

Illinois Valley Beekeepers Association

Meeting Minutes – May 9, 2025

Board Members Present:

- Warren Norris, President
- Dave Golaszewski, Vice President
- Sheri Strumreiter, Treasurer
- Kelle Frymire, Co-Secretary

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by President Warren Norris, who welcomed all members and introduced the board.

New Members Introduced:

- - Kevin & Lynda Williams
- - One additional new member (name not recorded)

II. Secretary's Report

Copies of the March meeting minutes (dated April 11, 2025) were placed on each table. Members read the minutes individually.

Motion to accept the minutes was made by Pam Butler and seconded by Debbie Dye.

III. Treasurer's Report (Delivered by Sheri Strumreiter)

Beginning Balance (4/11/2025): \$7,017.29

Ending Balance (5/7/2025): \$6,385.87

Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Ed Dye and seconded by Katie Hazen.

(Report is attached.)

IV. Old Business

Membership Dues: Annual dues remain \$20 (\$10 to IBVA, \$10 to ISBA)

Clubware: Members may see Nancy Barnes for any clubware orders.

V. Waterway Apiary Report (Presented by Bill Cunico)

Hives now have fencing installed.

Overwintered colony was transported from Bill's house to the Waterway.

Two new bee packages were installed:

- One on bare foundation
- One with drawn comb from a deadout

April 26th:

- New queens verified for release
- A new queen added to overwintered hive

One colony gravitated toward the drawn comb hive, resulting in a stronger and weaker hive.

The weaker hive is being fed HFCS.

April 29th:

- Overwintered hive donated by Ed and Debbie Dye was moved to Waterway
- Extra fencing added

May 7th: Landscape fabric set, Mite checks scheduled for May.

Reminder: Bill is typically at the Waterway site Wednesdays at 9:00 am.

Members can join his Monday night text reminder list by contacting him directly.

VI. New Business

A. Bee Knowledge

“What Do You Know?” bee questions were read by Kelle Frymire.

B. Earth Day Event

Warren Norris represented IBVA with help from Carla and Stephanie.

- Giveaways: Seed packets and club information
- Guest Speaker: John Ellis from Green Cover spoke on cover crops and regenerative farming, brochures provided.
- Presentation on African Bees by Ralph & Marlene Masage who served in Ghana with the Peace Corps. They worked with brass casters using beeswax and taught top bar hive beekeeping. Marlene was named Ghana Honey Queen.

C. Swarm Season

Warren Norris discussed swarm season preparation (May–June).

Swarm Collection Tips:

- Ask: How high is the swarm?
- Do I need a ladder?
- If delayed, call ahead

- Ask for pictures
- Bring a nuc box with comb and a white sheet underneath

Swarm collector list is available on the IBVA website.

D. Bee Orders

Dave Meyer is accepting orders for bee packages through end of May.

E. Pollinator Flowers

Warren distributed a handout on best flowers to plant for bees.

F. Website Update

Dave Golaszewski provided updates on website changes and additions.

G. 50/50 Raffle

\$17 prize won by Jim Konieczki.

VII. Adjournment

Next Meeting: Friday, June 13, 2025 at 7:00 PM

Motion to adjourn was made by Lewis Bodamer and seconded by Katie Hazen.

Submitted by:

Kelle Frymire, Co-Secretary