



Pueblo County Beekeepers Association

Providing Education and Support for Beekeepers and the Public

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PCBA Club Meeting Minutes January 11, 2024, 6:30 p.m.

The club meeting was called to order by Dru Spinuzzi at 6:30 p.m.

There is no report to approve because there has not been a secretary for the last five months.

1st agenda item: Treasurer Report

- Total income was \$11896.39, total expenses were \$8173.02, and net profit was \$3110.82. There is a year-end balance of about \$14,000
- Theresa Edwards motioned to approve the treasurer's report
 - Seconded by Steven Plant
 - Passed unanimously

2nd agenda item: Thank you to past board members

- Randy Edwards, former Vice President
- CC Plummer, former Treasurer
- Wendi Clouse, former secretary
- Rick Ludwig, former Board Member at Large

3rd agenda item: Storage unit

- All board members have access. Please keep it clean because there isn't one person in charge of it

4th agenda item: Election for new board members

1. Vice President: Runs meeting in absence of president, helps board members and fills in as needed, and helps treasurer
 - Nominated: Steven Plant
 - Beth Hayes motioned to approve Mr. Plant as Vice President
 - Seconded by Holly Gagnon
 - Passed unanimously.
2. Secretary: Takes minutes, turns in state reports, keeps Policy and Procedures Manual up do date.
 - Nominated: Kristi Aguon
 - Beth Hayes motioned to approve Mrs. Aguon as Secretary
 - Seconded by Randy Edwards
 - Passed unanimously

3. Treasurer: Manages money, registrations, approve expenses, balance checkbook, report quarterly profit and loss, meet with accountant, and uses QuickBooks
 - Nominated: Pam Caprio
 - Beth Hayes motioned to approve Ms. Caprio as Treasurer
 - Seconded by Patty Heidel
 - Passed unanimously
 4. Board Member at Large #1
 - Nominated: Rick Ludwig
 - Beth Hayes motioned to approve Mr. Ludwig.
 5. Board Member at Large #2
 - Nominated: John Withaar
 - Beth Hayes motioned to approve Mr. Withaar
 - Seconded by Vic Boley
 - Passed unanimously
- Former Presidents Rick and Scott will help as needed.
 - All board members will have a board meeting once a month.

5th agenda item: Membership

- Membership lasts from January to December per year. It is highly recommended for each member to volunteer. The board is going to make an effort to ask for help from members.
- Volunteer Coordinator (no voting rights): Tammy
- CSU Extension Board Advisor (voting rights): Beth Hayes

6th agenda item: Mentor Program

- Rick Ludwig runs the mentor program. Mentors are here to help, but not raise your bees for you. It is highly recommended to attend Bee School to learn what you are doing before getting a mentor.

7th agenda item: Scholarship Program

- Currently the program is only for 4H kids and it will be opening up to all kids ages 18 and under. The club has a lot of money in this program and wants to give out more. Scholarships are also available to adults who want to complete the CSBA Master Beekeeper Program.
- 2023: Gave out three scholarships to youth. Scholarships were used for hives, woodenware, and money for beekeeping supplies.
 - Logan is an 11 yr. old youth beekeeper who is in his second year of beekeeping. He won Grand Champion at the State Fair by making a 3D printed porch for his hive to keep rain and snow out. He has 3 hives and used his scholarship money to buy a new hive.

8th agenda item: Chance Drawing

- The Steve Gibson Memorial Chance Drawing is run by Theresa and Randy Edwards. It is named after Steve Gibson who formed the PCBA and passed away from cancer. This year there are \$2000 worth of prizes:
 - 2 nucs
 - 2 packages
 - 3 queens

- The money raised goes to the Scholarship Program. Last year 238 tickets were sold and the year before 282 tickets were sold. This year's goal is to sell at least 300 tickets. Tickets are \$5 each, \$12 for three, or \$20 for five. You do not have to be a member or be present to win. The drawing will be in April.

9th agenda item: Speaker Event

- There will not be a speaker event this year. Speaker events will alternate years with the Bee School

10th agenda item: Web Page

- The PCBA web page has all club information and is run by Patty Heidel. Currently, there is a survey on the webpage that can be filled out

11th agenda item: Bee Curious Bee School

- The Bee School Program is run by Rick and Mara Martinez. This year bee school is February 24-25 at the El Pueblo History Museum. If you cannot afford to attend, see a board member for help.

12th agenda item: Where to Get Bees

- It is our responsibility to keep Africanized bees out of Colorado, so know where your bees are coming from. Do not mail order bees. Local is better.
- Local Dealers:
 - Dwight Eby from Beeline of Colorado
 - Dru Spinuzzi from Dru-Beez
 - Vic Boley from Boley's Bee Haven
 - Don and Wendy Hall from Burley Bees

13th agenda item: CSU Extension

- Beth Hayes is the CSU Extension representative. The CSU Extension office is offering classes:
 - Carbon: It's What's for Lunch, Jan 18
 - Ground Water & Hydrology of Pueblo County, Jan 23
 - PCSA Annual Meeting, Feb 3
 - Sun Soil Water AG Summit, Feb 23-24
- The CSU Extension office also offers the AG Homeschooling CO-OP. Meetings are one time a month for ages 2-18 years. Meetings are normally at the Rawlings Library, but will sometimes be at City Park, the fairgrounds, or at a farm depending on the lesson. Please call the extension office for more information.
- The CSU Extension office also offers canning classes and the cottage food license

14th agenda item: T-Shirts

- Sue Martinez has been in charge of managing the t-shirt program and is looking for someone else to take over

15th agenda item: Meeting Dates

- From now on, monthly member meetings will be on the second Thursday of the month instead of the third Thursday of the month because the library needs the room.

- March and April's meeting may be on a different day and an email will be sent out, as well as a Facebook notification.

Demo: Winter Hive Checks

Do not open your hive under 55°F. Check to see if your bees are flying. If they are flying, that means they are using energy, so check their food stores. You can check the bottom board for wax cappings because that means they are eating honey. If there are sugar granules, that means they are eating the sugar board. You can move frames with honey more toward the center of the hive, but do not split the cluster. You can smash a ripe banana between the frames or add moist sugar on a paper plate to feed. January is a good time to give them Oxalic acid with a vape gun. The club and Dru Spinuzzi has a vape gun to borrow.

Next Board Meeting: Jan 18, 2024, 4:30 p.m. at the CSU Extension office

Next Club meeting: February 8, 2024, 6:30p.m. at the Lamb Library Meeting Room

Kristi Aguon
Secretary