

I. President Steven Josephsen called meeting to order at 6:35 PM. Pledge of Allegiance. Welcomed members and guests. 33 people signed the register, including several new guests: Floyd Williams, Lane Laswell, Natalie Howard, Whitney Warick, Austin Culbertson, Mike Hartman.

II. Treasurer Report: Walter McLendon. Balance as of 07/30/22 is \$9291.30. Guests wishing to join PBA can pay annual dues to Treasurer at any meeting.

III. Apiary Report: Jesus Vazquez. The 5 double hives located in Jasper have not yet been harvested or moved. New owner of property has been unavailable due to illness. Arrangements will be made as soon as possible for harvest and transport of hives to Fuller Springs on property of Mike Hartman. Doyle Bruce has offered to be Apiary Manager for hives.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Minutes from last meeting were published in PBA Beeline.
- b. Need Program Committee/Coordinator. Edward Doucet offered to fill the position of Program Coordinator. Will be assisted by other members and Board.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

1. Announced passing of longtime PBA member Rodger Floyd, who provided the nucs for this year's class, and had for many years. Services for Rodger will be Sunday, 8/14/22, at 8:30 AM at gravesite.
2. Walter McLendon proposed a motion for an apiary committee to manage hives after they are moved. Would be educational and necessary for maintenance. Discussion followed. As volunteers are difficult to obtain for a committee, it was suggested that we ask for volunteers when needed. This would allow more flexibility for different members to assist. Motion denied for formal committee at this time, but may be introduced later.

SNACKS/DRINKS for August: Snacks: Bob Love, Ofelia Vazquez, Whitney Warick. Drinks: Natalie Howard.

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

PROGRAM: Former member Roy Stark, an experienced beekeeper, gave a program on summer care, focusing on pest control for varroa and small hive beetles. These are the two main pests that can destroy hives in a matter of a few weeks. Roy has had bees for about 11 years and now has about 65 hives. Roy has mostly ItalianVSH queens developed by LSU for varroa resistance. Very gentle bees. Roy does a lot of research and testing on his bees, treating some hives, not treating others, and compares. He noted when he stopped treating, he began losing hives after the 2<sup>nd</sup> year. Some highlights of his program:

- Observe and monitor your bees often. Human neglect and human error are causes of hive decline.
- Do mite counts. Mites and beetles escalate rapidly during summer.
- You can treat or choose not to treat. His treats hives with oxalic acid vaporizer several times per year.
- Use integrated pest management. Do not rely on one specific treatment option.
- For hive beetles, he uses traps, CD cases (with roach powder, Crisco and honey), dryer/Swiffer sheets.
- Feed sugar water during dearth periods and winter. Pollen substitute is also recommended in fall.
- Be sure to feed in winter. Most hives are lost in Feb.-Mar. when bees starve.

Steven Josephsen brought his cider press, which also serves as a honey separator to squeeze honey from wax, purchased from Pleasant Hill Grainery.

CLOSURE/DOOR PRIZES. Door prizes were given out. All business being concluded, meeting adjourned about 8:45 PM.

Joanie Kochanek, PBA Secretary