

January 17, 2016

Ohio State Beekeepers Association Board Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:04p.m. by Tim Arheit, President.

In attendance: Dwight Wells, Larry Potter, Joe Kovaleski, Alex Zomchek, Mike Doseck, Jason Bosler, Mike Soboleski, Tim Arheit, Terry Lieberman Smith, Michele Colopy and Annette Birt Clark.

President: Welcome. Work has begun on many projects even before the beginning of the year. Reminder of the five upcoming meetings. Please, put them on your calendars. Meetings will be kept short and concise. We can schedule more if necessary or work through email.

A concern for the club are the Representative vacancies. We are actively seeking to fill these spots. Please, contact Tim if you have any recommendations.

Annette asks if we look at anyone who is not a beekeeper for these positions? Not to date, but being a beekeeper is not a necessary qualification to serve club. The person must be an OSBA member.

Peggy Garnes has agreed to represent the Western Reserve. Maumee Valley, Mike Soboleski will return as well as Crossroads, Jason Bosler, Top of Ohio Mike Doseck. Erie Basin, Heart of Ohio, Buckeye Hills, Miami Valley and Ohio Valley are still open. Attempts are being made to fill these positions.

Tim calls for a motion to accept and confirm all Representatives.

Joe Kovaleski puts forth the motion, Annette seconds motion, all in favor. Motion Carries.

In the past, and currently, when the club's membership was much smaller, anyone could be posted on the OSBA swarm list. Now this could be added value of membership. Terry calls for a vote to confirm change for swarm list to require membership for 2016 and into the future. Larry Potter puts forth the motion and Joe Kovaleski seconds motion, all in favor. Motion carries.

This change will take some time to implement this change on the web site. This will be tied into membership record keeping system. We will put a map of Ohio with counties on the web site and users can select their county and see beekeepers in their area to contact.

Mike Doseck asks that we reach out to anyone currently on the swarm list to inform them of the membership requirement. Tim and others agree that this is a good idea, ideally by email, but USPS if necessary.

Terry apologizes for mix up in communication and the budget being sent out just today. Most budget items are the same, although some new categories and/or descriptions have been used.

Annette asks if the new Officer and Board member liability insurance premiums are included. Michele confirms, yes. Tim comments that more venues are requiring proof of insurance to

donate space for events and that when the affiliate program process has been completed this will assist smaller clubs who cannot afford individual club insurance policies. Alex comments that he has not seen any of our insurance documents. Annette comments and Tim confirms that once the board member liability insurance is in place, all board members will have a copy of the declarations page.

Joe questions the EAS Honorarium carry over figure and comments that these funds are put aside for any and all expenses of the EAS Representative, not just the conference. This has been since early 2000's and we should re evaluate this figure. It may need to be increased. A report from the Rep about the annual conference and ongoing EAS activities is expected.

Terry puts forth the motion to approve the budget, Annette seconds, all in favor. Motion carries.

Tim comments that just today we received the project specifics to accompany Reed Johnson's request for funds. Many comments are made regarding the proposal and OSBA mission. The line item in the budget for research this year is \$2500 and Reed needs \$273 more than that. Annette puts forth a motion to fund the full \$2773, Joe seconds, all in favor, motion carries.

Dwight Wilson and Peggy Garnes join the meeting.

Annette discusses the need for volunteers for all events and assistance from all board members. A schedule of time blocks for Tri-County was sent out last week. Additionally, the OSBA wants to create at least one, but ideally more than one, Power Point presentation for any board member or volunteer to use to help present the club in a consistent manner and promote our mission and membership. Tim comments that we have many pictures already that can be used. Please, contact Annette if you can volunteer for this task. It will be stored in our Drop Box account.

Volunteer reimbursements are questioned. The decision is made that if a board member is attending as a representative of the OSBA and not as a participant in the event, mileage will be reimbursed. If a board member or volunteer works the OSBA vendor table for 2-3 hours during an event, the OSBA will purchase their lunch. Mileage is reimbursed at \$0.25 per mile.

Terry comments on our current income opportunities, including Ohio license plate, Beekeeping DVD, logo wear, Oasis pollinator seed packets. Ohio Prarie Nursery let us know that requests are being made for larger packets, which they are working to develop.

A few new advertisers for newsletter and we are looking for more. Woodenware vendors have been exclusively solicited to bid on all wooden ware for the 4-H winners.

Michele reviews the new Representative and Director reimbursement and reporting form. Reimbursement information is simple to fill out and reports will benefit OSBA newsletter and our members. Email to Michele.

Michele reminds all board members that they must recuse themselves from any voting where there is any conflict of interest by personal association and/or personal income.

Annette comments that in the past board members have donated mileage back in the past and now that we are a 501(c)3 organization this will count as a donation and should be accounted for as such. Tim comments on the importance of all donations and financial accountability for grant applications. Also, if you donate the mileage and wish to write it off on your personal taxes, OSBA must issue a receipt for your records.

Mileage reimbursement of \$0.25 per mile was established in 2009. At the time this figure was half of the IRS business mileage reimbursement. Alex comments that this was an attempt to offset high gas prices at the time and encourage participation. IRS charity mileage reimbursement is \$0.13. Michele informs us that we may choose to reimburse any amount we choose as an organization to our volunteers with no IRS penalty.

Tim adds that we have reached out to most of the 4-H clubs regarding the 2016 program. Our state list of 4-H offices is not up to date. Terry requests that each region sends a current list of all local association leadership. When we are sending information it needs to reach the current officers of the clubs to have value. We would like to have this information back by the end of February to have all information current on our contact list.

Terry comments that all can and should link OSBA and OSBA 4-H program to their Facebook pages. There have been two new beekeeper courses already this month. We have not received a sign up roster from the course instructor with the students' names so that we may initiate a welcome letter and commence their free year of membership to the OSBA. Please, remind your local club leadership to get these lists back as soon as possible.

Joe comments that our web page needs to be updated for Officers, Reps, Directors, etc. Tim solicits any and all comments and additional content for the website be sent to webmaster@ohiostatebeekeepers.org. Please, send the meeting times and dates of your local clubs so we can include them on our calendar.

Motion to adjourn made by Annette Birt Clark, and second by Terry Lieberman Smith, all in favor. Motion passes.

Thank you for your time and have a good evening.

Meeting adjourned at 8:06pm.