

Kansas Honey Producers Association

Business Meeting Minutes 11/11/2023

The meeting was called to order at 10:08 a.m., by President Becky Tipton, at the Courtyard by Marriott, Salina, KS. The meeting was attended by those present for the fall KHPA Meeting.

Minutes were read from the 3/11/23 spring business meeting. Since there were no questions, motions were made and approved by all.

Treasurer's Report:

Robert Burns reported we had another great sales year at the state fair grossing over \$61K. The Association itself broke even. There are 220 members, and all details can be viewed on the website. Receiving the Cappings by email will help cut mailing costs. Motion was made to approve the financials and was supported by all.

First Vice President's Report:

Greg Swob said the next spring meeting will be March 8th & 9th at this same location. There has been some consideration of having the meeting at the zoo but as of now it will stay at the Courtyard Marriott in Salina. He asked that we continue adding meeting topic suggestions to the list.

Second Vice President's Report:

Kristi Sanderson announced the dates for the 2024 fair will be Sept. 6th through the 15th, three days prior to that for set up. The sign-up genius will be available again in July and if you have signed up before you will receive an email when it becomes available. She reminded us that volunteering is a great way to interact with other beekeepers and talk about bees. The live hive and volunteers continue to provide great education for the public. This year at the show a child size manikin and bee suit were added. Next year she would like to have someone stationed at the honey show as this is a wonderful opportunity to answer people's questions. She has items left from the show for us to purchase at wholesale prices. She also has name tags if anyone wants to order one. We can become a lifetime member with free membership for life and a name tag with the donation of a complete hive.

Third Vice President's Report:

Julie Cahoj was not present, but Becky reminded us that our grant program allows schools and clubs to add hives for their education so tell your local clubs about us. The board selected Leib 4H Club from Edna KS for this year's sponsorship and David Korver and Rhonda Heston will be their mentors.

The Cappings Editor:

Cheryl Burkhead was not present, but Becky reminded us to get the Cappings letter by email if possible.

Legislative report given by Jim Kellie

Kansas does not have but needs a state bee/hive inspector. We could work with state and county extension officers and that person could coordinate and provide education and information if the state would spend the time and money to implement this. The committee was able to visit with Tessa Beeman who oversees specialty livestock for KS. They had great conversations about the importance of bees even though they are a small portion of livestock. They discussed the need for education regarding bees in agriculture, especially with pesticides and the effects it has on bees and honey. They will continue to work with her in promoting a state program.

On a national level, the country consumes more honey than it produces; therefore, much of the nation's honey is imported. This has a direct effect on the market price. Canadian beekeepers have filed a lawsuit with the Canadian

government to raise the ban and open the U.S. border to import nucs. This will affect US beekeepers if passed as there will be less nucs for us to purchase when they are all shipped north.

Area Directors Reports:

Northeast: Jo Patrick reports they have various programs that meet monthly, The Dec and Jan meetings will be by zoom. Because of term expirations they will be needing new officers this year. Kristi heads up the new beginner's and the 2nd year beekeepers' classes. They will be held in Jan and Feb at the Douglas Co. Fairgrounds. With the GPMB grant their goal is to have open apiary classes twice per month. They also have programs for veterans and kids as well.

Southeast: no report.

North Central: Nikki Bowman reports the group meets at the Rolling Hills Zoo in Salina regularly. They have an apiary so there are hands on demonstrations.

South Central: Stepheni Phillips reported that in Hutchinson they have numerous clubs in the area. They are starting a new club to be held at members apiaries. Their fb page has meeting dates. The Hutch Zoo has a pollinator garden, and they hope to add a beehive in the future.

West region: No report.

Old business: None reported.

New business:

Jo updated us that the post cards were sent out to the Driftwatch/Bee Check member list. Time will tell us the results of this mailing. The board determined to review this mailing option again in 2 years.

Becky reminded us that the terms of several officers expire this year and would need to be reinstated or replaced at this fall meeting. She volunteered to continue her position as president and with no opposing constituents a 1st and 2nd motion was made with full support by showing of hands. Kristi Sanderson also volunteered to continue the 2nd VP position and with no opposing constituents a 1st and 2nd motion was made and fully supported by a showing of hands. The treasurer position is open this year as Robert Burns requested to retire. He has offered and will continue the bookkeeping for the fair. Kristi Sanderson, on behalf of the nominating committee nominated Sondra Koehn as the new treasurer. There was a 1st and 2nd motion for this and support from all by raising of hands. With Sondra being the current secretary and no person can fill two executive positions, the nominating committee nominated Jade Like for the secretary position. A 1st and 2nd motion was made and supported from all by raising of hands. Jo Patrick will continue as Northeast Regional Director and Nikki Boman will continue as North Central Regional Director. The Southeast and West Regional Director positions remain open.

David Korver and Rhonda Heston presented a yellow plastic bag that could be used as a marketing tool for KHPA or the fair to use as well as individual members. The group voted for them to order in bulk and members could purchase them for a minimal fee.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:27am by Becky Tipton with a second motion and support by all.

Minutes submitted by: Sondra Koehn