Meeting called to order at 10:05am.

Changes and additions to the agenda called for. 2 pieces of correspondence and WIC Program. Agenda approved.

Secretary's Report (D. Schram): Last month, Schram reported that ABJ and Bee Culture journals have been notified about the ANR Week Conference. This month, he wishes to notify the board that the beekeeping associations surrounding the state have been notified of our conference. The states notified are Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and Ontario.

This past month, Schram also contacted the beekeeping clubs around the state to compile a comprehensive list of clubs, as well as update contact information for those clubs. In exchange for answering a few simple questions, the clubs will receive our MBA Board Meeting Minutes. These simple questions were:

1) How many members do you have?
2) How many are MBA members?

Answers were interesting.

On average, MBA members comprise about 10% of a beekeeping club’s membership.
While most members of those clubs are hobbyist (70%), there are many sideliner and commercial members (30%) also. There also appears to be a large number of chemical free and natural beekeeping enthusiasts.
If only 1 in 3 beekeepers attend a club within a given area, and only 10% of those are MBA members, we can extrapolate that there may be 15,000 beekeepers in the state of Michigan.

For your consideration, a list of the clubs found in the state has been attached to these minutes.

“Now, the question may be asked, why did I do this? Three reasons. It’s one of my duties in the MBA Constitution. Two, I feel that it’ll be helpful in new beekeepers finding a club in their area. And, three, it helps get out what we do to the clubs that might not promote the MBA currently,” Schram told.

This may be the largest number of beekeepers in the state ever.

Roger Hoopingarner review the numbers and concurred that the number of beekeepers looks to be correct, and that there may currently be more beekeepers in the state than any other time in history.

Motion made to approve minutes and Secretary's Report. Motion passed.

Hoopingarner also notified us that the room we meet in is scheduled to be renovated to a full conference room.

**Treasurer's Report (S. Tilmann):** Totals for December and January, $6194 in total transactions. $31,592 in checking, $1512 in Paypal, and the CD at $15,000. Income was advertising, dues, interest, HABA Bee School ($960, which passes through) and enrollment for the spring conference. Expenses are bank expenses, website expenses, Constant Contact, Fall Conference fees and office supplies, for a total of $5318.

155 people have preregistered for the conference, which is about double the number (74) from this time last year. This may spell trouble if this indicates an increase in attendance, rather than people increasing in preregistration, in terms of space available and room capacities at the conference itself.

**Membership Report (S. Tilmann):** Toland noted that all members of the board need to be current with their membership status. These are part of the bylaws.

Tilmann reports that people, when asked to renew memberships, oftentimes renew. We currently have about 50 life members, with a total of 1008 people who receive our email.

Website activity remains strong. Individual pages were named as being strong pages, in terms of hits. “In the Beekeepers Workshop” is strongest.

Motion made to approve the Treasurer's Report, and was passed.
**State Bee Inspector's Report (Michael Hansen):** Hansen notified us of a document from North Dakota, GAAMPS. The pesticide manager of Michigan would like to develop something like this for Michigan. This would help protect pollinators from pesticide injury. Michigan's will be more complicated, due to fruits and vegetables that Michigan produces that North Dakota doesn't. Best Management Practices are suggestions, and not laws, he noted. This is going to lead to a participation from beekeepers, pollinators, and plant industries.

NRCS dollars are available now, and beekeepers are suggested to ask for dollars and support.

Last month, Hansen explained how he was leading the training for EPA Region 5, and they have asked to repeat the training for WI, OH and IN. He requests use of a beeyard in the Lansing area to train in, along with a beekeeper who can explain and open the colony for inspection. This will be in August.

This year there probably will not be dollars for the National Honey Bee Survey. This means he will have difficulties in conducting movement inspections simultaneously.

In regards to the mite-a-cide, Hopguard, Michigan has submitted an application for Section 18, for 2014. The product is being changed in its formulation, with a different kind of strip that can't be destroyed as quickly by the bees, as well as the changes in the acids and delivery method. This will also be a change in labeling. The company will petition for full Section 3 licensing. This summer, we may have a new Hopguard product.

Zombie bees have been in the news recently. This really isn't an issue. Most insects have some sort of parasite, and these are really incidental. More importantly is the discovery of Tobacco Ring Spot Virus that can be transferred to honey bees. A discussion about Blueberry And Tomato Ringspot, and their movements of about 2 feet a year, was had. More interesting questions arise from these sort of discoveries, and will lead to more interesting discussions.

