

Apiary Inspectors of America, Notes and Minutes from the 2006 meetings in
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Executive Board meeting, 1/8/2006

Present: AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA, MD, MS, NC, PA, TN, ONT

Guests: Wayne Wehling and Collin Stewart

Motion to pick up dinner tab at Boutins

Jimmy Dunkley, (LA) moved

Don Hopkins, (NC) seconded.

Passed unanimously

Discussion for picking up tabs for reception; agreed.

Awards Committee, Paul Jackson (TX)

Awards will go to:

Dr. Diana Sammataro

Dr. Clarence Collison

Secretary noted that service pins have been discontinued but still stands in by-laws. President will direct secretary to send out a letter regarding the discontinuation of awarding service pins/recognitions. This will cause a possible change to by-laws. An announcement must be made to this effect.

Sites Committee, Jerry Fischer (MD)*, Don Hopkins (NC), Phil Craft (KY)

AHP invites us to meet with them Jan 9, 2007, in Phoenix.

This will be researched and results reported at the general meeting.

Nominations Committee: Patricia Denke (MT), Dennis Van Englesdorp (PA)

Resolutions Committee: Don Hopkins (NC)*, Gray Haun (TN)

Discussion regarding Standards of AHB Testing (reliability & time problems)

DNA or Morph., etc. What's best?

Florida finds many hybrids & some pure AHB

There was some discussion of AHB action plans and some work on standardization.

Secretary's Report: Ed Levi (AR)

Dennis van Englesdorp (PA) moved and Don Hopkins (NC) seconded that the minutes go out electronically in PDF format shortly after conference.

Passed with one nay

Secretary reported of doings over the year and report was received by the president and will be published in the proceedings.

Secretary noted:

By-laws state that directors are charged to get the statistics to the Secretary. This should get a better return.

Treasurer's Report: Keith Tignor (VA)

List serve set up in NC and discussion of updating procedure followed.

Web site may be set up at a private provider site. At first it will be just a directory and to be expanded to include more information and states' web sites.

A general motion was made by Keith to this effect and seconded by Phil Craft
Passed unanimously.

Treasury Report – (will be published in proceedings)

The question of if we should move towards credit card friendly for the purpose of dues and conference fees. There are costs per use plus a monthly fee. Is it worth it? Are we losing anyone?

This was tabled until it becomes more necessary.

There's >\$10,000 sitting in checking account, a non-interest bearing account.

Don Hopkins (NC) moved that Keith research into interest accounts of various forms and do so at his discretion, Barry Smith (GA) seconded.

Passed unanimously

New Business

President Harry Fulton (MS)

A committee needs to be set up to decide when/who should be subsidized to come to conferences when their agency can't/won't pay

Committee- Gray Haun (TN)*, Jerry Hayes (FL), Keith Tignor (VA)

Discussion of Historian, Jimmy Dunkley (LA)

Adjourned

Meeting opened on Tuesday January 10, 2006, 8am

Resolutions-

Don Hopkins (NC) did the first reading of the resolution (s) 1. USDA APHIS' Capacity to diagnose AHB. Some wordsmithing.

Call was made for more resolutions.

Recessed

AIA Business Meeting, 1/10 –1/11/2006
Called to order by President Harry Fulton (MS)

Those states/provinces represented:

Dennis Barclift (AL)	Jerry Fischer (MD)	Doug McRory (ONT)
Ed Levi (AR)	Harry Fulton (MS)	Dennis van Englesdorp (PA)
Jerry Hayes (FL)	Patricia Denke(MT)	Fred Singleton (SC)
Barry Smith (GA)	Don Hopkins (NC)	Gray Haun (TN)
Phil Craft (KY)	Judy Carlson (ND)	Paul Jackson (TX)
Jimmy Dunkley (LA)	John Grafton (OH)	Keith Tignor (VA)

President offered thanks to those who put together the meeting; specifically Jerry Hayes (FL), Jimmy Dunkley (LA), Marion Ellis (AAPA)

Judy Carlson,(ND) moved to accept the 2005 minutes as published
Paul Jackson, (TX) seconded.

Some corrections to proceedings were noted

Awards Committee

Paul Jackson, (TX) announced that service awards were awarded to Dianna Sammataro and Clarence Collins.

Dscussion:

Plaques should be given to apiarists retiring or re-assigned after 10 years service.

Sites Committee

Jerry Fischer (MD) is working with Marion Ellis
Tabled until 1/11/06

Nominations tabled to the end of Meeting.

