Michigan Beekeepers Association  
April 22, 2020  
Zoom Remote Meeting


Called to order: 8:02 pm Chris Beck presiding

Motion to approve Agenda: Norm Adams; Second: Theresa Bristol-Miller

Secretary’s Report:
Motion to approve the March Minutes: Norm Adams; Second: Theresa Bristol-Miller

Treasurer’s Report: Kale Tissue
See attached report
Next year we will need to make some budget revisions.
Motion to approve: Kyle LeRoux; Second: Theresa Bristol-Miller

Audit: Steve Tillman
In spite of a number of technical issues, he was able to recover the financial data in QuickBooks through 2016. Since then, he has been recovering the data from 2017 and 2018. A number of issues have shown up. He has built a database that can be queried through Nov 2018. The time period from November 2018 through October 2019 was passed to Tim Norton. He is working on a list of recommendations with Tim. There is a preponderance of undocumented revenues and expenses, and unknown revenues and expenses. Some can be classified, but others are a complete mystery, and it has been challenging work. Many things indicate a lack of control. Many recurring entries hitting the credit card should be looked at. Some are fairly large amounts of money, including some undeposited checks with no documentation. They have been setting up a fixed assets account in the general ledger. The association’s memory is in individual people, but not recorded, and this presents a problem when new officers join us. They will be making a series of recommendations to the board. He has built the database with a temporary version of QuickBooks, which will expire in about 2 weeks.

Kale suggests utilizing the cloud version of QuickBooks from the beginning instead of having to transition later. This will enable multiple users, and enable transitions between future treasurers.
Chris notes that the priority for Steve Tillman at this time is to complete the 2018 audit. Steve needs QuickBooks to complete this audit.

Joel Lantz made a motion that we extend the QuickBooks license for a month, up to $500, so that it will not expire before the next board meeting. This was seconded by Don Lam. Motion passed.

At the Annual Meeting last fall, Tim Norton agreed to do an audit of 2019. He also recommends using cloud-based QuickBooks, to keep the data secure and to allow multiple users. He is working with Kale and Steve to accomplish this.

**Member Communications:** Jen Blackburn
Jen has been working on our new website, and is welcoming content suggestions, especially under the “Resource” tab. Email her with any recommendations. This week she sent out correspondence from Mike Hansen and Charlotte Hubbard.

**District Representative Reports:**

*Kyle LeRoux:*
Last night he attended the Berrien/Cass Zoom bee talk. They are anxious to get out to their hives. Battle Creek did not have their meeting, but is encouraging the MSU webinars. The University of Pennsylvania is offering their beekeeping program for free online.

*Dave Pearce:*
Lost Nations did a conference call for their last board meeting, and hope to do a presentation on pollinators in May. Middle of Michigan has been active on Facebook, and adjusting the in-hive calendar as needed. Napoleon has cancelled classes and gatherings through May. A2B2 club has cancelled its April meeting, and is looking at a Zoom meeting for May. Their bee school is putting together Zoom classes with guest speakers.

*Rich Wieske:*
He is encouraging all of his club presidents to do some type of Zoom meeting to stay in touch with their members. SEMBA had 60-70 people at their first webinar. They had about a 10% loss with beginning beekeepers’ packages this spring.

*Ray Browsers:*
Chuck Bauer is keeping them informed about webinars.

*Michael Banyai: New District 5 Representative*
They’ve been having Zoom meetings, and plan to continue. Packages arrived last week and were installed.

*Theresa Bristol-Miller:*
She has suggested that all clubs do virtual meetings. Some clubs are hesitant. There have been some problems regarding new beekeeper packages, so clubs have provided them with phone numbers of mentors.

Joel Lantz:
They still have snow, and no bee packages yet.

Norm Adams:
The bee packages that did go in early and were cared for are doing very well.

MDARD: Mike Hansen
He has drafted and sent out a letter regarding traveling to your bee yard during this shutdown. The large bee meetings for this year have all been cancelled. The national bee survey will be done on 24 locations in the fall.

MSU: Meghan Milbrath and Ana Heck
They are still in a holding pattern, waiting for research permission. A new webinar concerning Pollinator Habitat is scheduled for April 30 at 7:00p.

Conferences: Larry Connor
He proposes that we schedule any future conferences with the option to do them through Zoom if necessary.

Old Business:
Joel made a motion to donate $1000 received from the spring conference auction to the Belle Isle Nature Center. Theresa seconded, and the motion passed.

New Business:
MSU Sentinel Apiary Hives have six sites throughout the state. They serve as example hives to provide timely regional beekeeping information. They may also be used for veterinary training. Rich is working on organizing fundraising for this program to cover the next three years. He plans to approach the beekeeping clubs around the state to raise money; $750-1000 from the larger clubs and $200-300 from the smaller clubs. Then he will ask Fremont to match that amount.

Chris is concerned about the long-term effects of the coronavirus on the general state of beekeeping. Are new beekeepers going to be exceedingly discouraged and overwhelmed? How is our product pricing affected? MSU Extension has a branch on community food systems that can help us with food distribution.

Motion to adjourn: Joel Lantz
Action Items:

- Budget revisions need to be done for next year
- Consider pricing and term options for the cloud-based QuickBooks program
- Email website content suggestions to Jen Blackburn
- Make suggestions regarding the long-term effects of the coronavirus on the general state of beekeeping
Treasurer’s Report

MBA Meeting – April 22, 2020

• Month Finances
• Membership

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Account</th>
<th>2018/19</th>
<th>2019/20</th>
<th>Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenues</td>
<td>36,628</td>
<td>40,860</td>
<td>4,232 (+11.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td>17,632</td>
<td>33,261(1)</td>
<td>15,629 (+88.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net</td>
<td>18,996</td>
<td>7,599</td>
<td>11,397 (-60.0%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(1) $6,000 withdrawn for MSU/Fremont Grant (pass through $)
## Treasurer’s Report

### Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>Mar Actuals</th>
<th>YR Actuals</th>
<th>Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Member Dues</td>
<td>3,877</td>
<td>10,355</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference</td>
<td>10,675</td>
<td>28,105</td>
<td>22,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>2,320</td>
<td>2,400</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>16,872</td>
<td>40,860</td>
<td>38,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>Mar Actuals</th>
<th>YR Actuals</th>
<th>Next Month</th>
<th>Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bank Expenses</td>
<td>523</td>
<td>1,508</td>
<td>438</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>729</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>2,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conferences</td>
<td>15,600</td>
<td>21,546</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>22,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office/Supplies</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>717</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organizational</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,621</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>5,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotional</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>16,372</strong></td>
<td><strong>33,261</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,926</strong></td>
<td><strong>42,500</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Treasurer’s Report

Grants
October 2019 – March 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recipient</th>
<th>Mar Actuals</th>
<th>Next Month</th>
<th>YR Actuals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michigan State University</td>
<td></td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Club Donations</td>
<td></td>
<td>300</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>6,300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2019/2020 Budget: $10,000

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Treasurer’s Report

MBA Meeting – April 22, 2020

- Month Finances
- Membership
## Treasurer’s Report

### Membership

April 22, 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>People</th>
<th>Organizations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Members</td>
<td>420</td>
<td>341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lapsed Members</td>
<td>239</td>
<td>377</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>