

## **Agenda – TBA Regional Working Meetings**

**Hour 1: Call to order – TBA West Tennessee Regional VP – David Hale**

**Invocation**

**Pledge to the Flag**

**Registration / introduction of local association representatives**

**Overview of TBA – Howard Kerr, TBA President**

- **History of Tennessee state beekeeping associations**
  - **Timeline of Eras in Tennessee beekeeping; BV / AV**
- **Tennessee Beekeepers Association (TBA) organizational structure**
  - **TBA Charter Objectives and By-Laws – TBA Sec. Lynda Rizzardi**
  - **Current Executive Committee members**
  - **Affiliated Local Associations / # TBA members**
  - **Spring and Fall Directors Meetings 29 Feb 2020 Murfreesboro**
  - **Fall Conference 9 – 10 Oct. 2020 TO BE CONFIRMED**
  - **Hive Tool newsletter / Steve Clawson, Editor**
  - **Hive Grants & Short Course Grants**

**Institutional Stakeholders in Beekeeping:**

- **Tn General Assembly**
  - **Tennessee Apiary Act of 1995 - Preamble and key features**
  - **Authorizes regulations and provides funding for State Institutions**
- **TN Department of Agriculture**
  - **Apiary Section – Beekeeper & Apiary registration; regional and local inspectors, permits for moving bees**
  - **Labeling and Food Processing regulations**
  - **Pesticide Regulations, Field Watch**
  - **Tn Agriculture Enhancement Program (TAEP)**
  - **Observation Hives in state Parks**
- **University of TN – Institute of Agriculture (UTIA)**
  - **Education**
  - **Research -**
  - **Extension Service**
    - **Dr. Jenifer Tsuruda, State Apiculturist**
      - **Master Beekeeper Program**
      - **Working with County Agents and Associations**
    - **County Extension offices and County Agents**
- **Beekeeping Courses at Community Colleges**

**Profile of TN Beekeeper circa 1970 / Handbook for TN Beekeepers**

## **Hour 2: Proposed TBA Activities:**

- **Greatly improve communications TBA=Locals and Locals=Locals**
- **Create online library of educational materials and short course programs**
- **Conduct regional meetings and workshops**
- **Develop interactions with related organizations**
  - **TN Farm Bureau Federation**
  - **TN Fruit & Vegetable Growers**
  - **Master Gardeners**
  - **Pick TN Conference**
  - **ABF, EAS, HAS**
  - **TVA and other land managers**
- **Work close with County Extension office staff**
- **Develop public outreach kits for use in schools and local events**
- **Get IRS 501 ( C ) 3 status; seek donations for education and research**
- **Cooperate with TDA and Universities on applied research activities**
- **Work closely with TDA and UTIA to expand and improve programs**
- **Develop relationships with beekeepers in other states and countries**
- **Increase TBA membership; improve member retention; Goal 3000 in 2020**
- **Conduct Survey of TN beekeepers; create 2020 Profile of TN Beekeeper**

## **Hour 3 & 4: Local Association Responses, Ideas, and Recommendations:**

- **Do we need changes in existing TBA activities? Be specific**
- **Do we need changes in proposed TBA activities? Be specific**
- **What can TBA do to help local associations be more successful?**
- **What can TBA do to help beekeepers be more successful?**
- **What can local associations do to make TBA more successful?**
- **What can individual beekeepers do to make TBA more successful?**
- **How can we best increase TBA membership?**

**Please complete a TBA Suggestion form and submit it to David Hale or Howard Kerr. David Hale's contact information is 901-487-4610.**

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### **Other Specific Ideas and Comments:**

- 1. Encourage local associations to have meeting content that includes information for beginning beekeepers and for more experienced beekeepers.**
- 2. Encourage local associations to adopt a policy of collecting combined dues for BOTH local and TBA when members renew and new members join.**
- 3. Have TBA Regional events in early summer to increase local beekeeper participation**
- 4. Invite diverse speakers on intermediate to advanced topics for annual conference**
- 5. Introduce new activities at conference; smoker lighting contest, quiz competition, etc**
- 6. Include in Hive Tool reports of TBA activities, local association outreach events, etc**
- 7. Include in Hive Tool reports of new technologies applicable to beekeeping**
- 8. Appoint ad hoc committees to address specific TBA projects:**
  - a. Adulterated honey problem**
  - b. Role in related organizations' events (Farm Bureau, F & V Growers, etc)**
  - c. Work with TVA to develop pollinator friendly ROW maintenance practices**
- 9. Adopt option for using credit/debit cards for TBA business activities**
- 10. Assist TDA in auditing registration database**