

## **RALEIGH COUNTY BEEKEEPERS COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION BOARD MEETING**

Thursday, October 20, 2016

**ROLL CALL** – The Raleigh County Beekeepers Cooperative Association met in regular session on Thursday, October 20, 2016 at 6:30PM at Munson Hall with the following interim members present: President, Mark K. Lilly, Vice-President Robert K. Jarrell, Secretary, Debra Baer and Treasurer, R. Darrin Butcher.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA /ADJUSTMENTS**

President Mark K. Lilly called the meeting to order and requested approval of the agenda. Trina Fitzwater made the motion to approve the agenda, Detlif Ulfers, seconded, motion passed unanimously.

### **RECOGNITIONS**

- There was no recognitions

### **COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS**

- Board Reports - No Board Reports were presented.
- Other Reports
  - R. Darrin Butcher, Interim Treasurer, discussed the organization setup and status of the Federal FEIN number and stated that he was able to re-activate the FEIN of the Raleigh County Beekeepers Cooperative Association and get the address of the organization changed. Mr. Butcher also stated he was also able to re-activate the State Account Number with the WV Dept. of Taxation and that the organization has received a Statement of Good Standing which the organization must have to file paperwork with the Secretary of State along with a current listing of officers.
  - R. Darrin Butcher, Interim Treasurer, presented the following information to the group in order to determine whether the organization wanted a 501 C 5 designation for the group or through inclusion through the WV Beekeepers Association 501 C 3:
    1. Can request inclusion under 501 C 3 status with the WV Beekeepers Association (WVBA) – this would require a letter requesting inclusion in the group exemption with FEIN number.
    2. Once the inclusion has been granted by the IRS, the group can solicit for tax deductible contributions from vendors and others and also receive a state sales tax exemption when products are bought for the group.
    3. Can request a separate determination and exemption through the IRS as a 501 C 5 non-profit – this is for educational/agricultural organizations. The application is done by a form 1024 and results in a separate organization letter ruling meaning the RCBCA would be its own non-profit and would not be required to submit information to the state association for inclusion in their 501 C 3. The application fee would be \$400 and there is no timeline on when the designation would be approved and received.
  - R. Darrin Butcher, Interim Treasurer, recommended that the organization does not accept dues or class fees until Business Registration Documents are received from the WV Department of Taxation.
  - Mark K. Lilly, Interim President recommended that the organization select officers to serve for the period October 20, 2016 through September 30, 2017. Mr. Lilly recommended that interim officers be elected to service as officers for the period and include: Mark A. Lilly, President, Robert K. Jarrell, Vice-President, Debra Baer, Secretary and R. Darrin Butcher, Treasurer.
  - Mark K. Lilly, Interim President and R. Darrin Butcher, Interim Treasurer requested that the group establish goals for FY 2016/17 and select no more than five overall goals which are as follows:
    1. Original By-laws of the organization be rewritten as a group and updated to the current group vision and expectations.
    2. Provide a beginner beekeeping course to provide beginning beekeeping basics to members with the goal of educating members, increase membership and to increase group exposure.

3. Develop and maintain a group webpage.
  4. Promote beekeeping education to area youth and members. Discuss a partnership with the Raleigh County Board of Education to promote beekeeping to students in Vocational Agriculture at the Secondary Education Level. The goals would be to establish a bee apiary that could be used to educational purposes to students, vocational instructors, organization members, etc. In addition, to provide for possible future grant and other funding through the WV Department of Agriculture and other organizations.
  5. Partner with area elementary schools to provide presentations regarding bee education and beekeeping in general.
- R. Darrin Butcher, Interim Treasurer provided a discussion of the structure of dues for the organization and recommended a \$20 fee per year and that \$6 dollars of this fee would go to the WV Beekeepers Association for membership in the state association. If a family joins together, the fee would still be \$20. Mr. Butcher stated that if a potential members were lifetime members of the WV Beekeepers Association, their dues would be reduced by \$6 to \$14 per year since dues would not have to be paid to the WV Beekeepers for a Lifetime member. Mr. Butcher further stated that annual membership fees would go to cover organizational operating costs as determined by the association. However, members that wanted to take classes offered by the RCBCA would pay a reduced fee for the course to offset the costs of materials, speakers, etc.
  - A brief discussion was had regarding education class offering with ideas such as queen rearing, beginning beekeeping, and honeybee biology. The organization would also want to offer classes to other area beekeeping clubs. If the class has a hands on component, then attendance may need to be limited. No discussion regarding costs was presented other than to state that class fees would be determined by overall program costs.
  - R. Darrin Butcher, Interim Treasurer, discussed having an organizational logo. Requested that any suggestions be sent to [raleighcobees@yahoo.com](mailto:raleighcobees@yahoo.com). This would be used to place on the organization webpage and provide a means to make the organization more visible.
  - Glenn Haga provided a presentation regarding prevention of Wax Moths.
  - Mark Lilly, Interim President, provided a presentation "Two Minute Drill for Winter Preparation" (Attached).

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS** – There was no unfinished business to discuss.

**POLICIES AND PROCEDURES** – There were no policies or procedures to be considered.

### **CONSENT ITEMS**

- Approve minutes of the August 29<sup>th</sup> meeting. Robert K. Jarrell made the motion to approve, Mark K. Lilly seconded, motion passed unanimously.
- Future meetings/events: Regular Meeting – Thursday, November 17, 2016 at 6:30 PM – Munson Hall  
Honeybee Expo – Parkersburg, WV, Saturday, January 28, 2017

### **NEW BUSINESS** –

- Approve RCBCA request with the WV Beekeepers Association for group 501 C 3 inclusion  
Kelly Spanagle made the motion to approve. Robert K. Jarrell seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.
- Approve making interim officers the group officers to serve for the period October 20, 2016 through September 30, 2017  
Motion was made and the group unanimously approved.
- Approve organization goals for 2016-17  
Mark K. Lilly made the motion to approve. Trina Fitzwater seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- Approve tentative class offerings for 2016-17 including a beginning beekeepers class  
Motion passed unanimously.
- Approve dues structure for 2016-17  
Bobby Jarrell made the motion to approve. Trina Fitzwater seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT** –The meeting adjourned by consensus.

RALEIGH COUNTY BEEKEEPERS COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATION

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Mark A. Lilly, Interim President