Mississippi Valley Beekeepers Association

# Meeting Minutes

# April 24, 2018

## Opening

The regular meeting of the Mississippi Valley Beekeepers Association was called to order at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, April 24, 2018 in Quincy, IL at the Adams County Farm Bureau Building by President Dale Hill. We had 37 members present.

## Treasurer’s Report

Debi gave the treasurer’s report We had a beginning balance of $2,801.51. We had income of $48.00 in dues. We then had expenses of $250 for bees for Sierra & the Payson FFA Chapter, $128.24 for supplies & Bee Jacket for Sierra, and $30 in dues to the ISBA. This resulted in a new ending balance of $2,441.27. The treasurer’s report was unanimously approved as read.

Debi mentioned to the members present that your name will drop off the Illinois State Beekeepers Association mailing list at the end of April if you haven’t paid your dues.

## Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the March meeting was read by Secretary Stacy Nelson. Minutes were unanimously approved as read.

## Old Business

Lifetime Membership: We have 3 club members that qualify for a Lifetime Membership since they have been members of the Mississippi Valley Beekeepers Association with dues paid by them yearly for the past 20 years. They are Bernie Andrew, Debi Love, and Paul Woodworth. Since they’re dues were already paid this year, this will go into effect next year.

## New Business

Bernie gave a brief inspectors report. He says that if you don’t have much brood then you can’t give much details on inspections. He suggested doing an alcohol wash to do a mite check on your hives. There’s a new inspector for Springfield, IL area. Dale has copies of registration forms to register your hives if you live in Illinois.

What are you seeing in your newly installed packages? Some have reported packages being full of mites. Several talked about having to keep hives in garages or sheds during the cold snap we had. Temperature dropped to 9 degrees 3 days after receiving packages with some beekeepers losing packages due to the weather. Paul mentioned the holes being too small for the bees to get to the sugar in the packages.

Last 2 weeks would’ve been a good time to put on pollen patties. Some beekeepers have reported yellow & orange pollen coming in. Powders are a good source as long as the bees aren’t wasting it. Make sure you keep food in front of them. If you notice no sugar water being used in 2-3 days, make sure you have a queen. The bees will stop consuming sugar water in 24 hours if your hive goes queenless. Bees will starve out or freeze out if they can’t move to food.

Dale showed us pictures that Sierra had sent to him. She looks to be doing well in the mentor program and we appreciate the update on her progress.

Brian is looking for a small suit to borrow for a child. If you can help Brian out, please let him know.

We learned that the Payson FFA Chapter lost their package of bees and we would like to help them get their bees back whether it be from a swarm or a cutout. If anyone is willing to help please let someone know. There were a couple of cutout opportunities mentioned at the meeting. Tim shared that 1 was in Quincy and Bernie shared that there was 1 in Perry and 1 in Lorraine.

We are updating the Swarm Call List that we have posted on our website. We also provide this list to cities, parks, etc. so that they know they have someone to call to remove bees without harming them. Please let our secretary, Stacy Nelson, know if you would like to either be added or removed from the list.

Dale did a presentation on swarms and splits that was very interesting.

**Resources**

driftwatch.org

beesource.com

scientificbeekeeping.com/Randy Oliver

prairiemoon.com

## Agenda for Next Meeting

Next month we will be discussing Pollen Sources and supers.

## Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm by President Dale Hill. The next general meeting will be at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, May 29, 2018 in Quincy, IL in the basement of the Adams County Farm Bureau building.

Minutes submitted by:

 Stacy Nelson

 MVBA Secretary