

Minutes 2/5/19

Heart of Virginia Beekeepers met February 5, 2019 with 48 people present. Donnie opened the meeting. The jar and sign-in sheet were passed around. Tommy reported on the Bee School and the grant, then gave the Treasurer's Report. The Minutes were read and approved.

The meeting was turned over to Jessica Driver, state bee inspector for our area. She was accompanied by Amanda Bly, who is in training. Nolan Hudson handles Nottoway, Keith Tignor Amelia. Jessica said contact via email:

Email: jessica.driver@vdacs.virginia.gov

Cell phone: 434-710-1945

Link to state webpage: vdacs.virginia.gov

Go to the Beekeeping section from there.

Some topics covered included the problem of fire ants in southern Virginia counties, Beekeeper Pollinator Protection Best Management Practices, Beehive Distribution Program (Reapply July 1, 2019), Virginia BeeCheck program linking beekeepers with people who spray pesticides (VA.BeeCheck.org), DGIF guide for Electric Fencing for Bears, an app for BeeSafety, which gives the ingredients of insecticides, and an app for a pollination network in California. When inspecting bees for sale, Jessica will do varroa mite checks. Go to Honey Bee Health Coalition for a pdf file called Tools for Varroa Mite Management with all treatments. If selling bees, give her notice, backed up two weeks in Spring. If you get a hive from the state, be ready to be inspected in a year for hive viability.

Tommy gave a presentation on What is Blooming. Following questions, the meeting adjourned.