

I. Edward Doucet called meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Pledge of Allegiance. 40 signed the register. New guests included Nathan & Katy May, Rob Austin, Malek Zaher, Amy Goodwin, Christine Owens. Bee equipment auction was held prior to meeting in the parking lot. Most of the equipment was sold.

II. Treasurer Report: Walter McLendon, Treasurer, reported balance of \$9204.50.

III. Apiary Report. Doyle Bruce, Apiary Manager: Presently 6 hives, honey supers on 4 hives. Honey harvest in July. One hive was queened.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Steven Josephsen reviewed the SFA Win Day hive project. A plan has been implemented to rebuild the hive and structure, reusing the windows and doors, but replacing most of the wooden structure. The new hive will hold 12 frames and will be more accessible to public viewing. SFA students will help with plan and construction. SFA would like to plan for an apiary to produce honey in the future.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. ByLaws were previously sent out for review by members. Motion made by Don Lymbery, seconded by Susan Precup to accept ByLaws. Motion carried unanimously.

2. June Picnic: The June picnic will be held Saturday June 8, 2024, 11AM, at the Precups home. Rachel will be sending out address and telephone number. Meal at Noon. Meat will be furnished; members bring side dish. Bring your own drinks. Please RSVP to the Precups, and let her know what you are bringing.

PROGRAM: Bill Baxter of TX A&M gave an informative program covering laws, Texas Apiary Inspection Service and best management practices in beekeeping. He summarized the history of the Texas Inspection Service, now TAIS, in business since 1910. An important task of TAIS is to monitor the transport of bees throughout the country, to prevent spread of disease and/or pests. TAIS works closely with the Texas Beekeepers Association on writing laws regarding beekeeping. TAIS performs bee hive inspections upon request. This is advised if disease is suspected. There is a \$100 fee for inspection. Permits for commercial beekeepers was reviewed also. As antibiotics are no longer available except by prescription, Dr. Rangel at Texas A&M is now holding veterinary workshops for vets to learn about bees, diseases and problems, as most vets are not trained at all in this area. TAIS has an excellent website with lots of educational material and good information. He encouraged all to utilize their website.

DOOR PRIZES/ADJOURNMENT. Meeting concluded about 8:15 PM.

Joanie Kochanek, PBA Secretary