (Tom)

*The Board agreed to this and the Secretary was advised to make the wording change to the by-laws in Section 3:22 and to forward to the Board and the by-law committee.*

38. European QM, this will help the chapters with the cost of shipping and customs fees. Lots of problems with the international merchandise for the European chapters/MALs. Think about better solutions. (Tom)

*Tom Delboi is to assume the duties of the quartermaster for Europe. The RKR Quartermasters and Treasurer us to work with him by sending him samples so that he can get samples and prices from vendors and check quality. All monies are to be submitted to the International Treasurer. Cost of shipping is to be added to his expense report monthly.*

39. Trademark for Europe is approved. What will be our next steps to handle those who use our name? I will bring you some examples. (Tom)

*The Red Knights have been approved by the WIPO for the trademark to our name in Europe. As for the HA support club in Portugal whose name is Red Knight's, Tom was advise to contact his contact person in Switzerland and explain the TMLA problem with him. As for vendors, that can submit a TMLA application from Tom, however the final approval will still come from the International Secretary. All chapter TMLA requests are still to be send to the International Secretary.*

40. Think about a bylaws change. My idea: Social member can stay as social member after 5 years membership for example in case of divorce. (Tom)

*This would take a by-law change and after discussion, the Board was not in favor of this proposal.*

41. In Europe we have 2 very big local firefighter MCs. Any special offers for membership (Like New York Fire Riders...)? (Tom)

*After discussion, it was agreed that the Red Knights do not have program that would allow this and the Board cannot grant this. However, if members of another club want to join the Red Knights and wear a front patch of another club they could and should be encouraged to join the Red Knights.*

42. MAL application approval process. To assist the int. VP, I offer to send the welcome packages from my house. After MAL membership and payment is approved the int. VP will send me an email with this information's. I will send them their welcome package from my house, within Europe. As you know I have a Switzerland and a German post office within 2 miles by my house. I think that is faster (and cheaper for the international) too. (Tom)

*The Board agreed to this and Jack has given Tom 20 new MAL packages to get started with.*

43. European member for the Nominations Committee and the Grand Tour Program (Tom Tom)

*Motion 2014-041 was approved to appoint Manfred Kother (GR 6) to the Nominations Committee and Stefan Thalhammer (GR MAL) to the Grand Tour Committee.*

**DINNER BREAK 1700 -1830**

**RKIFMC BOARD MEETING  
FRIDAY, November 14, 2014  
6:30 pm to 10:05 pm**

**DAVE EMERY**

44. I would strongly suggest that the international look into purchasing a clear plastic zippered pouch. I found one at Wal-Mart. I then purchased a red knight decal with Steve's name on it for \$10.00 (that the chapter was selling) and adhered it to the front of the pouch. Another option would be a cloth pouch with the Heavens One patch adhered to it... this would protect the flag during inclement weather and become a way for the flag to be displayed at the family's future desires. (Dave Emery)

*The Board agreed that his was a good idea and encouraged each Board member to do as needed.*

**DENNIS HEWETT**

45. 911 Dispatchers joining the RKMC

*Discussion was held on this proposals and the outcome was that they need to be employed and under the control of a Fire Chief to become Red Knights. Dennis was advised that he could still submit this request to the by-law committee to have it voted on at the 2015 ABM. He was advised that the Board did not endorse it.*

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**  
**8:34 PM TO 10:02 PM**

**MEETING ADJOUNED AT 10:05 PM**

**RKIFMC BOARD MEETING**  
**SATURDAY, November 15, 2014**  
**8:00 am to 4:30 pm**

46. Motion 2014-042

*Motion was made to re-affirm the decision to Grandfather Texas 1 for the back patches they have always worn. This was initially approved in a previous motion and will remain in effect as long as the chapter remains in good standing.*

47. Motion 2014-043

*To allow Board members to wear their approved chapter colors on a red vest while performing all International duties.*

## **TOM CASSIE**

48. Two By-Law sections update approvals (attached). These do not require a vote of the membership (not amending just updating) but the Board should make sure they approve the wording. (Tom C)

*By-law section was reviewed and Secretary was advised to make the changes in the by-laws and to have them posted on our web site.*

49. Intent to seek reelection deadlines / process. (Tom C)

*Board members were advised that if you are seeking re-election, to get your information to the committee before the deal line.*

50. Appointments of additional Nominating Committee Member(s) - TomTom's previous email on topic. (Tom C)

*This was done with Motion 2014-041*

51. Guidance regarding assignment of responsibilities to Nominating Committee Members. (Tom C)

*The Board decided that the Chairperson of the committee sets the responsibilities of the members. He is to select two members to serve on the committee and advise the Board who the members are.*

52. Execution and discharge of the contract with Vote Net Solutions for 2015. Leo and I worked through this in 2013. I will need to start dialogue with vendor around the holidays. (Tom C)

*By a vote of hands, the Secretary was to advise Tom to executed and discharge the contact with Vote Net Solution for 2015 as needed.*

53. Formatting and validating rosters to align with voting requirements both Chapters and MAL's. Leo and I worked through this in 2013. We have some time with this but we don't want to be dealing this validation and formatting with the election clock ticking. (Tom C)

*Scott will work with Tom on this program.*

54. Timely posting on Election Information and Nominee Profiles on the International Website. (Tom C)

*The Secretary will follow up with the Web Master to see that this is done when he receives the Nominee Profiles*

**1:00 to 3:00**

## 55. KNIGHTS AND WAY presentation by Ramon

*After the presentation of the Red Knights Management Tool, motion 2014- was approved to implement the program as a pilot program to be revisited at eh 2015 spring meeting.*

## 56. Discussion on if we can get health (travel) insurance to cover us while we are on Red Knight business.

*The Secretary is to research this and advise the Board.*

## 57. Line Item Budget

*Motion 2014-044 was approved to accept the 2015 Line Item Budget as amended.*

## 58. 2015 European Public Safety, Fire and EMS EXPO

*Tom Delboi gave a report regarding a request for funding for the 2015 European Public Safety, Fire and EMS EXPO. They are expecting 125,000 visitors with 1300 vendors from over 100 countries. The cost for the vendor space for the event is \$6000.00 US. They are giving the space to the Red Knights for \$200.00 US. It will take five members each day to man the space. He members will pay their own way into the event. Tom asked to help with the hotel, one meal a day and handout material. After discussion, the RKR will give \$1500.00; the RKIFMC will give \$1500.00 and an Association grant of \$500.00 for a total of \$3500.00. He expect that total cost for the event to be \$5000.00*

## 59. Overseas Travel Line Item

*Discussion was held on overseas travel for 2015. As the RKIFMC continues to grow in Australia, Europe and New Zealand and we are an International Club, discussion was held on where we would be best served by sending a Board member in 2015. As we have had Board members attend the European meeting for two years, it was decide to help send a Board member to Australia/New Zealand in 2015.*

## 60. Help a Knight Program

*The Board appointed Amanda Roun as the Help A Knight Chairperson.*

## 61. Allowance for Board Travel

*Scott went over the new travel allowances for Board travel. After review, the Board approved the new allowances for Board travel. This is in Section 9:01 of the SOG manual.*

## 62. Equipment License Agreement

*The Secretary was advised to add the following section to the Equipment License Agreement:*

*CONFIDENTIALLY*

*USER agrees that no information, software, or hardware will be removed from any laptops, computers, or external hard drives owned by the RKIFMC. This is to include RKIFMC e-mail records.*

Meeting adjourned at 1630 hours

Submitted by:

Bill Snodgrass  
International Secretary