



Bee Industry Council of Western Australia

MINUTES

General meeting held at Capilano Bayswater

10.00am Monday 23rd July 2018

In attendance:

Present: Tristan Campbell
 Leilani Leyland – Chairperson
 Michael Bellman - Secretary
 Brendon Fewster
 Mat Welch
 Wayne Ridley
 Soren Houlberg
 Eileen Stark (Observer)

Member Body represented

APC Beekeepers Committee
 WA Farmers Beekeepers
 WA Farmers Beekeepers
 WA Farmers Beekeepers
 WA Beekeepers Assoc Alternate
 WA Beekeepers Assoc
 WA Apiarist Society
 WA Apiarist Society

Apologies: Tiffane Bates

APC Beekeepers Committee

Meeting opened 10.10am

1 Minutes of Previous Meeting: 11th Jun 2018 - Moved by MW second BC

All agreed

2.1 BUSINESS ARISING AND ACTIONS FROM MINUTES 11th June 2018

Meeting Section 21/5 mins	ITEM	WHO	ACTION	COMPLETED
BA 2.3	DBCA Apiary General Conditions	LL	DBCA meeting 20 th August DPIRD to have input into BICWA changes	
BA 2.6	Importation of semen	SB	LL emailed to get update on WA Position	Draft letter to line manager DPIRD to address
BA 2.8	Strategic Plan	All	Meeting 30 th July	All tom prepare
BA 2.12	Bee Guard	AJ	To follow up with Andrea	

3. REPORTS

3.1 CHAIRMAN

Chairperson report for meeting 23rd July 2018

I attended the AHBIC 3rd Australian Bee Congress last month, along with about 40 other WA delegates which was great to see. Over 900 delegates in total (approx. 100 from overseas) including speakers. Topics were varied, some focussing on pollination (**did you know the avocado flower only opens for 4 hours each day as a female flower to be pollinated to produce the fruit and then next day it opens as a male**) These talks gave a great insight into the diversification required in beekeeping, certainly not just honey anymore in order to create a viable business...and a future for your retirement. Almond Board acknowledges that they will need 300,000 beehives by 2025. Some talks on Food Fraud and the lengths the Chinese go to with the addition of high fructose corn syrups to the honey and the removing of honey prior to it being ripened therefore it will go further. There are 34 companies importing honey into Australia. NRM testing is being investigated as this fingerprinting can tell if the honey has been tampered with (currently only done in Germany).

New Zealand has 8,000 beekeepers with over half of them with less than 5 years experience. Lower amount of Manuka being harvested. \$600 per hive for kiwi fruit pollination.

Some talks on Varroa. Madelene Beekman from Uni Sydney and Medhat Nasr from Canada. Hives have actually increased not decreased 315,000 from 200,000 in 1990. Genetic diversity is essential. You can't prepare for Varroa if you don't have it.

There are 32 ports monitoring for 18 bee pests around Australia 140 sentinel hives and 109 catchboxes. Nat Bee Biosecurity NBBP – code of practice and the NB Pest Surveillance Program NBPSP – hive surveillance. I spoke with Andrea whilst at congress and we were discussing the sentinel hives and how to ensure the beekeepers that are maintaining them keep their interest up (as they're not finding anything). She asked about the industry supplying queen bees as they are needed to be replaced in the hives. Dave has agreed to do this, others are welcome to do so also. I didn't realise they supply all the stock themselves (and get any honey the hive produces). Also looking at having our own Response team here in WA like they have in Victoria. Andrea may discuss this further this afternoon.

Lots more, and overall a great congress. I believe they are planning the next one in Adelaide for 2022 being 200 years since bees came to Australia. Liz is pushing for a CRC congress the year before as this will be the year before the CRC finishes in 2022.

Email sent to WA delegates to enquire as to any speakers they would like to hear at our 2019 conference next year.

