

October 04, 2016
Tri-County Beekeepers

Vern Heise called the meeting to order about 7pm. Vern Heise-President, Jason Nyholm-Vice President, Paul Theis-Treasurer and Skip Kmitch-Secretary were present.

Vern introduced speaker, Crystal Boyd from the Minnesota DNR. Crystal's DNR involvement is with the MN Biological Survey, Bee Specialist areas and works in the Ecological and Water Resources Department.

Topics covered by the speaker included the importance of native bees as pollinators and managing roadside and field plantings for pollinators.

Information provided indicated a few years ago, it was thought there were about 12 – 14 species of Bumble bees in MN. Now, 24 species have been identified.

Crystal Boyd provided numerous handouts for members including how to manage your roadsides for bees and butterflies, MN Prairie Conservation Plan, Wild Bee survey info, and the MN Conservation Volunteer magazine.

Open discussions followed including:

- refractometers
- extracting and extractor rental.
- pollen patties

Vern discussed the upcoming elections for Treasurer and Secretary which will be held at the November meeting.

- one member volunteered to be considered for secretary.
- at this time, no members have volunteered to be considered for treasurer.

Committees were discussed including volunteering for committees, duties for the various committees, etc.

- Committees include – Audit, Education, Picnic, Fair, Website, Demonstration hive, Library and Swarm.

Additional discussions followed including wintering and wrapping hives, mite treatments and brood considerations for mite treatments.

Meeting was adjourned about 9pm.

Submitted by Skip Kmitch - Secretary