

MINUTES

PINEYWOODS BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION MEETING

2/11/2021 Meeting held via Zoom

Due to the closures and restrictions from the Covid 19 virus, this meeting was held via Zoom.

I. President Karen Mitchell called meeting to order 6:05 pm. Between 15 & 20 people participated in the Zoom meeting, including some prospective new members. Welcomed guests and members. It was announced that the PBA Board members present would meet online following this meeting. Anyone was welcome to stay and view this meeting also.

A. Treasurer's Report: Terry McFall, Treasurer, relayed Treasurer's report. Balance as of 1/31/21 is \$8734.59.

B. Announcements:

Rachel had sent email regarding the release of 2 new foreign insects, being introduced to eradicate tallow in the U.S. This is of great concern to beekeepers as tallow is a prime forage source for honeybees.

II. PROGRAM: Winter Care/Getting Hives Ready for Spring,

Several members participated in discussion, question/answer sessions and giving out general information on winter care, preparations for spring. Some of the highlights:

Feeding necessary NOW. 2:1 ratio can be lowered to 1:1 ratio of sugar/water. If pollen patties are fed, use small amounts only to avoid small hive beetle infestation. Pick up back of hives regularly to check weight. If getting light, you need to feed.

Keep entrance reducers on hives to keep warmth in.

Oxalic acid treatment should be done soon, after this cold spell. Swarming will begin within a month. Get trap hives ready. The early swarms are generally the largest. Swarm trap boxes should be baited with an old black comb, lemongrass oil or "Swarm Lure."

Planting for bees was briefly discussed. Red and white clover are both good forage crops. Oak/elm trees blooming soon. Wildflowers/grasses are also forage for bees.

New members and guests encouraged to look online. Many good websites for beekeeping information.

Those wishing to join the Pineywoods Beekeepers Association should send \$15 dues (\$20 if requiring a mailed copy of newsletter) to Terry McFall, 1700 FM 252, Jasper, TX 75951. Application can be requested from Joanie Kochanek, 4joaniek@gmail.com.

All general business having been concluded, meeting was adjourned.

Joanie Kochanek, PBA Secretary