Audit Committee

Patty Denke (MT). reported treasury looks in good shape and accurate.
Suggested the transferring some money to interest bearing accounts.
Paul Jackson, (TX) moved to accept and Judy Carlson, ND seconded
Audit Report was accepted

Resolutions to be re-read 1/11/06 at 8am

Last call for new resolutions were requested from the floor and none were received

AHB Action Plan Committee, Jerry Hayes *(FL)

Committee tabled report; waiting reaction to the resolution.

States' AHB action plans will be on web site.

Secretary's report, Ed Levi (AR) and accepted
Report to be published in proceedings.

Miscellaneous

Ed's expenses were covered by the AIA due to his state's refusal to do so.
A committee was set up to look at emergency funding and come up with protocol for our meeting and others
Gray Haun, (TN) is chair, with Harry Fulton, (MS), and Jerry Hayes, (FL) on committee.

CAPA meeting needs a volunteer to attend in Quebec City
Dennis van Englesdorp (PA) may go and will work out with the president.
Ed Levi (AR) will be alternate and John Grafton (OH) as second alternate.
Meeting is at the end of this month.

Treasurer's Report. Keith Tignor (VA)
Moved to accept: Phil Craft (KY) and Judy Carlson (ND) seconded.
Report to be published in the proceedings.

List serve will be updated from registration and directory
Web site will be set up through to a private IP
Initially will be a list of members and email, and links to web pages

CAPA Report. Phil Craft (KY) with input of Doug McRory (ONT).
It's important to have an AIA presence at these meetings
They have a CAPA meeting one day and met with the hosting provincial group for the other days.

A lot of discussion of imports both from US (queens) and NZ (queens and packages)
Protocols for all that was discussed
Also some discussion of AHB in the US

Residues in Honey especially in imports
(Tylosin was found in honey from the US)

Discussion of registration for Oxalic Acid
Honey Council got the label as opposed to a company (which is the normal process)
Trickle and fumigation (fumigation isn't recommended)
This can be seen in capabees.com

BeeGo registration is in question

New Business

Pesticide Committee isn't present and should be involved and in the registration process.

US is not a member of Apimondia; who should join? AAPA, AIA, ABF, AHP?
With some discussion it was agreed that it should be the national associations.

Using money (we have plenty): CAPA books, trainings,
Motion to buy 2 copies/ state of the CAPA books and then to survey to see how many the states will want. This was a motion by Paul Jackson (TX) and seconded by Don Hopkins (NC). Motion was approved.

The concept of AIA developing a booklet on AHB to be done by the AHB committee was discussed. A motion to this effect was made by Dennis van Englesdorp (PA) and seconded by Keith Tignor (VA). The motion passed with one dissent.

Nominations Committee Report (Tabled until 7:45am tomorrow)

Recessed until tomorrow morning

Reconvened 1/11/06, 7:45 am

Resolutions Committee, Don Hopkins (NC)

Resolution 1

USDA-ARS Capacity to Diagnose Honeybees as Africanized Honeybees in a Timely Manner

The steady progression of the Africanized honeybee (AHB), *Apis mellifera scutellata* has been documented in a number of southern states. In the last 15 years the AHB has become established in Texas, Arizona, New Mexico, California, Nevada, and most recently in Florida, Oklahoma, Louisiana, and Arkansas. This situation has caused increased concern in these states and those not yet known to be infested with this threat. In response, an increased number of suspect samples are expected to be sent to USDA-ARS for timely identification in 2006 and beyond.

Since the adoption of the current identification protocol other methodologies have been utilized for determining the Africanization of honey bee populations. These methods may question the reliability of this protocol.

Due to the importance of honey bee pollination to the agricultural industry, the potential impact of AHB on public safety, pets, and livestock, and the need to minimize the spread of AHB, it is imperative that state regulatory officials act as rapidly as possible when suspect swarms or colonies are detected. In order to do that it is critical to receive accurate and timely diagnostic reports.

Be it resolved, The Apiary Inspectors of America (AIA), at its annual meeting held in Baton Rouge, LA on January 11th, 2006, hereby urges USDA-ARS to reevaluate the current methodologies and decide the best method for determining Africanization of honeybee populations.

Be it further resolved, that USDA-ARS needs to provide a definitive determination on Africanization on honey bee samples within a reasonable time frame, preferably within 14 days or less.

Audience:

Secretary Mike Johanns, USDA
Kenneth Rauscher, President, National Plant Board
The Honorable Gus Douglass, Chairman, Animal and Plant Industries Committee, NASDA
Dr. Kevin J. Hackett, USDA ARS Program Leader
Bob Stallman, President, American Farm Bureau
Steve Park, President, American Honey Producers Association
David Ellingson, President, American Beekeeping Federation
Walker Gray Haun, President, Southern Plant Board
Michael E. Brown, President Central Plant Board
Carl P. Schulze, President, Eastern Plant Board
Michael Cooper, President, Western Plant Board
Marion Ellis, President, American Association of Professional Apiculturists

Seconded by John Grafton, (OH) Passed

Sites Committee, Jerry Fischer,(MD).

