Michigan Beekeepers Association  
July 22, 2020  
Zoom Remote Meeting


Called to order: 8:00 pm Chris Beck presiding

Motion to approve Agenda: Keith Lazar; Second: Rich Wieske

Secretary’s Report:
Charlotte Hubbard notes that there should be a correction to Rich’s report from the June board meeting regarding the Kalamazoo club’s donation to the Sentinel Apiaries fundraising program. The previously reported $200 donation has not been made.
Motion to approve the June Minutes: Dave Payant; Second: Rodney Bear

Treasurer’s Report: Kale Tissue
See attached report
The Fremont Foundation system is down for maintenance, so she could not obtain that report in time for this meeting. She will update us at the next meeting.

Motion to approve Treasurer’s Report: Don Lam; Second: Larry Connor

We currently use PNC Merchant Services and Authorize.net to process transactions, and Larry Connor suggests that Kale may want to look into PayPal to see if it would be a better option.

Some clubs are approaching the participation limit (100 participants) when using our Zoom account. We can increase the allowed participants to 500 with an additional $50/month. Zachary Huang noted that if we used the MSU Zoom account instead of the MBA account, we would not be limited to 100 participants. Charlotte Hubbard indicated that there is a Zoom meeting scheduled for tomorrow that she expects to exceed our limit, and the invitations have already been sent to more than 600 people. Charlotte made a motion to change the Zoom account, authorizing the Kalamazoo club to cover the expense. Don Lam seconded. Rich Wieske amended the motion, suggesting that the MBA and Kalamazoo club jointly pay for the increase in Zoom costs. The motion passed.

Member Communications: Jen Blackburn
She sent the last newsletter to the full Constant Contact list (5472 people), and got 500 bounce backs, so will remove those contacts. She is planning to do a mini newsletter in mid August, in
response to questions she has received regarding honey prices and insurance. Last month she requested district rep photos, but has only received one. Kale is concerned that the website is no longer compatible with Membee. It was compatible until the site’s security level was increased. Zach will look into this problem and try to fix it.

**District Representative Reports:***
*Kyle LeRoux:*
Berrien County has been having very successful Zoom meetings, and also some smaller social distanced activities. Battle Creek had a meeting last night. Their club vice president was interviewed by the library.
*Rich Wieske:*
SEMPA had a good meeting on Sunday, with Paul Mazur discussing queens. The intermediate program is planning to visit a local beeyard.
*Ray Browsers:*
Muskegon had an in person meeting. Fremont conducts their weekly meeting in the beeyard. Chuck Bauer from the Grand Rapids club had an [interview](https://www.mlive.com) with MLive.
*Rodney Bear:*
The Saginaw Valley Club met on July 15, and Ana gave a great presentation on Drama Queens. Sunrise Side Beekeepers have continued their Zoom format. Rodney has been contacted by a beekeeper whose equipment has been stolen. The equipment is branded Lane’s End Farm.
*Dave Payant:*
The Northwoods Bee Club met July 7 for second year beekeepers. The Marquette club has not yet met. In his region, they are at the top of their honey flow.

**MDARD: Mike Hansen**
Written report emailed:
The USDA Beltsville Laboratory is again taking samples from state inspectors and beekeepers for analysis. Recent results I’ve seen show that they are catching up on the backlog of samples received this past spring. There is some delay in receiving results simply because of the backlog. Note that if you have a colony with American or European Foulbrood and you need a sample analyzed, the State Apiary Program in Utah will provide analysis for you for a nominal fee. You can find the contact information for the Utah Apiary program on the Apiary Inspectors of American Web site [www.apiaryinspectors.org](http://www.apiaryinspectors.org)
The Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) is working with local health departments and is actively monitoring mosquito pools for Eastern Equine Encephalitis. According to an article I read in Morning Ag Clips earlier today, EEE has already been identified in a couple of eastern states. DHHS is looking at communication strategies should they decide to spray for management of this disease in 2020. Several people from my agency are involved in the discussion, but it’s still early in those discussions.

**MSU: Ana Heck, Meghan Milbrath, Zachary Huang**
Zach will continue to represent MBA at HAS. Meghan notes that Nosema has been renamed into a different genus. She also reports that they now have access to their new MSU bee building, which will be called the Pollinator Performance Center. Meghan is beginning to teach the Veterinary student rotation online. Historically, the class has been very field trip oriented, but since that is not possible this year, she encourages beekeepers to volunteer to interact with the students to give them more hands-on experience.

