

AIA Business Mtg. Tuesday, January 08, 2008, Jerry Hayes called the mtg. to order at 8:15am

States, Provinces & Agencies represented included:

Mississippi, Harry Fulton	Maryland, Jerry Fischer
Tennessee, Gray Haun	Alabama, Dennis Barclift
North Carolina, Don Hopkins	Indiana, Kathleen Prough
Kentucky, Phil Craft	Utah, Danielle Downey
Washington, Jim Bach	Alberta, Medhat Nasar
Michigan, Michael Hansen	Georgia, Barry Smith
New York, Paul Cappy	Arkansas, Mark Stoll, Ed Levi
Maine, Tony Jadczyk	Idaho, Mike Cooper
Florida, Jerry Hayes	Ontario, Doug McRory
Montana, Patricia Denke	Hawaii, Moshen Ramadan
Louisiana, Allen Fabre	Utah, Danielle Downey
Pennsylvania, Dennis vanEngelsdorp	USDA, Colin Stewart
Texas, Paul Jackson	

Jerry Hayes gave the President's address as follows:

To All AIA Members:

In 2007 there was more attention brought to the Beekeeping Industry primarily because of Colony Collapse Disorder (CCD) than at anytime in my memory. The unfortunate and tragic loss of thousands of honey bee colonies grabbed the attention of the nation and the world. AIA members were many times at the focus of honey bee expertise in their states/provinces as they reviewed, reported, and addressed on the status of honey bee colonies and beekeepers. Several AIA members are active participants in CCD research, NC 508, and other groups looking at honey bee health issues. The AIA has moved our stated goals of becoming more visible, more active, and more trusted as a destination to receive up to-date information forward. Without all of our efforts to work together as a team in this last very challenging year, this positive progress could not have been made. I congratulate and thank each of you for making this my last year as AIA President so fulfilling.

To that end, as I pass on this honor of being able to represent you, there is nothing that I wish to say except to encourage this important, significant, and valuable organization, AIA, which is you, to keep doing those things that set us apart from so many others in our industry. Competence, Professionalism, Flexibility, and Confidence are our strengths. I look forward to being with you as we all join together in 2008 to make our industry even better.

Again, thank you for this wonderful opportunity that was given to me to represent such a great organization.

Sincerely,

G. W. Hayes, Jr.
President

Secretary Ed Levi offered to read the minutes from 2007.

Harry Fulton moved and Gray Haun seconded that the reading be waived and they be accepted as sent out last January. The motion passed unanimously.

Reports

Secretary's Report. Read by Ed Levi

The following items were completed since the January, 2007 meeting in Phoenix, Arizona.

1. Sent out thank you letters to the speakers of the Phoenix, Arizona conference.
2. Published and distributed the 2006 annual Proceedings.
3. Distributed electronic version of minutes of AIA's 2007 business meeting in Phoenix, Arizona.
4. Forwarded resolutions, passed at the Phoenix, Arizona conference, to the appropriate parties.
5. Updated the state/provincial apiarist directory.
6. Conducted correspondence and miscellaneous duties.
7. Sent a state report questionnaire to all directors.
8. Prepared and published the 2007 AIA Annual Proceedings.

Respectfully submitted on January 8, 2008,
Ed Levi, Secretary

Motion to accept: Don Hopkins, seconded; Patty Denke. Accepted

Treasurer's Report. Read by Don Hopkins in lieu of Keith Tignor

The Apiary Inspectors of America began the year with a balance of \$12,976. The sources of income are through annual dues and meeting registration fees. Membership payment was received for twenty-eight (28) individuals. This was a drop from 32 members in 2006. Twenty (20) individuals registered for the annual meeting in Phoenix, AZ, through the AIA. Total income from these sources was \$5649. Expenses, mainly for the annual meeting and travel to affiliated association meetings, totaled \$9,690. The year ended with a closing balance of \$8,934, or a deficit of \$4,042. Included in this deficit is a payment of \$2,910 to American Beekeeping Federation for pre-registration and tour fees to the 2008 annual meeting. Normally this expense would be carried over to the next fiscal year with payment at the meeting site.

The AIA has a new Federal Identification Number. The old number expired at the end of 2006. The association also has a new website. The URL is www.apiaryinspectors.org. Information regarding this year's annual meeting was available through the website. Contact information for apiarist in the United States and Canada was transferred from the old website. Hyperlinks to email and regulatory agencies were added to the contact information. Over the past year Barry Smith acquired apiary regulations and inspection standards for several states. These will be posted on the AIA website. Members who have not done so are encouraged to send an electronic copy of their state or province's apiary

regulation, as well as, hive inspection and entry requirements to Barry or me. I will be working on updating the website to improve content and visual appeal during my absence from the AIA meeting. Suggestions for the website are welcomed.