Michael Bellman and I attended a meeting with Cherry Harrop DPIRD (Policy Officer for Business Development), Ann Maree O'Callaghan (Facilitator Strategy Matrix) and Damien Hills (DPIRD) to discuss the plan for development of the current BICWA Strategic Plan. A meeting is now to be held at DPIRD next Monday 30th July 9am to 2pm. An important consideration to be mindful of when developing the Strategic Plan is we need to be conscious of "What" is the objective and "Who" is responsible, some things it may not be BICWA's responsibility but we can steer the activities to occur. When do we see it being finalised, and also what is your vision for BICWA for the next 5 years and what do you see is our purpose?

3.2 DPIRD

Andrea Johnston attended meeting on behalf of DPIRD, items discussed

Bee Semen

- No decision yet

AFB

- Has been detected Some incursion
- Samples given to CRC for research
- The BK must provide video evidence of destruction
- APC funds for testing education/ BBO checking
- PCR assay – no progress

Bee Prepared exercise – Varroa response

- 9 BK invited
- Total of 30 attending including admin etc
- Outcome is to have defined strategies in place to refine:
 - o Response plans
 - o Finding gaps
 - o Create document

Sentinel hives

- Total of 44 sites around WA
- Checking each hive on a 6-weekly cycle
- Most of the Sentinel hive owners are amateur/ hobbyists
- Looking at get commercials involves – QB/ mentorship
- Mandatory requeening
- Have response plan in place – sugar shake etc
- Samples collected

Action required: Letter of thanks from BICWA to Sentinel hive owners. (MB to do)

Bee Guard – review work in progress, maybe superseded by national plan

3.3 TREASURER Balance of account \$ 8414.62

All Membership renewal invoices have gone out:

- WAAS happy to include \$ 1000 in advance
- WAFF paid (WAFF member have no objection to keeping APC money)
- WABA t.b.a
- APC to confirm that BICWA can retain 3k for next years conference- Tristan to follow up

3.4 WA HONEY PROMOTIONS COMMITTEE

N/A

3.5 DBCA

Did not attend

Response for the suggested changes + other issues to report back on 20th August meeting

3.6 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE

Discussions on the plans for next year's conference

Suggested speakers

- Dr Katja Hogendoorn – planting melliferous plants
- NZ speaker - Varroa
- Canadian BK – Ian Steppler
- Agronomist to talk on pesticides - Graham Laslett (Mark Rhodes suggested)

3.7 TRAINING UPDATE David Currey

Cert 3 training going well

- Estimated costs per trainee - \$ 2k
- 16 enrolled
- Some BK trainee, however needs to be fully funded traineeship - RTO delivering traineeship
- Finish 14th September plan for Minister to award cert – for profile etc
- Prefer for next course in Metro area, maybe Jandakot/ UWA
Get commercial BK on board Maybe Jandakot/ UWA
- Put relevant information on BICWA website
- Training needs to be more commercial industry orientated with accredited RTO, David to look into plans for upgrading facility to meet requirements

3.8 WAHDRG UPDATE - Matt Welch

Meeting 9th July – discussion points

- TA Testing – still issues with method confirmation - UWA v Chem centre – volumes/ costs etc
- Funding for new project – requesting money from distributors who want the information however are yet to contribute to any project – Onefoods, Ben Pan, Fewster Farm
- Palaeontology – pollen samples -AGRF- DNA test – method confirmation – volume of samples
- Label certification
- Customer requirements
- Testing for export
- Microbiologist appointed?