**Old Business:**

**Spring Conference – March 7 and 8 (T. Toland):** Ann has about 5 rooms that still need to be filled. Tilmann provided a slide with classes and descriptions.

Tilmann asked M. Risk if the auditorium should remain the room for the Beginner Track. Both him and Dudock noted that the auditorium wasn't full, but probably should remain in the auditorium.

Paul Mazur was contacted by Schram, where Mazur agreed to do a Basic Queen Rearing session on Saturday. He'll have to check with work for Friday availability.

Other names and topic suggestions followed.

Schram made a number of phone calls to solidify speaking slots on various days.

Tilmann also pulled up vendor table areas. Door prizes and catalogs need to be addressed.

“Motion to purchase the CD for the movie, More Than Honey, at a price to be negotiated,” by Ann Leonard, and seconded by Roger Hoopingarner.

The Live Auction is on hold. Toland requests a gift item basket for the Kellogg Center staff, which
went over big last year. Please bring a gift item to donate.

The problems regarding door prizes were also discussed. Vendors would like to be recognized. But drawing tickets is a time suck. The pros and cons for having a door prize raffle were discussed at length. Schram felt that the purpose of the door prize is lost, and it should be used to gather people at a certain time. The Fall Business Meeting, for example, is a good use of a door prize.

What was worked out is that we are drawing tickets for that day at 12noon, at which time you'll match your ticket with the prizes on the table.

Toland would like to make two vertical banners for MBA registration. If they are made without dates, they can be re-utilized. He would like two to start with. He would like to do it. **Motion to get two banners**, made by Dave Anthony, and seconded by Cindy Dudock. **Motion passed.**

Anne Marie Fauvel has a volunteer to help with the children's activity area. This will only be open on Saturday. There was a requested budget around $150. Cindy Dudock made a **motion to give a budget of $200 for the children activity center at the MBA ANR Week Conference**, seconded by Bill Sirr. Passed.

**Summer Picnic (Cindy Dudock):** 6948 Richie Rd., At the Octogon Barn in Gagetown. Dean Hutchinson will be bringing live hives. Starts at noon. Smoker lighting contest. Taking suggestions for other activities. Eat at 1pm. Her club will provide the meat, and MBA will reimburse.

**Fall Conference – October 24, and 25, 2014 in Flint (A. Leonard):** Holiday Inn Gateway, with David Hackenberg. Honey judging.

**Spring Conference 2015 (T. Toland and S. Tilmann):** March 13 and 14, 2015. 150th Anniversary. Multiple speakers. The letter to invite Michelle Obama will be delivered to Dean Fred Poston this week by Tilmann. This will then be given to Debbie Stabinow to be delivered. Dennis VanEngelsdorp was brought up as a potential speaker.

**Historian (T. Toland)** Bill Lockwood is announced to be our new MBA Historian. Brad Perez is currently in possession of the historical material. [Secretary's Note: At this time (April 5), Toland is in possession of the material from Brad.]

**HAS Committee (D. Schram):** On Saturday, January 25, 2014, Terry Toland, Rich Wieske and Don Schram toured Albion College in Albion, MI, to consider the location for HAS 2015. We were met and greeted by David Green, of Whitehouse Nature Center and coordinator of the Albion Bee School. We also met with Pat Miller, who is the coordinator of events at Albion College. She answered all of our questions, and led us on a very thorough tour of the facility, highlighting rooms and spaces that would be of use to the HAS event.

Wieske contacted Olivet and Hope colleges in addition. But the reception at Albion was excellent.
Seven rooms were asked for, able to house 70 participants, and all seven rooms were found to be adequate and within easy walking distance of each other. Dormitory housing is available, and is conveniently located to the dining hall. The dining facility was also detailed and found to be very good, although Pat has asked to work closely with the HAS coordinator to “stagger” diners to avoid a rush of 400 participants at one time.

Nearby facilities were also highlighted, such as wineries, restaurants, and evening attractions, as well as nearby Dadant.

