

**Minutes of the OSBA Board Meeting**  
March 18<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
Reynoldsburg United Methodist Church

Members present were: Bob Hooker, Carmen Conrad, John George, Dwight Wilson, Joe Kovaleski, Sue Daly, Ken Hazard, Barb Bloetscher, Margaret Reid, Sherry Ferrell and John Grafton

Call to Order by President Bob Hooker at 6:10 PM

No Minutes were read from the previous meeting

Treasurers report was given and accepted.

Bob Hooker appointed a communication committee. The members of the committee are Sherry Farrell, John Grafton, John George and Barry Conrad as the newsletter editor and Doug Pfeifer as the webmaster. The duties include reviewing OSBA web site and recommending changes. The committee was also to consider such things as legislative hot line, news releases, face book, blogging, etc..

Bob Hooker talked about Brian Newmans resignation as a regional director and made a motion to replace Brian with Ken Hazard. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Carmen Conrad and the vote was unanimous.

He then nominated Dwight Wilson as a regional director, Carmen 2<sup>nd</sup> and the vote was unanimous.

Sue Daley made a brief presentation and update on the new "Honey Standards of Identification".

Bob commented that he felt that OSBA should be absolutely against any law that would put sideline beekeepers out of business.

Ken Hazard made a comment about "raw honey" definition

Bob then suggested the committee come back with a recommendation on what course of action to move forward with.

The Presidents comments:

We need to have OSBA's position on ideas on building a connection with legislatures and ODA. He feels a lot of progress has been made thru both legislation and ODA. The "Honey Bee Task Force" is currently working on the Apiary laws in Ohio.

Barb Bloetscher mentioned that the "Honey Bee Task Force" has a lot of momentum now.

Bob talked about the importance of OSBA being more political and that every club has to know their legislators. We also need to identify what OSBA needs from the legislators and ODA.

OSBA needs to push for revisions and revamping of county inspectors; encourage new bee keeping; educate existing beekeepers as well as the general public.

Bob mentioned that Sue Fisher from Ohio State, the chair of the "Honey Bee Task force" is requesting a new bee scientist be hired at the Wooster campus. She wants this person to teach 2 new courses on bee biology. Bob will contact Sue fisher and come up with a form letter to be sent to OSU President, Gordan Gee.

John Grafton spoke on the Summer Meeting. He already has an outline and just needs to lock in some spots.

Joe Kovaleski passed around information on the upcoming EAS and HAS meetings and discussed the program agendas and encouraged members to attend these events. He also had fliers for members to take back to their clubs as well.

There was discussion made about OSBA purchasing a sound system to be used at general meetings. Bob Hooker made a motion to purchase a sound system, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joe Kovaleski. The motion passed unanimously. The cost will be approx. \$850.00.

Bob further talked about the Mahoning County Beekeepers Project which is an off-shoot of the Don Meyer Project. The participants must be one adult for each child. They will be chosen and given 2 hives. Mahoning County Bee Club will be responsible for overseeing the project. The project is funded by a sponsor for each participant. This model can be used as an ongoing event in other areas as well. OSBA sponsored one participant.

Carmen spoke about the Lithopolis Honey Festival which will be held on September 11<sup>th</sup>. She would like OSBA to have a table to promote bees. Bob suggested that we have an OSBA honey sale. Sherry Farrell thought Ohio State may be interested and is going to speak with Jim Tew about this.

Bob spoke about the Ohio Queen Project. He said OSBA is working and continuing to promote the Queen Project.

Bob has been invited to participate in the "Specialty Crop Grant" He is working with Crossroads to prepare the grant writing. If the grant is successful, the money will be used for several OSBA projects.

Barb Bloetcher talked about the importance of registering our bee yards. She stated that the \$5.00 fee is not for a hive inspection but is a fee. She encouraged all bee clubs to promote their members to register their hives.

Being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted  
John George, Secretary