Next Meeting – August

4 Correspondence IN / OUT	20 mins
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		ACTION
DATE	DESCRIPTION	BY WHOM
11/06/18	Belay consulting – DPIRD key to financial management workshop	Fwd to all
	Simon Green enquiry re. exporting of WA honey and protocols	Fwd to Fang Liu for comment. CRC project more on labelling. Cherry Harrop looking into further. MB commented.
	Letter to APC requesting to retain \$3000 funds loaned	Sent -No reply as yet.
12/6/18	Protection of High value forests acknowledgement of submission	FYI
	Invoices for next financial year to Member bodies	Matt forwarded to members
13/6/18	List of current BICWA committee sent to Cherry Harrop	LL sent
14/6/18	Article for Bee Informed update on Conference and BICWA committee	LL sent to Geoff Crocker
	Liz Barbour Economic analysis of hive sites, request for access to information from DPIRD to Hive registration details	Various emails voicing concern as to reason for information. Meeting scheduled for 31/7 at UWA.
	Paul Manuka life, Walpole article opposing leptospermum plantation	LL rang reporter to advise from beekeeper perspective
19/6/18	DBCA advice of increase to site rental prices 1/1/2019	FYI
	Tourism Minister interest in burning effect on apiary sites, policy adviser requested more information	Sent reply 11/7/18 with further information on impact of fire.
	Email train from Kerry Fewster original request beekeeper migration for employee and suggestion for BICWA to open a bank account for her business to deposit funds into for future training use. Email Beekeeper training back to KF	Wayne suggests BICWA meet with Ministers office to discuss. Is this BICWAS role?
	Email train between Kingsley Dixon and Liz Barbour re. burning of the bush.	Michael B suggestion create a change.org signature page.
20/06/18	Brendon – concern that DBCA are increasing apiary sites but in turn no longer managing apiary sites on vested reserves, instead allowing local shires etc to do so instead	How do we want to pursue this? DBCA attending 20/08 meeting
	Shannen WAFarmers, ASIC letter requesting Limited by Guarantee status	LL filled in and returned form advising Small Company not required to lodge Financial report.
24/6/18	Dave Currey WAAS re. membership payment to WAAS approved an extra \$1000 to be paid to BICWA. Request for rep to present to their committee meetings	LL sent thank you. Advised that their member rep should be reporting back to BICWA activities.
25/6/18	MBellman – Are we China Ready ? tourism in WA email	Sent to Fang Liu and Liz Barbour
04/07/18	Email from Soren Houlberg re. BICWA activities and lack of information	LL to attend WAAS committee meeting
30/06/18	Varroa incursion update	From MW.
	Email trail from Liz Barbour to Amy Hallam (Perth Convention Bureau) re. holding congress in WA in 2021. Liz then sent email to AHBIC asking for support – not given.	LL advised Liz that it has been planned by Ben Hooper for 2022 in Adelaide as 200 years introduced in Australia.
04/07/18	LL to DPIRD request for industry response training. Need for First Responder team in WA.	Varroa exercise to be held 3/8/18. LL SFewster and DLeyland to attend.

