

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Anthony Ellis in room 201, Galax Hall Wytheville Community College. 30 members were present and 1 guest.

Minutes and Treasurer's Report: Motion to approve minutes—Herman Hearn, seconded by Peter French. Minutes approved. Gary Tolley presented the treasurers report. The report was filed for audit.

Speaker: Phil Blevins, Washington County Extension Agent – (276) 676-6309

234 West Valley Street

Suite B

Abingdon, VA 24210

Presentation: Spring Management

Inspect Equipment – replace damaged equipment and damage comb with foundation

Pollen substitute should have at least 50% of pollen that was bee-collected. Ultra Bee is a good pollen substitute.

6-8 weeks before nectar flow is a good time to add pollen substitute.

If you catch a swarm, it needs to be put 100-150 feet away from the old hive.

Bees seem to like swarming to peach trees. This would be a good place to set a swarm trap.

Old Business:

- The Farmers Market Pollinators' Day is coming up June 30.

New Business:

- Jerome Blankenship which is a member of the Highlands Beekeepers Association in Abingdon is taking orders for 5-frames nucs for around May 15 or around that date. These are mutts! They will be in a E-Z nuc box...They are \$165.00 each. His email address is Jerome Blankenship blankenshipjerome@gmail.com. If anyone has trouble with this email address please send your order and contact information to Anthony Ellis and He will get it to Jerome.
- **Workshop for Experienced Beekeepers on:**
Saturday, May 4, 2019 - 9 am to 3 pm. "Small Hive Beetle Control and In-Hive Integrated Pest Management" presented by Dr. James Wilson, VT
- **There are 25 students in the bee class.** They meet in Bland room 104. Members are welcome to come to the class every Tuesday night at 6:30p.m
- **Anyone who is interested in being a Facebook administrator for MEBA, contact Tina Cunningham.** Presently, Billy Ray Armstrong, Peter French and Tina Cunningham are listed as Facebook administrators for MEBA.
- **Grayson County will be having an agriculture fair on August 10, 2019 in Elk Creek on route 21.** Mickey Cunningham is on the committee for the fair. There may be a honey show. Stay tuned for more information on this.

Hive Report: What Should You Be Doing with Your Hives?

- Feed
- Check bees- If they are on top, you need to feed them.
- Treat for mites – The temperature needs to be 50 degrees or higher for the bees to break the cluster.

Raffle:

Bee Bench- Connie Armentrout

Jonathan Wright – Frames, honey plastic bottles, frame spacers

Harry Jo – gloves

Jeff Wyatt – smoker, hive tool

Connie Armentrout – top of hive beetle trap

Next Month: Swarm Boxes –March 28, 2019

Adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Connie Armentrout, MEBA Secretary

Jeff Wyatt's Winter Bee Feed

8 lbs. of Granulated cane sugar

2 Cups Pollen substitute powder

2 Tablespoons Citric Acid (This can be found in the canning supplies section of Walmart.)

1 ¼ Cup Sugar syrup (2:1 is preferred but 1:1 will be ok.)

3 Tablespoons Honey-B-Healthy

1 Teaspoon salt

Mix together and store in an air tight jar. To use, put about 2 cups of mixture on top of newspaper on top of frames.