Respectfully submitted,
Keith Tignor, Treasurer

Paul Jackson moved to accept and Mike Hansen seconded. Accepted

Committee Assignments with some description of committee charge and discussion

Auditing Committee

Paul Jackson*, Allen Fabre

Resolutions,

Harry Fulton*, Gray Haun, Don Hopkins

Requested input, get intent lined up, word-smithing later

Sites

Barry Smith*, Dennis Barclift, Mike Hansen

Some discussion followed: Changing who we meet with and when? Don Hopkins reminded us that we voted several years ago that we try to meet as much as possible with the AAPA while doing a 3 year rotation with the ABF, AHPA and meeting at a laboratory or other appropriate site. Gray Haun said that in light of the problems besieging the industry at this time, it may be time to meet with the National Plant Board. Further discussion brought out the concept that we should send representatives to the NPB meeting in August rather than meeting with them and throwing off our calendar. What do we, as regulators, want to come out of our affiliations? Work with AAPA on choosing sites and collaboration. Continue alternation between ABF, AHPA & labs to maintain our relationship with our industry and keep ourselves up to date with a scientific basis for our regulations and extension responsibilities. The Beltsville lab is prime due to new work and that it is a lab's turn. Where are we going to get the most bang for our buck? Jerry Hayes suggested that Gainesville would be an ideal location due to all the things that are going on in Florida and the USDA lab that's doing a lot of work there.

Membership

Patty Denke*, Keith Tignor, Mark Stoll

Question regarding CA county memberships or associate memberships

Awards

Paul Jackson*, Phil Craft

Ad Hoc White Paper

Jerry Hayes*, Kathleen Prough, Dennis vanEnglesdorf

Sub-committee for the development of basic Model Apiary Law

Nominating Committee

Don Hopkins*, Phil Craft, Medhat Nasar

Old Business.

There was none.

New Business.

Discussion regarding as to what AIA and members are; regulators, extension, or what? Has AIA helped to promote the state apiary programs? This ran into the discussion of a uniform or, at least, a basic model law. This should be promoted by AIA. How to go about doing this? Should this fall under the work of the White Paper committee or another ad hoc special committee? It was decided to have a sub-committee of the Ad Hoc White Paper Committee work on a Basic Model Apiary Law.

Temporary end of business meeting was called at 9:45am on Tuesday, January 8.

Jerry Hayes reconvened the meeting and called it to order: 5:05 pm on January 9.

States, Provinces & Agencies represented included:

Mississippi, Harry Fulton
Tennessee, Gray Haun
North Carolina, Don Hopkins
Kentucky, Phil Craft
Wisconsin, Elizabeth Meil
Washington, Jim Bach
Michigan, Michael Hansen
New York, Paul Cappy
West Virginia, George Clutter
Florida, Jerry Hayes
North Dakota, Judy Carlson
Montana, Patricia Denke
Louisiana, Allen Fabre

Pennsylvania, Dennis vanEngelsdorp
Texas, Paul Jackson
Maryland, Jerry Fischer
Alabama, Dennis Barclift
Indiana, Kathleen Prough
New Hampshire, Chris Rallis
Utah, Danielle Downey
Alberta, Medhat Nasar
Georgia, Barry Smith
Arkansas, Mark Stoll, Ed Levi
Idaho, Mike Cooper
Ontario, Doug McRory
USDA, Colin Stewart

Committee Reports

Audit: Paul Jackson, Allen Fabre

The books looked in good order on January 8, 2008 with a balance of \$8,033.41 as of November 14, 2007.

Motion to accept: Don Hopkins and seconded by Kathleen Prough. Motion accepted.

Membership: Patty Denke reported that the committee will actively solicit 100% membership plus associate members of on the ground inspectors including the county inspectors of California.

Awards: Paul Jackson said, “The committee will meet soon to decide award”

Sites: reported by Barry Smith, suggested Gainesville. Ed Levi motioned that we push AAPA for Gainesville but be willing to go elsewhere if they don’t agree. This was seconded by Dennis vanEngelsdorf. Discussion: some wanted to just go to Gainesville regardless of where AAPA goes. The motion was defeated.

Paul Jackson motioned and was seconded by Patty Denke to go to Gainesville regardless of AAPA’s plans. This passed with the date being set with Gainesville lab and AAPA if they agree to join us.

White paper: Goals and Objectives, AD Hoc committee report Dennis vanEngelsdorf, “the last committee developed last paper with good stuff, some of which has been done. Time lines are have been added for the rest.”:

Goals and Objectives of the Apiary Inspectors of America, January 2007

AIA’s Purpose: To Improve the Conditions of the Beekeeping Industry by:

Communications between States in the Laws, regulations, and Methods of its membership; Creating understandings between the member states; through the Dissemination of new and accurate information.

1. Africanized Honeybee
 - a. Develop an AHB harmonization plan
 - b. Develop a model action plan for the management of AHB for the public safety
 - c. States to establish a unified protocol for the certification of EHB.
 - d. AIA encourage and collaborate with USDA in establishing a workable ID method.
 - e. Establish a working group to meet annually with government policy makers in agriculture and health matters.

