Jim Kellie called the business meeting to order on the afternoon of October 18, 2019.

1st VP, Joli Winer spoke and asked if we had any complaints regarding the venue for this meeting? It was voiced and supported by many that the hotel, the meeting room, the sound and the convenience of rooms was very good. All had positive feedback. It was also mentioned that the Wichita location was very accessible to the airport and thus making it easy for speakers to fly in and out. It was noted that the hotel even had a shuttle to and from the airport. Joli will check the expenses and we may continue to have the meetings in Wichita at this venue.

As of now the spring 2020 meeting is to be held in Hayes Kansas on March 6th and 7th. No money has been deposited yet so this could still be changed if needed. Kim Flottum, editor of Bee Culture Magazine and Liz Walsh from Texas A&M are the scheduled speakers.

Fall 2020 meeting will be held October 16 & 17. The location and venue is to be announced. Tammy Hornpotter from Kentucky is to be one of the speakers. We are open to topics and speakers if anyone has suggestions.

Treasurer Robert Burns reminded us that the financial reports are on the website for all to review.

2nd VP, Kristi Sanderson spoke about the Fair and the honey sales. It takes many people assisting in this success with all the bottling, honey producers and great volunteers. Sales topped last year by $1,100. Creamed honey almost sold out. Only a few of 2 flavors are left. We had a smaller booth this year but we made it work. Each volunteer should have been given an engraved hive tool. If you did not receive one please see her, she has a few left. She thanked everyone and we all look forward to next year.

3rd VP, Becky Tipton spoke about the youth programs. She loves this job and seeing all the excitement everyone has. The Rock Creek 4-H group had Rick as their mentor and that was a huge benefit.
This program started as one grant for one child and went from this one grant to scholarships. It moved from being a single one to a group one. Abilene was the first group and was named the Brown’s Busy Bee group. It has been very successful and very active. Its oldest member is 90 years old. The 4-H group is throwing him a birthday party. It is a win-win for all.

The Holton Group will not be here. Their leader, also a photographer, had a conflict in their schedules. They will be at the March 2020 meeting. There were 3 other groups here this weekend. We heard from the Hill Toppers. The Prairie Hills Bee Club is doing great, thanks to Mark Mounce and Stephanie Brown from Hutchinson.

We have 3 applications for next year 2020. The first application is from the Burlington 4-H group at LeRoy KS. They have someone to mentor them. The second application we will ask to apply again when they are more established and the third application is a 4-H group that had hives donated to them but not sure what they need from us. We will investigate there needs and go from there.

I am resigning even though I love this job but feel it is the right thing to do since I am running for the President’s position. Julie Cahoj from the NW area will take my place until the term ends.

Chad Gilliland from NE Area presented some info changes with their group. In 2020 they will have the Beginner’s class in Jan instead of March to give new people more time to prepare for spring start up. Secondly they are adding a ‘second year and beyond’ for beginners that need more info and are going into their second year. This will be held February 15, 2020.

Old business – we still need a web master if anyone wants to volunteer for this.

New business – We need to be more involved in legislative aspects. Jim Kellie is the only one that is left from past that had been involved in giving a voice so we need 2 more volunteers to help him. Steve Tipton and Brian Withrow volunteered to assist him with this.

The area directors will be:
NE – Chad Gilliland for another term
SE – Norbert Neal for another term
N Central – Nikki Bowman will take Jim Morford’s place
S Central – Candy Vinduska for another term
SW – was empty and Amy Dikeman will take up leadership there
NW – Brenda Seaders from Sharon Springs will take Julie Cahoj’s place
There was a motion to support the placement of these directors and the above named business. A second motion was made and all supported it.

We also need to vote in a 2nd VP and treasurer. They both volunteered to do another term. There was a first and second motion of support and all supported it.

We also need to vote in a new President. These will be nominated and voting done by ballot. Becky Tipton was nominated, a second motion was made. Greg Swob was nominated, a second motion was made. Both nominees were given a chance to speak. The ballots were taken and 3 of the area directors counted the votes. Becky Tipton was voted in to be the next President. She was given the gavel to adjourn the meeting with motions made and all supported it.

Sondra Koehn
Secretary