Downsides are that the official campus rules do not allow open alcohol on site, but gave us several suggestions as to how to approach this possible problem. Another minus is the lack of air-conditioned dorms. This hasn't proved to be a major problem to the campus in the past, but if an attendee requires AC, there are hotels located nearby as an option.

What they need now is a contact person to send a contract to. This was described to Huang and turned over to him. July 9-12, 2015. The information has been turned over to Huang, and it was expressed that it needed to be moved on rapidly.

**Facebook Report** (S. Tilmann): There appears to be a lot of activity. We need to get a Facebook link on our website. We have not have communication with Melville.

**New Business:**

**Two donations to Freemont Foundation.** Motion to make two bereavement amounts of $250 each, made as a memorial contribution to Jim Dodder and Robert Anthony (David Anthony's father), made by Barb Applebee and seconded by Bill Sirr. Sirr feels that we should promote the Freemont Foundation more, rather than sending flowers. The Foundation will double the amount up to $500, and notify the family that a donation was made. Schram asked Sirr if he could contact the Foundation to attend the conference as a vendor table. This was voiced down. However, this would make for a good poster session. **Motion passed.**

**Purchased Lifetime MBA Membership (Toland):** Tabled to next meeting.

**Constitutional Change (D. Schram):** “Motion to strike from the current MBA Constitution Article XI, Section 5, which reads, 'Local associations may accept MBA dues on behalf of their members and a percent of the dues may be retained by the local association as determined by the MBA Governing Board.' as well as Article XVI, Section 3, which reads, 'Local Associations may retain a portion of each member's MBA dues for the Local Association as described in Article XI, Section 5.'”, made by Secretary Don Schram, seconded by Ann Leonard.

Discussion of the motion followed. Reason cited for the change is that local clubs are no longer asked to collect for the MBA, and most MBA membership is paid for online, or in person at either ANR Week (spring) of the Fall Conference, making this constitutional provision confusing and unnecessary.

Per the MBA Constitution, this approved motion needs to be passed to the Constitutional Committee, composed of 3 members, to review the proposed change and develop (or approve) the language and architecture of the motion, in preparation for the submission to the membership for acceptance at the
next General Meeting, slated for October 24 and 25, 2014. Special consideration should be given to Article XIII, Section 2, items b and c.

Once the language is approved, the proposed change in its full language and architecture shall be posted to the website at least 30 days prior to the next General Meeting, and printed on any physical ballot.

Should the proposed change pass by two-thirds vote cast by the absentee ballot and those members in good standing present at the General Membership meeting, the MBA Constitution shall be amended. It is then the Webmaster's responsibility to post the amended Constitution on the website within 14 days of the passing of the amendment.

Toland also pointed out that our current constitution does not provide a unanimous consent of the slate when there are not other candidates. The Constitutional Committee should also address that.

All in favor. **Motion carried.**

**Honey Festival (Melissa Jaskiewicz):** The 2014 Honey Festival will be held in the Harvey Kern Pavillion, July 12, in Frankenmuth. A custom hive contest will be held this year. While the theme is Bavarian Architecture, any hive is welcomed. Donations from the hive judging will be donated to Aquinnis College, who is starting a very active bee program.

Tilmann noted that the hives for ANR Week are a little thin on information, and he requests a email in general for the website, along with the rules. He feels that it's a little late. Toland noted that we should still move forward with it.

**Motion to donate $2000 to the Michigan Honey Festival,** made by D. Schram, and seconded by Roger Hoopingarner. One of our goals as an association is to promote honey. **Motion passes.**

**Correspondence:** Jane Ashley is working on a masters project on CCD and the effect if honeybees weren't here. She asks us for permission to walk around the conference and talk to people about CCD. Tilmann will put her on a pro bono list. Hansen brought up several good points that we don't know her position or agenda, and that we may want to consider that she may take an anti-beekeeping bias. Zachary Huang will vouch for her. Permission granted.

Meghan Milbrath will be doing a poster session for the Northern Bee Network.

**WIC program (D. Anthony):** Anthony proposed planting seeds along the ditches and roadsides. Some programs are good, some are complicated. The Ag Department is promoting bee friendly seeds. (The NRCS program, as told by Hansen) He feels that we should form a committee to work with the Ag Department and work with them in their seed selection. The Pheasants Forever speaker at ABF told that they would like to work very strongly with beekeepers, per Roger Hoopingarner.
**Regional Reps (Toland):** We have a number of regional reps that are missing in action. We have people who have been elected, are behind in dues, and never show up to the board meetings. We also have people in those regions who want to be active. Tilmann has been in touch with a rep who enjoys being a rep, but doesn't attend meetings. Other reps, namely Mendel, Hilbert and Hugo would choose not to be reps. Toland will call and have a pleasant conversation with these reps to see their intentions.

