Michigan Beekeepers Association

Minutes

November 7, 2015

Present: Anne Marie Fauvel, Meghan Milbrath, Patrick Frary, Therese McCarthy, Matt Tanana, Steve Tillman, Roger Hoopingarner, Mike Hanson, Dave Anthony, Cindy Dudock, Mike Risk, Walter Pett, Sheldon Schwitek, Terry Tolland

Guests: Don Schram

Regrets: Rich Weiske, Greg Willis

Previous Minutes:

- Cindy D. reviewed the minutes of the last meeting.
- **Motion:** To accept the previous minutes.
  Moved: Dave A, Second: Ann Marie F., Passed unanimously

Financial Report:

See Attached PDF

- **Motion:** To accept Treasurers report.
  Moved: Therese, Second: Dave A., Passed unanimously

Reports

1. Michigan Dept. of Ag- Mike Hansen
   a. MDA does Freighter Inspections for bees that need a state certificate.
      i. Georgia- Every Year
      ii. Florida- Once
      iii. Fire Ant inspection; Voluntary
          - Need to be done for California
          - Possible to bring then north.
          - 2 loads rejected in 10 years
            a. moths
            b. weed seeds- Knapweed.
   b. Pollinator Protection Plan(ting)
      i. Meeting to coordinate amongst stakeholders
      ii. Planning is underway, with Meghan and others.
         - Currently working on who is going to be at the table for the discussion and implementation of the program in Michigan.
- All meetings will be open to the public.
- Terry will talk to Tim (Commercial Beekeepers) to identify people who will speak for organizations at the first public meeting.

iii. Drift Watch
- New regulations for pesticides beginning to be defined; particularly for the use of Neonicotinoids.
  a. Hemlocks are a species that is being treated with neonics, as the risk is very low. Drenching is currently the practice used in these cases but the risk is considered to be minimal.

iv. Honey Houses
- Tom from the Dept. of Ag. has been providing inspections and has been promoted and will no longer be the lead for this service. It is uncertain who will be continuing to do the inspections at this time.

v. Antibiotics
- Are no longer available over the counter for treatment of any animals, including honeybees. They now fall under the auspice of a Veterinary Feed Directive.
  a. They can’t be used for growth promotion.
  b. No longer available as a prophylactic treatment.
  c. Tylosin is no longer available at all.
- The change in rules affects how the antibiotics will be prescribed. A veterinarian needs to write the prescription. There was some discussion regarding access and how veterinarians are going to be implementing the policy and be educated in what be looking for, etc.

vi. MBA will speak to the membership regarding accessibility of antibiotics and the pollinator initiative at the Spring Meeting

2. MSU- Walter and Meghan
   a. Walter and Meghan are working with Mike on the Pollinator Protection initiative.
   b. Diagnostic Services are being developed for Honeybees at MSU. The Insect Diagnostic Lab will be utilized as it has all the equipment necessary to perform the testing.
      i. Protocols are established
      ii. Turn around and expectations are similar to USDA
      iii. Training on protocols will be taking place at Beltsville.
   iv. Therese inquired if a training could be developed for veterinarians to learn to sample for AFB/EFB with staining?
   v. This will be a fee for service model, where as Beltsville is free. So beekeepers will have a no cost option, but MSU should be able to have a shorter turn around time.

Old Business

1. Fall Conference
   a. A lot board business completed. We currently have all board positions filled.
   b. A nice list of Honey Judges has been created, so we no longer have to depend on only one judge for events.
c. Presenters payments for Fall conference
   **Motion:** Payments will be made to presenters on a per class basis.
   - Dave Anthony, Second: Anne Marie, Passed unanimously.
   ii. Honorarium for Tammy Horn
   **Motion:** To pay a $1000 honorarium Tammy Horn for her speaking engagement
   - Sheldon, Second: Therese, Passed unanimously

d. Expenses for Hospitality Suite and Plaques submitted by Terry.

2. Spring Conference,
   a. Kellogg Center
   i. Terry was asked whether we were still using the facility for ANR Week. We currently do no have a contract with them for the conference.
   - Need to contact the person in charge of ANR week. Coordinated through Dept. of Ag.- Jennifer Labun (Event Coordination for ANR Week)
   - What is the arrangement for us with respect to the Kellogg Center. Do we need to be participating in the planning process with the overall ANR Event? Electronic version of brochure?
   - Walter is going to inquire with Jennifer about how we need to proceed so that MBA can move forward with the planning
   b. Keynote Speakers: Gary & Jenny Reuter
   i. Tech Transfer
   ii. Sanitation- Keeping healthy colonies
   - They are doing it there already.
   - What can we do keep healthy bees
   iii. Winterizing
   iv. Jenny- Lotions and waxes, ?
   c. Special Guest: Rose Lynn Fisher and her microscopic photography.
   d. Breakouts
   i. Board members need to create a list of breakouts and people. To be discussed at December board meeting.
   e. Live Auction
   i. will
   f. Volunteers
   i. Need someone to coordinate.
   - Anne Marie, Sheldon, Meghan have offered to help with coordinating this.
   ii. Can we tap into other places for volunteers
   - Local High school, scout troops, Home school for volunteer hours.
   a. We can provide free lunch @ Brody for these volunteers
   g. Vendors
   i. Need to create a committee to work on this.
   ii. Terry talked about wanting turn it into a tradeshow.
   - Bringing in representatives from larger equipment companies that sell to suppliers who are at the conference
   - There was also so discussion about creating a track for those reps to talk about their companies and equipment.
iii. There is a need to further promote the suppliers and their ability to bring in preorders to the conference to avoid shipping costs for participants.
h. We will be looking at the utilization of Big Ten A, B & C. How can we use it better for the vendors and the keynote and breakout sessions.

3. Summer Picnic
   a. There was a suggestion of partnering with the Honey Festival in Frankenmuth and hosting it there. Terry will look into it.

New Business

1. Correspondence
   a. None

2. Old Equipment
   Motion: for Don to buy ancient computer for $1.
   • Moved: Therese, Second: Roger, Passed unanimously

3. Non-Profit
   a. Because we are not a 501c3 we can’t access the funds from the Freemont Foundation for our own use
   b. Treasurer recommends that we don’t pursue this due to increased reporting is necessary.
   c. Also, Roger Hoopengarner thinks that as a 501c3, we would not be able to charge membership dues.

4. Autumn Fest
   a. Is held during the Tailgate party before the MSU Football Game, 3 hours before kickoff.
   b. Do we want to participate? It is being held next weekend.
   c. Participation is $250. Roger and COMB would coordinate having people to man the tent.
   d. Terry has Honey Straws and Colouring Books that can be used as part of the promotion.
   Motion: MBA to pay the fee to participate in Autumn Fest the weekend of
   • Moved: Dave, Second: Cindy, Passed unanimously.

5. Motion: To let those who had permission to use 150th Anniversary logo for swag to be able to liquidate their existing merchandise.
   Moved: Dave, Second: Therese, Passed unanimously.

6. Motion: That Roger and Don will represent MBA at the ABF in Jacksonville in January.
   Moved: Mike Risk, Second: Cindy. Passed unanimously.

7. Motion: To add an additional $5000 from cash reserves to CD’s. And to convert the $20000 in CD’s in to 2 x $10,000

Next Meeting
   • December 5th
   • January 2nd

Motion to Adjourn: Sheldon