

Steamboat Lil's Bee Supply



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## Executive Board Meeting Minutes

February 18, 2006

President Jerry Tate called the meeting to order.

The **minutes** of the last meeting were accepted as published in the newsletter.

Lisa Knox, the treasurer, presented a summary of the accounts. In the checking and savings accounts is \$6,053.44. The PR fund savings account balance is \$2,228.92. Carl Van Wechel Research Fund currently has \$969.94, which will be transferred to a CD. The Alvina Timmons Scholarship Fund has \$27,974.48 and the Roy Thurber Scholarship Fund has \$31,003.27. The two Certificates of Deposit total \$12,362.85. The **Membership Report** showed 107 total members but 80 have not yet renewed. The 2005 total associate memberships were 430. The **Treasurer's report** was accepted as read.

**Scholarship Committee Report** - John Timmons was unable to make the meeting but did leave a message that he had nothing to report.

**The Master Beekeepers Committee Report** - Paul Lundy said certificates have been sent to WSU. There was discussion on encouraging testing at every WSBA meeting. The Master Beekeepers have \$3,262.51. Paul requested a motion for \$986.77 for certificates and apprentice books and postage. The motion was accepted and passed for the Master Beekeepers to spend the money.

**Newsletter** - Paul Lundy has everything ready to be published and asked that minutes be timely. President Tate suggested that the people responsible for the next convention put information in the newsletter regarding the convention. This will be a good way for people to get a "heads up" Paul Lundy will find out about other software for publishing the newsletter and he will get back to the group.

**Report on website**- Lisa said the website is pretty much done. Master beekeeper stuff on site is much better. New pictures of beekeeping activities are needed for posting on the website. President Tate was very impressed with the site. When Lisa and Paul think the website is satisfactory, then it will be considered completed and Lisa will tell the web developer to publish it.

### Area Rep. Report:

**Area 1**, Tim Bueler – It was a miserable honey year but prices were up. And so far, the losses are not as much as last year.

**Area 2**, Robert Smith- There has been a spotty honey report. There have been 85 packages ordered for 51 beekeepers. A large beekeeper has 250 hives and has ordered 150 packages!

The meetings have been growing because of a heavy local media blitz. The February meeting had 60 people because a free seminar for beekeeping was advertised. Half of the people had never been seen before. Robert said 3 Russian queens with no medication for 3 years are still with him.

**Area 3** (Lower Valley), Arlene Massey – They have some real nice raspberry honey. The raspberry starts in July and blooms until frost. The raspberry variety is from Brazil. They got some Australian queens in the fall and Arlene said they really like them. She was asked if she "found them down under in the box"? That got a great round of laughter!

**Area 4**, Miriam Bishop – 8 degrees in Winthrop today and still has snow. 3 out of 4 hives did not have enough honey to extract.

**Area 5**, John Pettigrew – Lousy honey crop. Probably worst ever had. Lost 90% of the bees this year. He suspects Varroa and trachea.

**Area 6**, Bob Arnold – The latest beginning beekeepers class has around 50 people. Also there is also a class in Coeur d'Alene, ID and it has around 30 people. Many local beekeepers have no hives left because of last year's weather. It has been a challenging winter because of such a wet spring and now freezing weather. Honey is selling. The IEBA is setting up a bee yard with WSU queens and is making a yard available for instruction.

**Area 3** (Upper Valley), Jim Bach - Eric Johansen of WSDA sent a reminder about registered products to control or suppress small hive beetles, tracheal mites and/or Varroa mites in honey-bee hives.

Coumaphos strip is available in CheckMite+ Bee Hive Pest Control Strip

Fluvalinate strip is available in Apistan

Menthol (crystals) is available in Mite-a-thol

Sucrose octanoate esters is available in Sucroside

Thymol+eucalyptus oil is available in Api Life VAR

Oxalic acid status: WSDA not approved it at this point. It is not illegal but it is not to be used as a pesticide.

Jim said that one cannot ship or transport New Zealand / Australian bees through Canada. They must be shipped direct. The only thing you can buy from Canada is Canadian hives and they have to be inspected no more than 10 days prior to shipment. Of New Zealand queens, 60% were gone within weeks. He reminded us that the small hive beetle was introduced into Yakima last year.

**Paul Hosticka** – Mites out of control in Columbia/Garfield County.

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HEITKAMS'  
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