**Coloring Books:** Dudock would like more coloring books for SVBA, about 1000. Toland reports that we have less than a case. She would like to purchase them for her club. Toland will order them. Toland will get honey sticks too. [Secretary's Note: There is a standing motion to allow the president to purchase both these.]

**MBA Flyer (Dudock):** Brochure table to next meeting.

**Value Added items (D. Schram):** (Tabled)

Motion to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,
Don Schram
Secretary, Michigan Beekeepers' Association
Current Beekeeping Clubs
within the State of Michigan
as of April 4, 2014

Compiled by Don Schram, Secretary, Michigan Beekeepers' Association

Legend:
Beekeeping Club name
When the club meets (date and time)
Where the club meets
Club contact person and position (if known) * (asterisk) next to name denotes responding person to questionnaire
Email address and/or phone number
Any additional information

A2B2 (Ann Arbor Backyard Beekeepers)
Second Tuesday of the month, 6:30p to 9:00p
Matthaei Botanical Gardens, 1800 Dixboro Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48105
*Meghan Milbrath, President 651-428-0543
a2b2club@gmail.com

Biodynamic Beekeeping
Fourth Tuesday of the month, 7:00p to 8:30p
Rudolf Steiner House, 1923 Geddes Ave., Ann Arbor 48104
*Eileen Dickinson 734-717-4145
edickins@umich.edu

COMB (Center of Michigan Beekeepers)
Second Monday of the month, 6:30p to 9:00p
MSU Pavillion, 4301 Farm Lane, E. Lansing, 48824
*Mike Risk, President
mrisk75@gmail.com
Kay Barber, Treasurer 517-927-3541
barberk@anr.msu.edu
www.combbees.org or web@comb-bees.org

Holland Area Bees
[Meeting dates pending]
[Meeting locations TBD]
Don Lam, President 616-335-2707
djl2003@juno.com
*Anne Marie Fauvel, Secretary
fauvela@gvsu.edu
*Bryan Immink, Vice President
bryani95@hotmail.com
http://hollandbees.wordpress.com/
Kalamazoo Bee Club
Meets monthly (No dates or times at this moment.)
[Meeting location TBD]
Patrick Frary, President
ptfrary13@hotmail.com
*Sheldon Schwitek, Secretary
beesnug@me.com
www.kalamazoobeeclub.org

Lakeshore Area Beekeepers
[Meeting dates pending]
[Meeting location TBD]
No contact/no response
www.indianabeekeeper.com/local_associations/

Michiana Beekeepers
Date varies
Location Varies
No contact/no response
www.indianabeekeeper.com/local_associations/michiana

Mid Michigan Beekeeping Club
First Thursday of the month, 7:30p to 9:00p (except July, second week)
Forest Township Hall, Downtown Otisville, MI
*Barb Applebee  989-975-0161
midmichiganbeekkeepers@gmail.com
www.midmichiganbeekkeepers.ucoz.com

Monroe Bee Club
Third Monday of the month, 6:30p to 8:00p
MSU Extension Building, 963 S. Raisinville Rd., Monroe
*Bill Bray
braybill@hotmail.com

Napoleon Bee Club
Varying time and dates
6710 Brooklyn Hwy. (M-50), Napoleon Township, MI (one building east of Napoleon Bee Supply)
*Steve Clark (517) 499-0439
napoleonbeesupply@yahoo.com

Oakland Bee Club
First Tuesday of the month, 7:00p to 9:00p
E.L. Johnson Nature Center, 3325 Franklin Rd., Bloomfield Hills, 48302
*Dennis Holly, President
hollysapiaries@yahoo.com or 248-542-1316
hollysbees.com
Pine River Beekeepers
Third Tuesday of the month, 5:30p to 9:00p
Pine River Nature Center, 2585 Castor Rd., Goodells, 48027
*Don McChristian, President  586-610-1867
pineriverbeekeeping@gmail.com
*Liz Masters  810-543-3058
lizze.toddmasters@gmail.com

