

# American Truck Historical Society

Minutes of the Special Meeting  
Board of Directors – Kansas City, MO  
January 25, 2025



## Call to Order

Chair Marty Glomb called the ATHS Board of Directors meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, January 25, 2025. The meeting was held hybrid in Kansas City, Missouri, and via Zoom.

## Officers Present

Marty Glomb, David Schnautz, Rick Knox, Craig Vogel, Mark Vassallo (v).

## Board Members Present

Wade Beck (v), Brian Blaylock (v), Rocco Chianelli, Joe Constance (v), Bob Davis, John Doll, William Irvin, B.J. King (v), Glenn D. Martin, Tony J. Martin (v), Dean McWhirk (v), Stephen L. Rosemond, Richard Seyfang (v), Edward A. Shepard, Jr., Steve A. Siemen, II, Richard Snedaker, Russell Spawn, Jr. (v), Shane Tinsley (v), Frank Vandruff (v), Bill Wagner (v), Peter Wild, Ralph Wilkerson, Tim Wright, and Ex-Officio Executive Director Dr. John Gravley.

## Past Presidents Present

Michael Gully (v), Tom Mullen, Mark Schroyer, John Vannatta, Lenny Wild

## Board Members At Large Present

Chris Budke (v), Shelby Kirkham (v), Denny Postma(v), Erich Reiselt, Jerry Wessel

## Staff Present

Courtney Cesar, Marina Spexarth, Brandy Cavallaro, Brad Patterson, Darin Burt

## Guests Present

Sandy Chianelli, Jerry Crume, Amber McWhirk, Ken O'Brien, Scott Smith, Scott Spear, Mike Middleton

## Quorum

A quorum was established, with 38 voting members being present.

## Approval of Minutes

**Tim Wright (Ed Shepard) moved "to accept October 26, 2024, board minutes as presented." Motion passed with no discussion.**

## Amendment of Minutes

**John Vannatta (Ed Shepard) moved "to amend the June 7, 2024, board minutes as presented." Motion passed with no discussion.**

**Tim Wright (Peter Wild) moved to amend the October 26, 2024, to include Richard Snedaker as present." Motion passed with no discussion.**

## **Reports**

President David Schnautz thanked everyone for their attendance and highlighted an increase in confidence among members, supported by positive feedback. He noted that funding continues to come in steadily and praised the improvements in *Wheels of Time*, citing fewer complaints and excellent chapter coverage. Schnautz announced Tim Wright as the new Chair of the Library Committee and shared updates on Hall of Fame initiatives. He also emphasized efforts to expand outreach to Spanish-speaking audiences, including participation in the Monterey show.

Executive Director Dr. John Gravley reviewed 2024 highlights, including positive financial performance, a successful National Convention, enhanced engagement, and strong donor outreach. He announced the addition of a CFO consultant and a new auditing firm to evaluate both financial and organizational processes. For 2025, strategic goals include testing the Plan Forward document, expanding online library access, forming the President's Advisory Council, and developing specific giving options. Dr. Gravley emphasized ATHS's role as a trusted steward of industry history, with Kenworth entrusting its archives and potential inclusion of Aaron Kitahara's collection. Questions about offsite storage and digital access were also addressed.

Treasurer Craig Vogel provided an update on the Society's financial status. Vogel reports that the Finance Committee met and discussed the 2023-2024 Profit & Loss Comparison. He reported that the committee also met on January 7, 2025, and reviewed the proposed 2025 budget.

**The Finance Committee moves "to approve the 2025 ATHS Budget as presented." The motion passes with no discussion.**

Stephen Rosemond reported that the Awards Committee met and reviewed three awards; two are approved and one requires more information. The committee explained the awards eligibility to guests and answered questions. He reports that Bill Wagner is working with A. Duie Pyle to present their 100-year company award. Rosemond reports that he will be making an appeal to the board to submit award nominations for the upcoming convention. The committee has no recommendation at this time.

Peter Wild reported that the Convention Committee discussed the upcoming 2025 Convention. He reported that the committee reviewed current registration numbers and received a progress update from staff on onsite activities, speakers, signage, chock blocks, and advertising. Wild announced that golf carts are available to rent, and that the ATHS NextGen Group will be hosting the Light Show.

John Vannatta reported that the Long Range Planning Committee has not met and is on hiatus. The committee has no recommendation at this time.

John Vannatta reported that the Nominating Committee discussed the role of the committee in the board selection process and stated that no bylaws were violated in the nomination process. He reported that the committee interviewed two potential RVPs. The committee recommends appointing Ken O'Brien to the New Jersey/Metro NY/Eastern Pennsylvania and Scott Spear to the Texas/Oklahoma positions.

Chair Marty Glomb reiterated that all decisions made were made in ATHS' best interest. The Executive Committee discussed the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President vacancy and recommended appointing Mark Vassallo to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President position.

