

Tri-County Beekeepers Meeting Tuesday, June 6, 2017

Officers Vern Heise, Jason Nyholm, Mitch Theis and Juliet Brambrink were present. Member attendance was approximately 110.

Vern called the meeting to order at 7:00. 5 new members were present.

Treasurers's report:

- Starting balance: \$7577.19
- +\$4 scholarship donation
- +\$440 Sauk bee class
- +\$60 dues
- +\$218 St. Bens
- new balance: \$8299.19

New business:

- Condolences for the family of longtime member Jim Rousch. We will try to find information about where to find a card.
- Land is available for beekeepers: north of Sartell, Big Lake area. Contact Vern if interested.
- National Honey Bee health survey is looking for a sample apiary with 10 or more colonies in one location. Contact Vern for details.
- Sauk Rapids farmers market is looking for a honey vendor and volunteers to help with a children's activity station. Contact Vern for details.
- Non-profit status is active. The deposit for bee purchase has triggered an updated tax filing system, which is more expensive for the accountant to file. We are no longer eligible to file the EZ form.
 - An option was suggested to see if the college has students willing to file the forms for a lower cost.
 - Another suggestion was to try to find a donor accountant.
- Flow Hive has a grant available for demonstration hives. Conditions are pictures of the club assembling the hive and a 500+ word blog post. Motion was made to apply for a grant for a Flow Hive. Motion passed. Education committee will submit the grant.
- Minnesota Honey Queen: Our sponsored candidate Sara Doroff has been accepted and will be competing at the Minnesota Honey Producers Association Convention in July. Motion was made and seconded to pay for her hotel room during the convention. Motion passed.
- July and August meeting dates: July 11 due to holiday, August meeting will be July 31 for fair set-up. August meeting will be held at the fairgrounds followed by an Executive Committee meeting for members to discuss club issues.
- Wayne Rusch presented queen rearing information.

- Wayne presented a new app: Reduce Bee Poisoning from Pesticides. Shares toxicity of chemicals. Available where you find apps.
- Swarms are happening. Check your hives regularly to prevent swarming.
- Receipts for package bees were distributed.
- Fair: Honey straws are ordered. Wendy will be the committee chair, all able members should volunteer to help. Members who want to sell honey at the fair should see Mitch. Honey for sale must be properly labeled with HONEY, your name or company name, quantity in ounces or pounds, address, and optional phone number. Honey should be in appropriate jars and presentable for sale. Volunteers are also needed to work at the fair. It is fun, a good way to meet people and doesn't require special knowledge beyond beekeeping experience. You can also enter honey at the county fair (not required to live in Benton County) or state fair.
- Picnic: Committee members are needed.
- Meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.