Motion to meet with AHP & AAPA in Phoenix, Jan. 9-13, 2007

This was accepted unanimously.

Nominations Committee, Phil Craft (KY).

Submitted the follow slate for directors and officers:

Canada, Doug McRory, (ONT)

South , Dennis Barclift, (AL)

West, Patty Denke, (MT)

At large, Barry Smith, (GA)

Secretary; Ed Levi, (AR)

Treasurer; Keith Tignor, (VA)

President; Jerry Hayes, (FL)

VP; Dennis van Englesdorp, (PA)

The slate was seconded by Don Hopkins,(NC)

Slate was accepted by acclamation

Adjourned

Notes from Other Discussions and Presentations:

National Honeybee Survey and Certification

Presented by: Wayne Wehling, USDA-APHIS PPQ, Senior Entomologist
and
Colin Stewart – USDA-Veterinary Services

Working on budget (and in a time crunch!)
What to survey for?

History:
AIA initiated this process in 2003
It was re-pushed by AIA in 2005

National Plant Board's Resolution pushed it into gear.

It's a three part plan:

- 1) a national survey for HB pests/to substantiate situation for allowing/limiting imports
- 2) a certification program for exporting queens and package bees and
- 3) an action plan for AHB

Historically, honeybees are regulated under ACT 1922 and the Plant Protection Act 2000

GAT & NAFTA put things on the burner.
Proposed to allow importation of bees and bee materials

This was published in Fed Register of 2002 and the Final Rule went into effect Nov. 2004

As we speak, 1,500 packages are arriving daily in Cal from Aus, NZ, and Canada running from Dec 15 to Feb 14

What do we need to survey for export and for limiting import?

They've put together standing committee: To decide what to survey for and how to manage a survey program. So far, on the committee there's:

Mark Feldlaufer, ARS

Kevin Hackett, ARS

Colin Stewart, VS

Wayne Wehling, PPQ

Want to add a couple from AIA (Jerry Hayes and Ed Levi volunteered)

Pros:

Annual survey

Cons:

Funding

Migratory complications

Lack of infrastructure (>10 states or more have no bee inspection program.)

This program is fundamental for keeping out pests.

Without it we can't substantiate the determination that specific pests don't exist.

Also can't export; but this is not a cost effective need unless piggy-backed with import survey.

They're recommending working with state Departments of Agriculture.

He received a request for an information memo with a recommendation.

Then was asked to prepare a budget for the possibility to submit to Congress for the 2008 budget. Needs this this month! They need all states help in this process.

Looking at \$100,000 per inspector for 40,000 to 50,000 colonies inspected (not all opened) plus equipment, training, reporting, etc. (These are the kind of information they need to shape up with AIA membership input.)

Probably looking at \$7 to \$10,000,000

Which Pests should we look at?

- Tropilaelaps
- SHB
- Resistant strains of Varroa and AFB
- Species of Varroa
- Other Species of bees
- Unknown pests

Who should do this?

- APHIS employee
- State Depts of AG
- Private contractors
- Cooperative; (combination of above)

How many hives can an inspector inspect?

How many hives are there? 2,500,000 ?

Should hobbyists be included

Are migratory colonies being double counted?

What are the standards for sampling?

What is it going to actually cost?

Where does the line draw between international trade and state rights?
When does the state have the right to regulate problems of imports that they normally regulate in their state? "The importer would have grounds to sue the state"

In the area of Africanized Honeybees:
Historically APHIS worked but gave it over to states when some didn't want their input. Although they've withdrawn efforts, they might have some liability.

What is the definition of a stinging incident? Hospital? Animals? Are they even really from honeybees?

Wanting input from the states as noted above.

301 734-8700 Wayne's Fax

ABRC presentations (to be published in 2006 proceedings)

Sucroide, Jose Diaz

Apiguard, AFB test kits and other issues being researched by VITA, Max Watkins

AHB Issues

Presentation by Clarence Collison,

"The Potential Impact of AHB for the Southeastern States"

Reports and discussions from southern states of current situations.
(AR, FL, LA, MS)

Things to be considered by the AHB committee:

Compliance agreements with beekeepers

Certification

Counties wanting to ban beekeeping

Do queen producers have to provide a list?

Black lists for unregulated states/producers?

How do we deal with:

Migratory vs non migratory

Commercial vs non commercial.