

I. President Steven Josephsen called meeting to order at 6:35 PM. Pledge of Allegiance. Welcomed members and guests. 29 people signed the register, including several new guests: Darrell Bryan, Jimmy English.

II. Treasurer Report: Treasurer report given by Walter McLendon. Balance as of 03/31/22 is \$10477.89, which includes payments received for PBA Beekeeping School. Walter noted there are outstanding bills in connection with the school. Guests wishing to join PBA can pay annual dues to Treasurer at any meeting.

III. Apiary Report: Apiary Manager Jesus Vazquez telephoned in during this meeting to report. There are presently four PBA hives located in Jasper, all of which are doing well. Still seeking a more central location for these hives in the Lufkin area. If anyone is interested, please contact a Board member.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

a. Minutes from last meeting were published in PBA Beeline.

b. Revised ByLaws: Tabled until May meeting. ByLaws have been sent out by mail/email to members to review, to be voted on at May meeting.

c. Bee School: All preparations have been completed. School to begin 4/16/22, to continue the next two Saturdays. Over 30 interested students to date.

d. SFA Observation Hive: No status report. David Gallagher and Robert Jones to assess and give report when they have examined hive and come up with a plan to rebuild.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

1. Mary Kay is working on program for May meeting.

2. PBA School commences 4/16/22. Volunteers/snacks requested.

SNACKS/DRINKS for May: Richard Peters – drinks; Kenny and Gaye Standridge, Amy Lykke - snacks

BREAK/SNACKS: Steven Josephsen gave blessing. Snacks and visitation time enjoyed before program.

PROGRAM: Our own Rachel Payne, a 10-year beekeeper and Texas Master Beekeeper, gave a wonderful presentation on Swarms & Bait Hives. Some highlights:

- Reasons for swarming: congestion, reproduction, size of hive, lack of space for queen to lay, age of worker bees, reduction in pheromone transmission by current queen.
- Many good books on bees/swarming/bait hives. Learn what is involved before attempting.
- Be prepared before trying to obtain a swarm. Quite a bit of equipment is needed. Rachel keeps a 5 gallon bucket containing most of the needed items, such as: smoker, fuel, hive tool, white sheet, queen catcher, gloves, bee brush, veil, pruners, saw, ladder, sugar water or honey, lemongrass oil, Bee Quick, feed scoop.
- If you can find the queen, capture her and put her in your hive box. The rest of the bees will then march right in.

Rachel entertained with several “swarm catching” stories. Swarm catching, though not for the faint-hearted, can be exciting, fun and profitable.

CLOSURE/DOOR PRIZES. Door prizes were given out. All business being concluded, meeting adjourned about 8:15 PM.

Joanie Kochanek, PBA Secretary