Saginaw Valley Beekeepers Association
First Tuesday of the month, 7:00p to 9:00p
Old Country Buffet, 4695 Bay Rd., across from the Fashion Square Mall, Saginaw
*Cindy Dudock, Vice President
svbapresident@gmail.com
Norm Adams, President
presidentsvbka@yahoo.com
www.saginawbees.org

SE MBA/Schoolcraft (South East Michigan Beekeepers' Association)
Meeting dates vary, times vary
Schoolcraft College, Lower Waterman Center, 18600 Haggerty Rd., Livonia
*Clay Ottoni 248-454-9800
ceottoni@gmail.com
www.sembabees.org
*Roger Sutherland
rsuther30@gmail.com

Seven Ponds Beekeeping Club
Fourth Tuesday of the month, 6:30p to 9:00p
Seven Ponds Nature Center, 3854 Crawford Rd., Dryden, 48428
*Terry Toland, President  248-421-6601
akatoe@gmail.com
http://www.sevenpondsbeekeepers.org/

Superior Bees
Date and time varies
Location varies (in the UP)
Joel Lantz
superiorbeekeeping@gmail.com
*Michelle Landis  906-250-2511
www.upbees.weebly.com/superior-beekeeping-club.html
http://superiorbeekeeping.weebly.com

UMBees
Every Sunday, 3:00p to 5:00p
Location varies with the activity, in the Ann Arbor area
*Parker Anderson, President
umichbeekeeping@gmail.com
**Beekeeping Interests (Not open clubs):**
Catherine Ferguson Academy  
No regular meetings, assists with classes  
Assists at the Catherine Ferguson Academy, Detroit  
*Rich Wieske, President*  
rich@greentoegardens.com  
(Not an organized club)

Michigan Commercial Beekeepers' Association  
No regular meeting dates  
Location changes  
Terry Klein, Vice President  
tmksons@gmail.com  
Tim DeKorne, President  
harmonyhf@acegroup.cc  
*Don Schram, Associate Secretary*  
don.schram@gmail.com

Upper Peninsula Beekeepers  
No set location  
Varying time and dates  
*Ed Wright  906-341-5715*  
upbeekeeper@gmail.com  
Informal club/network of beekeepers

Grand Rapids Beekeepers  
No dates or times (Not a club)  
No location. Only a Facebook interest group.  
http://www.facebook.com/pages/Grand-Rapids-Beekeepers/121429474557141

Northern Bee Network  
Varying location  
Web based  
*Meghan Milbrath  651-428-0543*  
meghanom@gmail.com  
www.northernbeenetwork.com
Bee Schools and Events:

Albion Bee School
March 1, 2014, 9:00a to 4:30p, $45 per person, lunch provided.
Albion College, Science Complex Building, 200 Hannah St., Albion
*David Green
djgreen@albion.edu or call 517-629-0582
www.kalamazoobeecclub.org

Holland Area Bee School
February 8, 2014  8:00a to 4:00p, $40 per person, lunch provided.
GVSU-Meijer Campus, 515 S. Waverly Rd., Holland, MI
www.hollandbees.wordpress.com
Don Lam
djl2003@juno.com
*Anne Marie Fauvel
fauvela@gvsu.edu

Kalamazoo Bee School
February 22, 2014  8:00a to 5:00p, $45 per person, lunch provided, $55 at the door.
Kalamazoo First Assembly of God, 5550 Oakland Dr., Portage, MI (SW corner of I-94 and Oakland Dr.)
*Caroline Abbott 269-692-2328
scabbott@sbcglobal.net
www.kalamazoobeecclub.org

TCBA (Wooster)
Friday, February 28, 2014 , 5:30p to 8:00p.  Saturday, March 1, 2014, 8:00a to 5:00p
Fisher Auditorium, 1680 Madison Ave, Wooster, OH
No response/no contact
www.tricountybeekeepers.org

Apitherapy Day in Ohio
Saturday, February 15, 2014, 8:00a to 4:30p,
Pittsfield Township Hall, Oberlin, OH  44090
Jerry Catana

Michigan Honey Festival
July 12, 2014
Harvey Kern Pavillion, Frankenmuth, MI
Melissa Jaskiewicz