

Kansas Honey Producers Association Executive Meeting  
March 5, 2021 (Friday) Zoom meeting

Present: Becky Tipton, Joli Winer, Robert Burns, Chad Gilliland, Sondra Koehn, Amy Dikeman, Nikki Bowman, Kristi Sanderson, William Jackson, Jane Kill and Cheryl Burkhead Absent: Brenda Seader, Julie Cahoj

Summary of the meeting: Full details are on a recorded Zoom meeting.

Minutes from previous meetings are on recorded zoom meetings. President Tipton requested that a written summary be on line for future reference's sake.

Robert Burns - reviewed the financials.

Becky Tipton - our goal is education – how can we improve and increase – other states have free meetings.

1<sup>st</sup> VP Joli Winer – ask that KHPA contribute \$100 for the speaker Michael Palmer – 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> motion and supported by all.

R. Burns will send this payment directly to M. Palmer

Silent auction is on online with Bidding Owl – only requires 5% fees of gross – looks good and working well!

Fall meeting – Change date to Nov 5-6? Yes, and supported by all. One- or two-day meeting? Supported to stay with 2 days. Location?

Good to keep it central, Wichita but it's expensive, Joli will search others...Salina, McPherson, Hutchinson and email the group.

Suggestions for speakers? Jamie Ellis, Julia Mahood - Also when someone in this group is asking for help, please jump in or at least respond.

2<sup>nd</sup> VP Kristi Sanders – State Fair will resume this year. House has been rented for distant members to stay – 10% discount for using full fair time. The Sign-Up Genius will be set up soon for everyone to sign up for volunteer shifts. Do we want 2 shifts x 6hrs or 3 shifts x 4hrs per day? Decided on 2 shifts x 6hrs. Building will be open from 9am to 9pm. KHPA spot is the same, but the building lay out will be adjusted some. Per Tipton we need to think about distancing and safe ways to sell, sample and transfer honey products to customers along with the layout of space. Last year and this year's honey will be available to sell. No report from honey yards yet.

3<sup>rd</sup> VP Julie Cahoj absent – Tipton will send the date for a meeting to discuss scholarships and to think about restructuring this program as we are not getting enough return for the money we are investing.

Brenda Seader – Northwest was absent - no report.

Nikki Bowman – North Central – No meetings yet but hoping to have a meeting at the Salina Zoo soon. Sending out monthly emails.

Chad Gilliland – Northeast – They had 2 successful zoom classes, The Beginners Class and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Class. The Zoom meeting seems to allow people to ask more questions. The Funday is planned for June 5<sup>th</sup>.

Amy Dikeman – Southwest –It is still dry in the area with no numbers of loss yet. Greg has ordered packages and they are all sold.

Jane Kill – South Central – Still no monthly meeting and struggling to get response from the group. Seems to be little focus or involvement. Per Joli, Charlotte Wiggins is speaking tomorrow regarding building clubs and may have suggestions. Also, her book may be helpful.

William Jackson – Southeast – suggested the district leaders gather on a zoom meeting for ideas to increase member numbers.

Jim Kellie – Legislature – due to reshuffling of legislature and budget cuts getting a bee inspector may be slim. Taro Eldredge is an Entomologist for the state of Kansas in plant protection and weed control and may be called if needed. 785-210-6240. The Ag Summit is in August and may be worth attending. Bees are under specialty livestock. Other states similar in size may be good to review and follow. We are only 4-5K colonies which is smaller than many states, so we need a university to work with us. We need a presence in the legislature. In the past the honey queen and the association's president gave speeches. It takes money so clubs may need to pull together. KHPA needs its presence known in newspapers, radio, and broadcasts etc.

APHIS wants to introduce a moth and a beetle from China to eradicate the Chinese Tallow Tree grown profusely in the south and SE. The Tallow tree is a very bee-friendly tree in the USA and critical for beekeepers in those areas. The impact to beekeepers could be very detrimental and not enough info is known if the released insects will jump hosts. Please go to [aphanet.com](http://aphanet.com) and add your comments to stop this release.

New business:

Should we have Q&A zoom meetings? Yes. Supported to expand from the NE to the whole state. Expand from 1hr to 1.5hr and help keep everyone connected. April 5 will be the 1<sup>st</sup> one. Forward the link to all groups by email.

Ag Extension agents should be involved. They may even help with getting a bee inspector or connections to a university. A motion was made to give them free registration to the next meeting. A second motion was made and supported by all.

Secretary, Sondra Koehn