

Kansas Honey Producers Association Executive Meeting
March 9, 2023 (Thursday) Salina, Kansas
Hybrid meeting in person at Courtyard Marriot and a zoom meeting

Becky Tipton called the meeting to order at 8pm. Attendance in person was Becky Tipton, Sondra Koehn, Greg Swob, Robert Burns, Julie Cahoj, Jim Kellie, Cheryl Burkhead, Nikki Bowman, Jo Patrick, Joli Winer, Chad Gilliland, Steve Tipton, Mark Mounce, Stephanie Brown, and Stephanie Phillips. Attendance by Zoom was Kristi Sanderson. Absent was DeeDee Gebhart.

Minutes: Executive Board meeting minutes from November were previously sent by email from the secretary for review. Some members stated they did not receive the minutes. The new business from the fall minutes were read as a reminder. There were no questions, so a 1st and 2nd motion was made to accept them and all approved.

Treasurer's Report: Robert Burns provides financials each month by email for all board members for review. He gave a summary of what a great year we had from fair sales. There were no questions. An audit of the financial report needs to be completed per the constitution. Jim Kellie and Nikki Bowman were selected from the floor and appointed by President Becky Tipton to provide an audit of the financials.

1st VP Report: Greg Swob reviewed the agenda for the Friday and Saturday meetings. He asked for suggestions to bring the attendance up and for volunteers from the board for the question-and-answer meeting on Saturday.

2nd VP Report: Kristi Sanderson was on zoom and had a bad connection. We skipped to 3rd VP and came back later. Kristi reported the new name tags are in and had Joli brought them to the meeting. The 2023 State Fair booth has been paid for as well as the Air BnB. Set up will start Wednesday Sept. 6th right after Labor Day. Volunteers will be needed to help with the set up. Gary Rueter and his wife Ginger from WI will be the judges. The signup Genius will be open in July for the volunteers to start signing up. The group asked who all had and cared for state hives. Kristi listed, Jane Kill, Greg Swob, Robert Burns, Cecil Sweenie, Nikki Bowman, Julie Cahoj, Melissa Karsten, Steve Tipton, Stephanie Brown, and Mark Mounce.

3rd VP Report: Julie Cahoj reported there would be three representatives from the scholarship group at Friday's lunch so we should all say hi. There have been inquiries for the 2023 season from Conway Springs. We will look at another scholarship this summer for a fall decision. Julie would also like to add an authorization form to the application so there is an official signature of commitment.

Area Regional Directors Reports:

NE: Jo Patrick reported their group had raised their rates from \$15 to \$25 and had no kickback in doing so. They have several classes coming up on how to make splits and soapmaking. Kristi has given beginners and second year classes. The beginners' class went so well they are going to repeat it over several evenings. There will be a queen rearing class in April and Funday is June 3rd with great speakers.

NC: Nikki Bowman reported the group is still meeting at the Rolling Hills Zoo in Salina. It has grown enough a bigger room was needed. Two in the group started a new beginning beekeepers' class earlier this year. We will continue to meet throughout the summer and cards have been printed with those dates.

West: DeeDee Gebhart was not present, so Greg Swob filled in. They had a new beginning beekeeper's class in the Lakin area which was successful and will have another one April 22 on Earth Day.

SE: Tiny Jackson asked to be replaced so the SE group needs to elect someone in the interim.

SC: Stepheni Phillips reported the Hutch group has regular meetings. She is volunteering at the Hutch Zoo and hopes to expand there. She is also helping the area Ag group. Julie encouraged her to have them apply for the scholarship.

Legislative Group: Jim Kellie asked the group for permission to contact the Ag Summit committee and suggest they spread out the topics for all specialty livestock, not just goats. The Summit is in August. A motion was made within the group, a second motion was made and supported by all. Mr. Kellie also asked the group for permission to contact the USDA for their approval to use the Oxalic Acid slow-release sponges. A motion was made for approval to contact the USDA, a second motion was made, and all supported it.

Mr. Kellie requested that he be replaced as the speaker of the legislative committee due to health issues. Brian Withrow is also a member of this committee but was not present. It was discussed to ask Brian if he wanted to fill this role.

Extract \$\$ from your hives; Jolie Winer reported there are about sixty people that log on for these meetings. There are several great topics coming up. If anyone has a topic, please contact her.

Constitution Committee: Julie Cahoj asked if anyone had changes that need to be made to the Constitution or By-laws. None were presented and she reminded us that any changes would need to go out in the Cappings letter before the fall meeting.

Old Business: Jo Patrick brought up that our request with Driftwatch was granted and we have permission to use their contacts for a one-time mail out to promote KHPA and send a flyer or postcard to any new members that joins them. Becky had a draft of a postcard for the group to review and after a minor change a motion was made for it to be printed and mailed to the Driftwatch contact list, with a second motion and all agreed. It was also suggested these could be used as a handout at the fair.

The group discussed setting dates for the teaching apiaries and that each one holding a class should be sure and notify ABF and GPMB of their classes and the dates.

There was a discussion about the process and the form for Beekeeper of the Year and if it needed any changing. It was agreed to leave as is. Becky nominated Greg to take the applications, give them to last year's recipients for judging this year's winner.

New Business:

1. Greg brought up the question of starting any new events. Becky suggested bringing a proposal to the board with info and specifics and letting them decide.
2. The ABF meeting is in New Orleans this year if anyone wants to go. Nikki volunteered that she would go.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:17pm by President Becky Tipton with a 1st and 2nd motion from the group.
Minutes submitted by Secretary, Sondra Koehn