

**California Department of Food and Agriculture
Integrated Pest Control Branch
APIARY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING (AAB)
September 19, 2023
1220 N Street, Room 333
Sacramento, CA 95814**

<u>Members Present</u>	<u>Members Absent</u>	<u>CDFA Personnel</u>
Trevor Tauzer, Chair Brad Pankratz Valerie Severson	None	Michelle Dennis Adriaan Gilis Jennifer Berger Melissa Amaya

Guest Speakers and Subject Matter Experts

Rick Gurrola, Shasta County Agricultural Commissioner, CACASA Apiary Subcommittee
Deputy Jay Freeman, Rural Crimes Task Force, Butte County Sheriff's Department

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Trevor Tauzer, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.,
The meeting was held in compliance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act,
pursuant to Government Code Sections 11120-11132.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

Minutes from April 5 and August 17, 2023 were presented for approval.

Motion: 1. Mr. Brad Pankratz moved that the minutes from April 5, 2023, and August 17, 2023, meetings be approved; the motion was seconded by Ms. Valerie Severson. The motion was unanimously passed by all board members in attendance.

Yes

Trevor Tauzer, Chair
Valerie Severson
Brad Pankratz

No

Abstention

BRIEF CDFA UPDATES

- Payment portal for accepting payments on BeeWhere is in progress.
- Risk analysis comments were submitted by CDFA for information on shipping package bees to Canada.
- Public meeting for hobbyists: A facilitator is assigned and CDFA will post details online for this meeting.
- Registration fee progress: The apiary registration fee is in the process of moving forward. Updates will come from the Office of Administrative Law.
- Apiary Pre-Inspection Program: CDFA will travel to Idaho, Montana, and Utah for pre-inspection of hives prior to transport into California. This inspection is in collaboration with State Apiary program of each individual state.

APIARY BOARD VACANCY

Public member applicants submitted their interest packages. The seven public member applicants are: Bonnie Morse, Cherie Sintes-Glover, Liz Savage, Marc Johnson, Mark Tweddle, Tim Pelican, and Timothy Campbell. CDFA announced two letters were received in support of public member applicant, Tim Pelican. Public comments during the agenda item, and through comments via Zoom, supported Ms. Cherie Sintes-Glover, Ms. Liz Savage, and Mr. Tim Pelican.

Motion: 2. Ms. Valeri Severson moved to submit Mr. Tim Pelican, Ms. Cherie Sintes-Glover, Mr. Marc Johnson, and Ms. Liz Savage as public members to the Secretary for consideration, in the order listed. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brad Pankratz. The motion was unanimously passed by all board members in attendance.

Yes

Trevor Tauzer, Chair
Valerie Severson
Brad Pankratz

No

Abstention

APIARY SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATE

Rick Gurrola, Chair, Apiary Subcommittee, reported on BeeWhere enhancements. The CACASA Board of Directors approved the recommendations pending the acceptance of enhancements by the Information Management Committee, previously recommended by the board. Mr. Gurrola asked that the Apiary Board continue to work with the Apiary sub-committee on any enhancements needed in the future. He is reaching out to software developer and checking on payment portal for electronic registration fee collection.

Motion: 3. Ms. Valeri Severson moved to request CDFA send an official notification, at the Apiary Board's request to CACASA, requesting removal of specific site locations on Bee Check maps. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brad Pankratz. The motion was unanimously passed by all board members in attendance.

Yes

Trevor Tauzer, Chair
Valerie Severson
Brad Pankratz

No

Abstention

RURAL CRIMES TASK FORCE UPDATE

Deputy Freeman provided the Rural Crimes Task Force update. Eighty hives were burned in San Joaquin County. Stolen and vandalized hive count is up to approximately 2,300 for 2023 calendar year. Deputy Freeman requested that the Board consider directing CDFA to create a list with an apiary contact person for each county.

YELLOW-LEGGED HORNET

CDFA's State Primary Entomologist is gathering information from other states and entomologists to make a pest risk proposal for the Yellow-legged hornet (*Vespa velutina*). Information will be provided to the Apiary Board when available. If detected prior to the official pest risk proposal, *V. velutina* would be classified a Q rated pest.

PACKAGE BEES TO CANADA

CDFA submitted a letter in response to Canada for risk assessment.

APIARY BRAND PROGRAM

CDFA provided an update on the voluntary program. The update included the costs and procedure to obtain a brand and existing status of the program.

COUNTY CONTRACTS

CDFA provided information on three items to be considered for county reimbursement contracts based on historic county apiary expenses: registration, pest control and theft prevention. The Board will need to advise CDFA as to what work is a priority to the Board so that CDFA can develop a standard scope of work so that counties can decide if they want to participate and are able to project what apiary activities may be eligible for reimbursement through the program.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Mr. Tauzer asked for public comment.

A member of the public requested that county apiary inspectors could be provided training on hive inspections. It was explained that the CDFA Apiary Specialist duties include providing this training to counties and will continue to provide hands-on hive training on an individual and group basis to county inspectors as requested and as time allows.

NEXT MEETING AND AGENDA ITEMS

Monthly Board meetings are planned to be held at 10:00 a.m., on the third Thursday of each month in 2023. The October 19, 2023 meeting will be held Thursday, October 26, 2023 due to a conflict with the earlier date.

Future Agenda Items

1. Yellow-legged Hornet
2. Package Bees to Canada

Adjourn

Chair Tauzer adjourned the meeting at 11:58 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Jennifer Berger
Secretary to the Apiary Advisory Board
California Department of Food & Agriculture