

California Department of Food and Agriculture
Integrated Pest Control Branch
APIARY ADVISORY BOARD MEETING (AAB)
February 29, 2024
1220 N Street, Room 133
Sacramento, CA 95814

<u>Members Present</u>	<u>Members Absent</u>	<u>CDFA Personnel</u>
Trevor Tauzer, Chair Brad Pankratz Valerie Severson	None	Missy Amaya Jennifer Berger Chris Borkent Adriaan Gilis Jeffery Simons

Guest Speakers and Subject Matter Experts

Marcie Skelton, Glenn County Agricultural Commissioner
Deputy Jay Freeman, Rural Crimes Task Force

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Trevor Tauzer, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:02 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

No minutes were presented for approval.

PUBLIC COMMENTS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Mr. Tauzer asked for public comment.

CDFA PROGRAM UPDATES

- Travel restrictions due to the budget have postponed organized county trainings but are inviting agricultural biologists/inspectors in the county when National Honey Bee Survey sampling takes place. Tim Pelican suggested virtual training for counties.
- Integrated Pest Control is hiring an Agricultural Tech I for the Apiary Protection Program.
- The Apiary training manual is in the process of being reviewed and updated.
- Three new board members were appointed by the Secretary. The new board members are Matt Beekman, Tim Pelican, and Brock Ashurst.

- The first hobbyist meeting was January 18th, the survey closes today. The comments and results of the survey will be provided at the Hobbyist beekeeper results meeting, tentative date in March but the meeting will be posted on our website.
- Border Protection Stations provided quick update on apiary shipments. Successful year with few issues.
- Quarterly meetings will be scheduled for the Apiary Advisory Board.

CACASA UPDATE: APIARY

Marcie Skelton reported that staff is looking through BeeWhere registration and mapping for accuracy.

RURAL CRIMES TASK FORCE UPDATE

Deputy Freeman provided the Rural Crimes Task Force update. Just under 2,000 hives have been reported stolen, a large number from Madera and Fresno counties. Asking for help from CDFA and Industry. Reporting hive theft is important for the apiary industry as more hives are stolen in California than cattle. Deputy Freeman will write a formal letter/request with suggestions on what should be done and how people can help.

COUNTY CONTRACTS

The task force has not called a meeting but plan to meet in the future.

BOARD MEMBER VACANCIES

One remaining seat on the board is open, two more seats will be open on July 1, 2024.

BEAR DAMAGE AND DEPREDATION PERMITS

The industry reported an increase in complaints regarding damage of hives caused by bears. Alex Heeren with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife attended the meeting to answer questions about wildlife conflict issues with apiaries. Mr. Heeren advised that Victoria Monroe and he will be the statewide point on these matters. Alexander.Heeren@wildlife.ca.gov, or Victoria.Monroe@wildlife.ca.gov.

008 / INCOMING HIVE NOTIFICATON

Border Protection Stations (BPS) have been invited to be part of county trainings in the future so communication can develop between the counties and border stations. Industry would like shippers to be flagged at the border if it has been reported they gave false destination or contact information. Counties are unsure if they are receiving all apiary shipment notifications, CDFA will work with Nursery, Seed, and Apiary to update the list for BPS. The Apiary Protection Program will work with Border Protection Stations to check on shipments to the counties.

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NEXT MEETING AND AGENDA ITEMS

Board meetings will now be quarterly and held at 10:00 a.m., planned for the third Thursday of the planned month, if possible. If board members would like to participate at a remote location, they must notify the secretary of the board 30 days prior to the scheduled meeting. The next three meeting dates will be: May 16, 2024, August 15, 2024, and October 24, 2024. The next meeting will be posted to the CDFA's Apiary Protection Program website and posted on the CDFA meetings page.

Future Agenda Items

- N/A

Adjourn

Chairman Tauzer adjourned the meeting at 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

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