05/07/18	AIAIB Import conditions review, summary of meeting held May on Semen imports	Sent to committee. Also emailed Tiff and Colin for outcome with WA depts..
05/07/18	Liz Barbour – Kingsley Dixon advising briefing EPA on impact of prescribed burning	MB replied to KD. Wayne R also emailed RFA to Liz and John Davies paper.
25/06/18	ASIC – request for business activity metrics – further corro to come	FYI
06/07/18	Liz/Amy corro still pursuing WA Conference for Aug 2021.	FYI
	LL sent Bushfire burning workshop 20/7/18 in Bridgetown	Fwd to all committee / Brendon & Matt interested.
09/07/18	PHA – Nat Bee Pest Surveil Program six month update	FYI sent to all
10/07/18	James Sheehan BBO approval for Bee Informed article on AFB	Sent to committee, then Approved
11/07/18	Chamber of Commerce workshop 24/7 trade with North Asia	FYI
	Letter sent to tourism minister re-routed to Stephen Dawson Minister for environment	FYI
12/07/18	Plan Prepare Prosper workshops in Beverley	FYI sent to committee
	Email to DBCA re. attendance at BICWA meeting for update on portal and general conditions	To attend August meeting
	Enquiry re. getting into beekeeping – Ramit Mehta	Supplied info on member groups and to contact MBellman re businesses for sale
	Andrea Johnston email Agenda items for meeting 23/7	FYI
	Wayne Ridley comment about Liz terminology Hive Licenses instead of Hive Registration	FYI
	James Sheehan BBO – media response to sugar feeding social media currently live.	Sent to all FYI
	Advice from David Currey re. next WAAS meeting date	LL to attend and update WAAS 19/7
13/07/18	Cherry Harrop DPIRD cc email to Liz re. confidential bk info requested	Fwd to committee
16/07/18	Invitation to Biosecurity Roundtable Canberra 29 Nov	Fwd to committee GD and WR went 4/7 meeting
	Email to biosecurity roundtable to check email on file	Sent
	Liz Barbour – CRC In kind reporting	Fwd to committee discuss 23/7
18/07/18	Jenny Shanks PHA NBBSP 6 monthly report	Fwd to committee
	Kath DeBoer PHA NBBP minutes FYI confidential	Fwd to committee discuss 23/7
	Email to all congress WA attendees for feedback on speakers in Qld	LL emailed
19/07/18	Confirmation to Cherry Harrop of Strategic Meeting 30/7	Confirmed
	Andrea DPIRD – Bee Exercise prepared agenda 3/8	For consideration
	CRC Notice of AGM 26/09	FYI emailed 23/7
20/07/18	Enquiry re. Cert 3 training – Andrew Court	Ref to David Currey
	CRC – link to Meet up webpage	FYI
	James Sheehan – update to BOLT course stats	Sent to all agenda for 23/7
	Liz CRC feedback Prescribed burning fwd to Kingsley Dixon	FYI
21/07/18	Wayne Ridley – Biosecurity Discussion Paper	Fwd to committee
	Advice that Eileen Stark will be attending meeting as observer from WAAS with view to becoming alternate delegate	Fwd Eileen Minutes and Agenda for meeting, constitution and Strat Plan
	Suggestion for conference speaker agronomist on chemicals used	FYI
	CRC Annual report for consideration and comments	Fwd to all
23/07/18	Jess Beckerling Forests for life – number of FT employees in industry	

GENERAL BUSINESS

- CRC – Liz Barbour
 - o Bicwa to write a letter to Liz regarding, project proposal – more transparency (MB to do)
 - o MB to be link between BICWA and CRC

- List of Acronyms used WA honey industry (MB to do)

- DBCA – strategy meeting – list what to present

- Bushfire burning MW – David Ward – Noongars knew best

- Imported Honey – Bicwa position

- Native title- act 1993 section 24L A- low impact – submission – DBCA – legislative change
 - o Beekeeping sites subject to native title claim
 - o BICWA saw Peter Sharp/ Simon Chew – MW – native title working group (JW paying legal)
 - o Commit to interim measures
 - o Beesite negotiation direct to native title owners
 - o State lead -illia agreement
 - o Individual beekeeper
 - o DBCA support us to assist with Premier and Cabinet – letter of support
 - o State led negotiation
 - o DBCA policy
 - o Business as usual
 - o Pending site for existing BK if affected
 - o Framework exists in Victoria
 - o Next step support from Allannah Mactiernan
 - o Create regional solution

Actions

Strategic Plan

Everyone to prepare for meeting on Monday 30th July

Who: Everyone, Deadline: 30/7

Biosecurity/ Sentinel hives

MB to do up letter of thanks for sentinel hive BK

Who: MB Deadline: 30/7

Conference

Conference speakers- suggestions

Who: Everyone Deadline: 20/08

Funding

APC to confirm that BICWA can retain \$ 3k for next years conference

Who: Tristian Deadline: 20/8

CRC

Letter to Liz – CRC regarding clarification of specific projects

Who: MB Deadline: 30/7

Acronyms

List of acronyms of honey industry for new committee members

Who: MB Deadline: 30/7

Imported honey

BICWAs position on imported honey - letter

Who: Leilani Deadline: 20/8

Next Meeting Monday 20th August 2018 10.00am

Proposed Future Meetings Monday 17th September 2018

Meeting Closed at 2.05 pm
23^rd July 2018