

I. Walter McLendon, President, called meeting to order at 6:32 PM. Pledge of Allegiance. 32 people signed the register. Guests Ron & Sue Hancock, Jimmy & Rebecca Blundell, and Ashley & Steve Byerly were welcomed.

II. Treasurer Report: Walter McLendon, Treasurer, reported balance of \$8815.23.

III. Apiary Report. Doyle Bruce, Apiary Manager, reported on apiary. Presently 6 active hives; Honey has been extracted, brought to meeting, and sold over half at the meeting. Prices: Pints: \$12; Bears: \$6; Qts: \$20. Several supers still on hives.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Nomination Committee – Steven Josephsen. A nominating committee needs to be formed to find nominees for officers: President, Vice President, Treasurer, Apiary Manager, Secretary. People interested should contact Walter or Steven Josephsen. Election of officers will occur in November. Everyone is welcome to review the Bylaws to get more knowledge of the offices and duties. Edward took moment to thank those who were serving and those who had served as officers in PBA.

B. Edward Doucet discussed future programs. Stated the VFW would like us to participate in their Farmer's Market on Saturdays. October program: Pollinator Plants – Joanie Kochanek; November: Troubleshooting Hives and Winter Care – Panel Discussion; December: James Dobson – Making Mead. Discussed having another queen grafting class in February by Robert Jones and Ricky Davis. All in agreement.

C. Club Dues: Discussion on whether to raise dues for 2025. All agreed that dues should remain the same.

D. Joanie Kochanek gave a short report on Rachel Payne, and Edward offered a prayer for healing on her behalf.

E. Edward reiterated that we have many experienced beekeepers, who are willing to assist other beekeepers. Some of the mentors presently on list are: Ricky Davis (Lufkin), Joanie Kochanek (Jasper); Dwayne Howell (Nacogdoches); Brandon Turner (Huntington). Anyone needing assistance can call one of these or a board member for more help.,

PROGRAM: Roundtable discussion on fall hive care, preparation for winter, pest control. Some highlights are as follows: Treat for pests – most advocated oxalic acid treatments, once a week for 3 weeks. Begin feeding if necessary. Terry McFall advocated using 2:1 syrup as bees tend to store it when thicker, rather than consume immediately. Don't use entrance feeders; they encourage robbing. Several mentioned that robbing had been bad this year. If barrel feeding, put at least 50' away from hives. Can use a 5-gallon bucket with syrup, sticks or hay added to prevent drowning. Note: if bucket gets rained in, syrup will spoil and will need to be replenished. Be careful feeding pollen patties; they attract beetles. Combine weak hives. Robert Jones stated this is the last month queens will be available to replace poor queens. The main objective in fall is to get hives as strong as possible to withstand winter.

DOOR PRIZES/ADJOURNMENT. Door Prizes awarded. Meeting concluded about 8:10 PM.

Joanie Kochanek, PBA Secretary