

I. PBA President Walter McLendon called meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Pledge of Allegiance. Welcomed new members and guests, including Ryan Ragsdale, Daniel Reid. 30 signed the register.

II. Treasurer Report: Walter McLendon, Treasurer, reported balance of \$8846.57. No outstanding bills.

III. Apiary Report. Doyle Bruce updated club on apiary. Five hives are doing well, being fed with syrup and pollen patties. All hives active and look good. Doyle will need to order some equipment for spring splits. Bob Love is getting a bulk order, receives discount, and can add to his order. Status of youth hives was brought up. The hives are at Rachel Payne's bee yard. As Rachel was absent, this will be checked on.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. PBA School 2023. Rachel Payne has been working diligently on bee school curriculum, flyers, etc. Anyone who wishes to assist may contact Rachel. Dates will be: March 4 (class), March 11 (bee yard), March 18 (class), and March 25 (bee yard). Classes will be held at Lufkin TX A&M Agrilife Office, 2201 S. Medford Drive, from 10:00AM.- 4:00 PM. PBA members generally provide snacks for classes.

2. SNACKS for March Meeting: Snacks: Ed & Wendy Doucet, Richard Davis, Todd Lykke. Drinks: Richard Peters (tea), Mike Hartman (water).

3. Financial Audit: The annual financial audit was completed just prior to the general meeting. All records in order.

4. ABJ Subscription Discount: American Bee Journal gives club a discount on yearly subscriptions. If interested, contact Joanie Kochanek, PBA Secretary, who is handling forms.

SNACKS/PRAYER: Doyle gave blessing, snacks and visitation time.

Steven Josephsen showed a 10-frame box with solid dividers that he had built, turning one box into 2 or 3 nucs.

PROGRAM: Robert Jones continued his presentation on building a cell builder for queen rearing. A video on Building a Cell Builder was shown. There are several ways to prepare a cell builder. Robert uses the Doolittle method. Some of the highlights:

- A cell builder can be made from queenless or queenright hive
- Requires lots of young bees from open brood frames
- Need frame of pollen and feed heavily
- Be sure to check all frames in cell builder for queen cells (day 2 or 3)
- Can graft and add cells every 5 days to builder

Many questions/answers after presentation.

Robert scheduled cell builder demonstration for Tuesday, 2/28/23, 5PM, at the PBA Apiary. Bring protective clothing.

CLOSURE/DOOR PRIZES: Meeting concluded about 8:40pm

Joanie Kochanek, PBA Secretary