Ana is starting a new position on Monday as the Apiculture Extension Educator.

Conferences: Larry Connor
The Fall Conference is scheduled for October 17 and 18, 2020, which is a Saturday and Sunday, 8:30a - 4:30p each day. It will be a Zoom program. The MBA annual business meeting will be held Saturday at 4p. His speakers include Dewey Caron, giving 2 talks; “Is there a danger that bees will go extinct?”, and “What are beekeepers doing to reduce colony losses?”. He also has commitments from Keith Delaplane (Georgia), Judy Wu-Smart (Nebraska) and Melanie Kirby (New Mexico). Chris will cover honey judging, and Dorothy Morgan will speak on regional queen rearing. Larry will cover basic queen rearing, his brother Mike will do foraging, and his son will also contribute. Meghan will speak on European Foulbrood. Larry would like Steve Tillman to do a QuickBooks program, and our MBA historian to give a presentation. Larry made a motion that we invite each vendor to be a sponsor for a speaker. In exchange for a small monetary fee ($50-$100), the vendor could introduce the speaker and give a 3-5 minute advertisement. This will enable the vendors to be represented throughout the program. Seconded by Don Lam. Motion passed.

Rich recommends that we bring on a tech person to make sure things go smoothly.

New Business:
Committee Zoom Schedule:
Chris has scheduled Zoom committee meetings for the next 4 Wednesdays at 8p:
    7/29: Honey Promotion Committee
    8/5: Nominating Committee
    8/12: Constitution Committee
    8/19: Legislative Committee
    8/26: Board Meeting

All are encouraged to attend these committee meetings.

On September 2 at 8p, all district reps should plan to attend a Zoom meeting to determine the Beekeeper of the Year for their districts, as well as Michigan Beekeeper of the Year, both Lower Peninsula and Upper Peninsula.

Rodney asked about how we will conduct the voting process for the Fall Conference. Chris will bring this up with the Nominating Committee.
Meeting adjourned 9:27p
Motion Rodney Bear; Second: Larry Connor

Action Items:
- District Reps need to send their photos to Jen Blackburn
- A motion was passed to authorize payment to change our Zoom account this month to allow up to 500 participants. This cost was shared by the Kalamazoo club and the MBA
- Meghan encourages beekeepers to volunteer to interact with the Veterinary students to enable them to have more hands-on experience.
- The Fall Conference is scheduled for October 17 and 18, 2020, which is a Saturday and Sunday, and will be conducted over Zoom
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Treasurer’s Report

MBA Meeting – July 22, 2020

• Month Finances
• Membership

Looking at the financial overview for October 2019 to June 2020:

### Revenue & Expenses Overview

<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>37,653</td>
<td>42,512</td>
<td>4,859 (+12.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td>31,856</td>
<td>41,371(1)</td>
<td>9,515 (+29.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net</td>
<td>5,797</td>
<td>1,141</td>
<td>4,656 (-80.3%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

### Revenue

**October 2019 – June 2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>May Actuals</th>
<th>YR Actuals</th>
<th>Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Member Dues</td>
<td>305</td>
<td>12,007</td>
<td>15,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>28,105</td>
<td>22,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,400</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>305</strong></td>
<td><strong>42,512</strong></td>
<td><strong>38,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Expenses

**October 2019 – June 2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>May Actuals</th>
<th>YR Actuals</th>
<th>Next Month</th>
<th>Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bank Expenses</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>2,122</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>1,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>1,104</td>
<td>125</td>
<td>2,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conferences</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>22,046</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>22,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>12,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office/Supplies</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>805</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organizational</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3,154</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>5,500</td>
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<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>1,311</strong></td>
<td><strong>41,371</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,415</strong></td>
<td><strong>42,500</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Treasurer’s Report

Grants
October 2019 – June 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recipient</th>
<th>June Actuals</th>
<th>Next Month</th>
<th>YR Actuals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michigan State University</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Guelph</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belle Isle Nature Center</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>1,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Club Donations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Mancelona</td>
<td></td>
<td>500</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,500</strong></td>
<td><strong>11,300</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2019/2020 Budget: $10,000

MBA Meeting – July 22, 2020

- Month Finances
- **Membership**
# Treasurer’s Report

## Membership

**July 22, 2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>People</th>
<th>Organizations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current Members</td>
<td>446</td>
<td>357</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lapsed Members</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>376</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>