**The Executive Committee moves "to appoint Mark Vassallo as the 2nd Vice President." The motion did not pass (17 yes, 19 no). Chair Glomb states that the 2nd Vice President position is open for nominations.**

**Tim Wright (Ed Shepard) moved "to take a paper ballot vote regarding the appointment of Mark Vassallo to 2nd Vice President." Motion passed 31 to vote, 2 to not vote.**

Craig Vogel reported that the Bylaws Committee will address in future the gap in the bylaws that deal with vacant positions. Vogel reported that the Bylaws Committee met in November via Zoom and discussed three changes to the ATHS bylaws. Vogel presented the proposed bylaws changes.

**The Bylaws Committee moves "to create Article 5 Section 5E as presented." Motion passed with no discussion.**

**The Bylaws Committee moves "to amend Article 5 Section 1D as presented." Motion passed after discussion on defining attendance requirements and term of office.**

**The Bylaws Committee moves "to create Article 5 Section 7A as presented." Motion passed with no discussion.**

Tom Mullen reported that the Life Membership Committee did not meet but reported that the Sercombe Family has agreed to sponsor the Life Member event at the convention. The committee has no recommendation at this time.

Tom Mullen reported that the Hall of Fame Committee discussed the potential 2025 HOF Inductees. Mullen reported that the committee is discussing the separation of the ATHS awards and the inductee presentations. The committee also received a report from John Gravley and Stu Mackay on their visit to Kenworth. He stated that Erich Reisel presented a new contact for ALCOA. The committee reviewed the

layout of the Hall of Fame and discussed potential options for improving the functionality of it. The committee has no recommendation at this time.

Tim Wright reported that the Library Committee discussed that ATHS has received part of the donation money through the grant agency. This money is being used to digitize the film and to improve the online accessibility of the collection. Wright stated that volunteers will be needed to help identify materials. The committee has no recommendation at this time.

Jerry Wessel reported that the Marketing and Communications Committee heard a report from the Merchandise Subcommittee on updates to the online store to improve accessibility online and in-person at convention. The committee heard a report from the Sponsorship Subcommittee on John Gravley's visit to Kenworth and his success there, and discussed a list of potential advertisers and sponsors who they will begin to approach. The committee heard a report from the Social Committee Subcommittee and discussed the use of AI; the committee recommended that staff utilize images with citation. The committee heard a report from the Publications Subcommittee on the content for the upcoming Wheels of Time, and the possibility of reorganizing the Board and Chapter directories. Wessel reported that the committee received updates from staff on the trailer decal project, trade advertisements, convention advertising, website updates, email deliverability, and membership campaigns. The committee discussed adding a "how did you hear about ATHS?" and recommends adding this to the online and print membership forms. The committee has no recommendation at this time.

John Vannatta requested that ATHS advertising in other issues be more targeted to the audience of that publication.

Russell Spawn reported that the Membership Committee discussed the year end membership numbers; he reported that there will be a focus on growing corporate, Canadian, and joint members in 2025. Spawn reported that the committee also discussed the renewal process and reported that more than 3,000 members renewed online. Spawn reported that staff will be working with chapters to begin utilizing Square for events. Spawn encourages the board to continue the mission and promote ATHS. The committee has no recommendation at this time.

Membership Director Patterson gave a brief report on membership outreach opportunities for the upcoming year. RVP BJ King questioned what benefits that ATHS can offer to international members; Spawn requested that international members reach out to give feedback to the Membership Committee.

John Doll explained that being an RVP does not automatically make you a member of the RVP Committee. Doll reported that the RVP Committee discussed the year end membership numbers. He reported that there have been 30 chapter annual reports turned in, and that the committee recognized seven new chapters. He reported that RVPs will be working closer with chapters to make sure that chapter

members are members of ATHS. Doll stated that the committee also reviewed the Route Guide and Chapter Directory for the March/April 2025 issue of *Wheels of Time* and encouraged RVPs to ask chapters to submit any chapter special events to staff so that it can be promoted in the magazine. He reported that staff are developing an updated RVP binder that makes it more understandable for new RVPs. The committee has no recommendation at this time.

Steve Siemen reported that the Volunteer Committee discussed the volunteer needs for the upcoming 2025 Convention. Siemen reported that he will be taking over hospitality as Vassallo will be moving to Truck Registration. The committee heard reports from the staff on new volunteer benefits and new training opportunities. Siemen also reported that the committee discussed the current list of team leads for 2025. The committee has no recommendation at this time.

### **Old Business**

Chair Marty Glomb reported that the ballots will be placed in a sealed envelope and placed in storage in case the external auditor requests them.

Chair Marty reported that the cost of the visit to Kenworth was within budget and approved.

### **New Business**

William Irvin asked if the Trinity Logistics signs and decals could be removed. President David Schnautz said that it is being worked on.

William Irvin requested that the Hall of Fame be moved into the old Trinity Logistics suite.

**Tom Mullen (Glenn Martin) moved "to form a special committee to propose a plan for the vacant space in the event that there is no tenant by February 2026." Motion passed with brief discussion.**

President Schnautz appointed William Irvin as chair of the Extra Space Committee. Wade Beck reported that that he has reached out to the Crouse family for an update.

**Tim Wright motioned to adjourn at 12: pm**