

DRAFT MINUTES

California Department of Food and Agriculture
Integrated Pest Control Branch
CALIFORNIA STATE APIARY BOARD MEETING
UC Davis Bee Lab
1 Bee Biology Rd, Davis, CA 95616
In Person/Hybrid Meeting
January 12, 2023

<u>Members Present</u>	<u>Members Absent</u>	<u>CDFG Personnel</u>
Larry Lima, Chair Brent Ashurst* Brad Pankratz Valerie Severson Trevor Tauzer *Present via Zoom	None	Mark McLoughlin Michelle Dennis Robert James Jennifer Berger Canh Nguyen Jennifer Gordon Joshua Kress Gilbert Canchola Jeffery Simons Joshua McDonald

GUESTS

Rick Gurrola, California Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers Association (CACASA),
Apiary Subcommittee Chair
Ha Dang, California Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers Association (CACASA) Nursery,
Seed and Apiary Committee Chair
Buzz Landon, , California State Beekeepers Association, Past President
David Stoffel, California Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers Association (CACASA)
Apiary Consultant
Brooke Palmer, California State Beekeepers Association, Associate Director
Melissa Cregan, Fresno County Agricultural Commissioner
Rowdy J Freeman, Deputy Sheriff, Butte County & California Rural Crime Prevention Task
Force, President
Jackie Parks-Burris, California State Beekeepers Association, Executive Committee
Philip Russell, California State Beekeepers Association, Current President
Tony Romero, Agricultural Biologist III, Nevada County

INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was convened at 2 p.m. by Chairman Larry Lima and introductions were made.

The meeting was held in compliance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act.

MINUTES FOR Dec 13, 2022, MEETING

Mr. Lima asked for board approval of the minutes from December 13, 2022.

Mr. Brent Ashurst moved that the minutes from December 13, 2022, meeting be accepted; the motion was seconded by Mr. Brad Pankratz.

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstention</u>
Larry Lima, Chair		
Brent Ashurst	N/A	N/A
Valerie Severson		
Trevor Tauzer		
Brad Pankratz		

APIARY REGISTRATION FEE SCHEDULE

Mr. Brad Pankratz, Apiary Task Force Chair, gave an update on the apiary fees. The task force brought forth a two-tier system for the yearly registration fee:
1-50 hives - \$100 registration fee
51 and more hives - \$250 registration fee

County Board of Supervisors will continue have the option to waive fees for hobbyist beekeepers with 9 or fewer hives per Food and Agricultural Code §29044.

Mr. Rick Gurrola, on behalf of CACASA, thanked the task force for the fee recommendations.

Mr. Trevor Tauzer moved that the Board establish an annual registration fee of \$100 for 1-50 hives, and \$250 for 51 or greater to be established January 1, 2024. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brent Ashurst.

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstention</u>
Larry Lima, Chair		
Brent Ashurst	N/A	N/A
Valerie Severson		
Trevor Tauzer		
Brad Pankratz		

QUICK UPDATES

Board Member Vacancies

Mr. Trevor Tauzer moved that the Secretary accept three recommendations for new members to replace board members who will be leaving and one public member: Michael Brandi, Brock Ashurst, Rowdy Jay Freeman, and public member – David Stoffel. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brad Pankratz and passed by Larry Lima, Brad Pankratz, Valeri Severson and Trevor Tauzer (Brent Ashurst was not present to vote on this motion).

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstention</u>
Larry Lima, Chair		
Valerie Severson	N/A	N/A
Trevor Tauzer		
Brad Pankratz		

Discussion followed. Apiary Board members were informed by CDFCA that interest by recommended individuals would need to be confirmed. The Board reiterated their intention to forward the recommendations at this time. This motion is meant to serve as an acknowledgement of the board's communication of this recommendation and understood that it does not result in an official appointment of members at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Jackie Parks-Burris stated she is in favor of recommendations.

Ms. Brooke Palmer stated CSBA is in support of the recommended Apiary fees.

Mr. Phillip Russell stated he is in favor of recommendations.

Wildlife Damage

Board members expressed concern about the Tropi mite (*Tropilaelaps mercedesae*) that causes damage to almonds. This topic will be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

Public Lands

Board members expressed concern with lack of access to state and federal property desired for bee forage.

BeeWhere

Mr. Brent Ashurst outlined concerns about receiving updates, growers providing notifications, administrative fine amounts, confidentiality, and unregistered beehives. Rick Gurrola, on behalf of CACASA, owners of the BeeWhere software, advised that County Agricultural Commissioners remain the point of contact for issues about the BeeWhere program.

NEXT MEETING DATE/ CLOSING

Next Meeting Date

Conference call, February 8, 2023, 1 p.m. Specifics will be provided on this CDFA website (<https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/plant/Meetings/>).

AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

1. Regulatory language for proposed registration fees
2. 2023 Board vacancies and new members
3. Tropi mite (*Tropilaelaps mercedesae*)

ADJOURN

Mr. Lima adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m.

Jennifer Berger
Secretary to the Board

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