

West Plains Beekeepers Association Pizza Factory, Medical Lake

Date: 12/20/19

6:00 Social time

6:30 Educational Program: Tim Hiatt, Legislative chair and commercial beekeeper.

Overwhelming success of House Bill 1133 Exemption of liability. State Speaker of the House, Lori Jenkins, is very interested in bees. The SSB5552 is about protection of bees and other pollinators. Considering a state task force to make Washington State more pollinator friendly. (State considers honey bees as a pest). Areas of concern: habitat, pesticides, education & outreach, managed pollinators, and research.

Concerns: mapping provision, pesticides

Asian Giant hornets have been found on the west side and BC. They are trying to trap them. They are ground nesting. Deadly to humans and animals.

Othello facility has been secured and will include a bee lab. NMR

(Nuclear magnetic resonance) can be done at WSU.

Tim has 18,000 hives in ND during the summer. After honey harvest he sends his bees to CA. That amount of bees require a huge foraging area which isn't sustainable in ND all year.

Yearly loss is 30%, but splits after CA usually keep it even.

After honey extraction, bees are treated for mites, fed pollen and sent out.

Honey production is up to 135 lbs per individual hive. Good wax is 8,000 lbs per year.

Discussion of corn syrup being used in honey production and honey feed. It will affect the product.

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by Marie Ellis President.

Minutes were approved from 11-15-19 meeting. Treasurer's report: Kevin Ryan.

Some income is still for on-hold class participants.

\$6,800 total monies.

Possible income from splitting nucs at apiary.

Beginning & Journeyman class are budgeted in (\$500 each)

T-shirt cash was received at meeting.

Discussion on possible new categories on spreadsheet, as needed. Donations would be an example.

Committee Reports: Education Committee:

January Presenter will be Tom Seely & Margo Buckles on the presentation at University of MT.

An Apprentice class will be early March. Exact dates will be updated. Shari will contact the Cheney Library for availability.

Journeyman class was mentioned, but requires further discussion.

WASBA:

Conference in Ellensburg October 3rd and 4th, 2020. Keynote speaker will be Randy Oliver.

West side Irish Whiskey (honey/whiskey drink). Big. \$10k

Apiary: Dead bees were cleaned out. Airway Heights CC:

Joe Miller invited Club Leadership to attend the graduation celebration in February. He will keep us up-to-date by email. We all agreed the Club will provide funds for cake.
New member, Jenny Morton, will be making the cake.

Old Business:

News about grant request from Jim Miller

Jim Miller sent the request to the State and to the club.

AHCC residents are on their third generation queen rearing. AHCC has 8-9 hives which have inadequate shelter.

Lab equipment donation.

Microscope: Allow free diagnosis on bee issues (facility can't make money). Help provide skills to individuals.

The body moved to table the issue 3-6 months out, while Joe researches and gets back to us.

New Business:

After Airway Heights voted for bees, they received an offer of \$1,000 to continue to support bees in AH. The donator wants us to receive the funds to keep momentum going if the city agrees.

It was suggested AH strive to be a Bee City USA.

It was moved, seconded, and agreed that Margo Buckles would contact city managers

Submitted with gratitude to Shari by Molly Sutor, Secretary