

## Meeting Minutes Summary: February 21, 2026

**Call to Order:** President Shannon O’Lone called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. Following a brief delay due to high attendance, she welcomed the members and the guest speaker.

**Guest Presentation:** Dr. Heather Broccard-Bell, a Honey Bee Health Researcher, presented on honey bee head-butting behaviors. Dr. Broccard-Bell grew up in rural western Canada and obtained degrees in Psychology, Neuroscience, and Animal Behavior. She conducted honeybee research as a postdoctoral fellow at the University of California San Diego before transitioning to industry in 2021 as a Honey Bee Health Researcher at NOD Apiary Products Ltd. Her current role involves a combination of field and laboratory research, education, and product development

**Member Spotlight:** Cathy Vorisek presented on integrating beekeeping into the classroom, emphasizing educational resources available through *honeybeeboard.com* and club activity books.

**Apiary Exhibit Report:** Chairman Charlie Vorisek highlighted the club's second-place finish at the PA Farm Show, noting the display honored 250 years of beekeeping history and earned \$336 for the club.

**President’s Report:** Shannon O’Lone introduced the executive team, including Secretary Dylanna Jackson, Treasurer John Prinkey, and Vice President Jennifer Willert. She acknowledged the support of board members Cynthia Deep, Matt Foradori, Steve Odom, and Adam Strickland, as well as Past President Advisor Cici Sweeney and President Emeritus Charlie Vorisek. She noted the board is working to formalize policies and procedures to ensure the preservation of institutional knowledge.

**Operational Reports:** Vice President Jennifer Willert reported on the transition to new official email addresses and the successful launch of "The Hive," a new Google Group designed to streamline member communication. She also introduced newly updated, professionally printed club brochures.

**Approval of Minutes:** Secretary Dylanna Jackson presented the previous meeting minutes for approval. The motion to accept the minutes was seconded and passed with no objections.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Treasurer John Prinkey reported a current balance of \$14,730.75, which included \$743.75 in pellet sales. He also introduced a new Family Lifetime Membership tier, which costs \$300, covers two adults (in the same household) and any

minor children, and is non-transferable .This membership affords 2 member votes for Club elections.

**Committee Reports:** The following members were identified as leading our committees: **Welcoming** (Steve Odom), **Nominations** Peggy Bell assisted by Mark Anderhalt); **Membership** (John Prinkey); **Logistics and Legal** (Shannon O’Lone, John Prinkey, and Charlie Vorisek); **Historian** (Charlie Vorisek); **Website** (Jennifer Willert); **Field Day** (Charlie Vorisek); **Picnic** (Mark Anderhalt); **Woodcock** (John Prinkey); **Fundraisers** (John Prinkey); and **Volunteers and Outreach** (Dylanna Jackson, assisted by Mark Anderhalt).

**Club Updates and Strategic Alignment:** Mark Anderhalt introduced the new online club store, designed as a convenience for members to order branded gear directly. Steve Odom provided an update regarding the 5-gallon buckets, noting that the units available now come equipped with spigots for member use. The club is shifting focus toward high-quality, mission-driven programming, curating expert guest speakers for technical education

**Door Prizes:** prioritizing "quality over quantity" for our door prizes, which now feature educational materials and essential supplies like Formic Pro.

- **50/50 Raffle:** The guest speaker pulled the winning number for the 50/50 raffle, 35705, awarding \$172.50 to the winner.

**Announcements:**

- The club picnic is scheduled for August 8th at Common Grounds.
- Charlie Vorisek noted that while an apiary advisory board proposed bee law changes, no legislative movement has occurred.
- Charlie Schroeck announced beekeeping classes at Asbury Woods.
- Cici Sweeney is also offering beekeeping classes and has handouts available for members.
- Members were reminded that the IHOP bee breakfast continues on the third Wednesday of each month.
- Save the dates: State picnic at the Ag Progress grounds on July 17–18, and the annual conference on November 6–8 at the Ramada in State College.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

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**Executive Team Contact Information**

- **President:** president@nwpabeekeepers.org
- **Vice President:** vicepresident@nwpabeekeepers.org
- **Treasurer:** treasurer@nwpabeekeepers.org
- **Secretary:** secretary@nwpabeekeepers.org

**Preview: March 21, 2026 Meeting**

Our next meeting will feature Ryan Williamson, who will present on **Nectar Management**. We look forward to having our scholarship winners join us as well.