

I. PBA President Walter McLendon called meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Pledge of Allegiance. Welcomed new members and guests, including Terri Griffin, Kelly Ulrichson, Adam & Stacy Asche, Todd Patton, Steve & Ben Killam. Pledge of Allegiance. 36 signed the register.

II. Treasurer Report: Walter McLendon, Treasurer, reported balance of \$9663.10. Outstanding bills for bee school and apiary expenses.

III. Apiary Report. Doyle Bruce updated club on apiary. Five hives are doing well, building up quickly. Queen cell grafting session was completed, and first batch will be ready for pickup on 3/10. There will be 2 more grafting sessions. Hives will be split and prepared for honey collection. Some of the PBA honey from last year was bottled into pints. Richard and Doyle offered to bottle the remaining honey for sale to the public. Doyle and Mike are attending the TX Forest Festival next week and will bring honey.

OLD BUSINESS: SFA Hive Status: unknown. No one has done any further work on this hive.

Walter reminded those present that 2023 dues are due by March. Those who have not paid will be removed from email list.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. PBA School 2023. First class was held 3/4/23. Second class will be held 3/18. Bee yard days: 3/11, 3/25. Future dates will be held at the PBA apiary yard.

2. Edward Doucet proposed a program calendar, and asked for volunteers:

April: Hive splits/checkerboarding – Bob Love, Robert Jones

May: Honey Extraction – Richard Davis

June: Club Picnic

July: How to Survive Summer Dearth - Susan Precup

3. Snacks for April Meeting: Snacks: Ed & Wendy Doucet, Bob Love, Janey Phillips, Rachel Payne. Drinks: Richard Peters.

4. Chamber Hospitality Room: There was a complaint made after last meeting that room was left very unclean. Please clean up your area, and if several could stay and help with cleanup, it would be appreciated.

Doyle led group in prayer and snacks enjoyed.

PROGRAM: Terry McFall and Jesus Vazquez gave program on swarms and swarm catching. Jesus demonstrated his telescoping swarm catch bucket. Some highlights:

- Only 1 out of 6 swarms survives.
- Usually older queen. Recommend requeening your swarm.
- 3 Types of Swarms: Primary swarm, secondary swarm (virgin queen), abscond.
- Helpful to calm bees with spray of sugar water.
- Place a queen excluder under box to prevent queen from escaping. Excluder on door also.
- Suggested placing a frame with eggs from another hive into box with swarm.

DOOR PRIZES/ADJOURNMENT. Meeting concluded about 8:30 PM

Joanie Kochanek, PBA Secretary