Action items and Time Line for implementation:

March 31 – a summary document of all Action plans with model action plan
BMP, Township ordinance

Person in charge: Jerry Hayes

April 31 – review by committee (Dennis Brkcliff, Dennis vanEngelsdorp, Barry Smith, others?)

May 31 – review by membership at large

June 31 – posting on AIA web site

2. National Disease and Pest Survey
 - a. Encourage buy-in on a State & National level.

Action items and Time Line for implementation:

Based on the publicity generated by the AIA survey last year on winter mortality we will implement the same survey again this year for publication in ABJ. This effort will be lead by dennis vanEngelsdorp and Jerry Hayes.

3. Protocols for the identification of known or new Apis diseases and pests.
 - a. Establish a general action plan for suppression and eradication.
 - b. Encourage a library of samples of apis problems that are known in the world.
 - c. Protocols for identification of newly introduced diseases and pests.
4. Maintenance of healthy bees
 - a. Encourage IPM and the use of recognized and approved methods for the suppression of bee maladies.
 - b. Reduce the dependence of chemicals in the suppression of diseases and pests.
 - c. Discourage the use of illegal use of chemicals.
 - d. Demonstrate how and why best management practices benefit the entire industry.
 - e. Demonstrate why and how the misuse and overuse of chemicals is counterproductive.
5. Facilitate the communications for legal movements of honeybees between states.
 - a. Add a page to the AIA website which illustrates the requirements of each state.
 - b. AIA should stand as a repository for all state apiary program's laws and regulations.

Action items and Time Line for implementation:

March 31 – a summary document of all laws and regulation with a model law and regulation will be developed

Person in charge: Jerry Hayes

April 31 – review by committee (Dennis Barkcliff, Dennis vanEngelsdorp, Barry Smith, others (Michael from Michigan?))

May 31 – review by membership at large

June 31 – posting on AIA web site

Resolutions Committee reported by Harry Fulton (full resolution are in a separate attachment)

1. Supplemental Feeding authored by Madhat Nasar
Ed Levi Moved to accept and Dennis Barclift seconded it.
There was some discussion regarding sugar, and feed and fertilizer laws.

Colin Stewart of USDA reported that it is illegal to import pollen slated for bee feed.
The resolution passed.

2. National Survey authored by the Resolutions Committee
Ed Levi moved, seconded by Dennis vanEngelsdorp
Discussion: since we don't know if IAPV is adversely affecting bee and since it was also questioned if it should mention that SHB may be transferring pathogens since it's not scientifically proven. It was suggested that maybe we should leave out specifics. As for asking for funding for a survey it was decided that it should read, "adequate funding" rather than naming an dollar amount
The importance should be that we need an encompassing and statistically valid survey
Motion and 2nd adjusted to include the mood of the discussion.
Harry will work with Ed Levi and Colin Stewart to wordsmith a final version consistent with the above discussion.
Passed, unanimously

3. Promote the Identity and Visibility of AIA: authored by the Resolutions Committee:
Don Hopkins moved to accept which was seconded by Judy Carlson.
Discussion:
Is this going to bring aid to our cause?
It should maybe say that we want beekeeping groups and grower's organizations to seek support and funding to promote inspections and surveys and the educational programs of the AIA membership.
Passed, unanimously with adjustments

4. Updated Pest and Pathogen Identification Methods; authored by Resolutions Committee
Don Hopkins motioned to pass and Dennis Barclift seconded the motion.
Discussion:
Jeff Pettis stated that this would be helpful in getting ARS to speed up the process.
This is aimed at procuring a test that we can use in the field or in easy lab work that is already or nearly available.
Passed unanimously.

5. AHB Identification authored by Resolutions Committee

To alter the official USDA-ID protocol to redefine AHB at 50% level of probably

Don Hopkins moved to accept and seconded by Barry Smith.

Discussion: why 50%? Answer: because they become dangerous to the public at 50%.

We need to have the legal backup of a standard so that when something causes a problem that some realistic line has been officially accepted and to be able to demonstrate that the state followed said standard.

Passed with one opposed.

Nominations: Don Hopkins reported the recommendations of the committee

Jerry Fischer stays on for East

Doug McRory for Canada

Mike Cooper for West

Elizabeth Meil from North

Mike Studer (TN) from South

Allen Fabre at large

Dennis vanEngelsdorp as President

Barry Smith as Vice President

Ed Levi, Secretary

Keith Tignor, Treasurer

There were no further nominations from the floor.

Paul Jackson motioned to accept the slate by acclamation and Jerry Fischer seconded.

Passed unanimously

Patty moved for appreciation

Jerry thanked for the trust and help and appreciated the work of the committees

Phil Craft motioned to adjourn and

Kathleen Prough seconded.