

West Plains Beekeepers Association

February 15, 2019 Meeting Minutes

The educational program about the Airway Heights Correctional Center is rescheduled. Jack and Ellen Miller talked about the approval of the Journeyman Manual by WASBA and the other WASBA courses.

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m.

Joe Miller agreed to serve as temporary secretary for the meeting. The minutes of the January meeting were approved as printed.

Treasurer Kevin Ryan reported that expenditures and income are normal and are aligned with last year's pattern.

The Beginning Beekeeping class scheduled for March 9th and 16th is getting full and we may need to schedule another class.

Kevin Oldenburg reported on the 2019 WASBA Conference that was held at EWU on February 9th. There were 280 tickets sold and with the weather, 200 people were able to make it. There has been excellent feedback on the program and the raffle brought in \$1600 for the scholarship fund. At this point it looks like the conference made \$3800.00 in profit.

Ad Hoc Committee (Joe Miller, Kevin Oldenburg, and Jack Miller) gave a preliminary report on what is being called a "Bee Bank." All members of the WPBA would be able to earn points that they could exchange for bee equipment, bees, and other bee related supplies. The WPBA would establish a Medical Lake apiary to help provide hands-on training opportunities for students. There was discussion of who would be responsible for the apiary and how points would be recorded and earned. With feedback from the membership at the meeting, the committee said that they would bring back a more detailed proposal to the March meeting. Everyone was interested in the concept of being able to earn points toward obtaining bees and bee equipment. To ensure the project can take place this year, the motion was made by Jack Miller, seconded by Kevin Oldenburg to authorize WPBA to purchase 2 packages. The motion passed with several people saying that they had equipment that they could donate to house the packages. Joe Miller is looking into a site for the apiary and also to a space in which bee equipment can be stored. He will report back at the March meeting.

New Business:

A reminder to register hives that a person is planning to have in 2019 with the Washington State Department of Agriculture at the following link pestprogram@agr.wa.gov Deadline for registration is April 1st.

Ellen Miller recommended a free PDF that is available for download from the [Honey Bee Health Coalition](#) called "[Best Management Practices for Hive Health](#)." It is a very good resource. She encouraged people to take a look and download it for personal use.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50.

Respectfully submitted by,

Joe Miller, Temporary Secretary