

Tri-County Beekeepers Meeting Tuesday, February 5, 2019

Board members Stephanie Johnson, Bob Cross, Dennis Clark and Deb Cross were present. Stephanie called the meeting to order at 7:17. Total attendance was 61. Three new members were present and introduced themselves.

2019 membership renewals are open, cost \$10 per year.

Bee orders were taken tonight and will continue at March meeting. Club will go with:

- **Koومان Farms**, 3 lb. package for \$122 or 2 lb. package for \$93. A \$10 deposit will be added. April delivery date.
- **Rusch Farms**, 4 frame nucs with new queen, \$150, sales tax multiply by .0737 with a May delivery date. Order by February 1st to guarantee delivery.

Audit was not completed in December.

Discussion continued on what to do with the demo yard. Currently the demo yard is located on Clay's property but need to be moved.

Members would like the demonstration hives to be in a central location so when demonstrations are held it will be easy to attend. It was also noted that scattered locations for demonstrations might be beneficial. 4 members volunteered to hold demonstrations at their bee yards. Communication being key to have better attendance, it was suggested we email members and/or use the Facebook page when scheduling a demo.

If hives are housed elsewhere, should honey be property of club or person housing the demonstration hives? A mention of gifting the Langstroth hives to scholarship winners was passed to the Demo Committee to decide along with ownership of honey from demonstration hives.

Jason volunteered to take the hives until another location is available.

Motion made to hold demos at member's bee yard using their own supplies. Participants must wear a veil when attending a demo. Communications will be sent in advance. Motion passed.

Stephanie went over new webpage. If you want something on the website, get info to Stephanie

It was mentioned that 2 people (1 in St. Joe) are looking to have hives on their property. Please see Stephanie or Vern for more information.

Minutes were read from the December meeting. It was suggested that we read minutes online to save time during meetings. Bylaws state "meeting to include reading and correction on the minutes of the last meeting." *Article 5, section 8b. January 2016*

Stephanie listed the existing committees and asked for volunteers.

- Charles Selander volunteered for Website Committee.
- Mary Kivi is willing to serve on Picnic Committee but stated we need a willingness to attend a planned event.
- We need volunteer for next year to handle bee orders.
- Two scholarship winners need mentors. Think about it. Must have a background check.
- A mentor is requested for a new member in Kimball area. Jason says come see him.

A new member asked what we're currently doing with the hives. It was explained what we've done with the demonstration hives.

Jason lead discussion on what we should be doing in next month with the hives.

- If a warm day, open cover check for activity. Do not pull frames out.
- Between now and mid-march put pollen on hives.
- The queen will be laying so check honey supply as she'll have food. Feed if light.

- Order bees if down to 2 frames of bees.
- Get your equipment ordered – be ready.
- There are different ways to check if bees are alive besides opening the hive. Paul has an app on his phone with infrared heat signature.

Wayne promoted the U of MN Extension Bee Lab for bee classes (for new members). Sign up early. Club is doing Community Ed classes. They started tonight.

New member suggested adding resources back into website. He likes to see what he should be doing in the next month.

Wayne offered to answer bee questions via phone. Rusch Farms has a website showing what you do with your hives now? Visit www.RuschFarms.us

Paul also offered to answer bee questions via phone.

Treasurer's Report:

- Beginning balance: \$7638.97
- - \$106 for mailbox
- - \$9 key deposit
- + \$70 dues in November
- + \$210 dues in December
- + \$8 honey sales
- Ending balance: \$7811.97

Motion to adjourn at 8:27 p.m.