

Rockingham County Beekeepers Association

MINUTES

March 5, 2026

The Rockingham County Beekeepers Association meeting was held on March 5, 2026, at the Rockingham County Extension Office. It began at 7:00pm and was presided, Bobbie Gardner as President, with Chasity Bowman-Wilkinson as secretary.

***Guest in attendance:** 2

***Thoughts and Prayers:**

***Raffle tickets** were passed to members by Chasity Bowman-Wilkinson.

Business Meeting:

***The February 2026 minutes** were read by Chasity Bowman-Wilkinson.

***Treasurer's report** was given by Susan Duggan.

February: Beg. Balance \$10,308.71 Raffle +58.00 Member Dues +120.00 Total Income: \$178.00

Exp.-79.34 raffle supplies Education -149.12 Party Supplies -673.73 Check-36.73

Ending Balance \$9,548.49 Lost Hive Replacement \$3,811.00

***Announcements and upcoming events** the Bee Shack is having there "Education Day" Saturday March 7 10am – 12pm

***Old Business:** Phyllis spoke on the Educational committee and talked about 5 different programs they have coming up. She needs a volunteer to speak to the Scouts that meet on the 1st and 3rd Monday of the month. Rockingham Cnty Library gave the go ahead for the educational committee to start with the backpack program for K-2nd grade. There library will have backpacks with supplies on beekeeping; the parents come to check out a backpack to take home for education with their kids and return back to the library. Hive Replacement fund, Jay Garner, passed around a sign-up sheet, if you have 4 or less hives and lots over the winter, you need to sign up for the reimbursement, the total reimbursement will be \$145 to either go towards a package or a NUC.

***New Business** Don Hopkins states for us to be on the lookout for Yellow Leg Hornets, they have teams going out and tracking them. If you see one, please get in touch with Don Hopkins with the state.

If you are not receiving emails from RCBA email address, please let Bobbie Garner know.

Bobbie is going to check on setting up a scholarship Fund for Rockingham County that can be given out once a year. This money will be money that we donate in memory of our fellow RCBA beekeepers who have passed. Field Day will be held May 9th at the the Bee Shack, Don Hopkins will do an inspection, this will be held from 11am – 2pm, we will have BBQ.

***The Bee Yard Report** was given Kevin Kaczmarek, "It's Game On!" Get ready for splits/swarms. Check your honey stores, if you don't have time to do an inspection, lift the back of the hive and see how heavy it feels. If possible, do an inspection, check your brood pattern. If you have hives near strawberries, go ahead and put on honey supers.

***The Educational Session** was presented by Jay Garner and Steve Rivers "Seasonal Hive Management, Splits, Swarms and Honey Supers. You need to evaluate the food store and feed 1:1 Strong colonies expand rapidly when pollen and nectar flow starts. Adding a couple frames of capped brood to a weaker colony can help beef up the population.

***The Raffle** was conducted.

***The meeting** was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Chasity Bowman-Wilkinson