

WCBA

Western Cape Bee
Industry Association



WKBBV

Wes-Kaapse
Byebedryfsvereniging

Capensis

Issue: June 2016

Beecon 2016

01 & 02 July 2016

Surval, Oudtshoorn

DATES TO REMEMBER:

BEECON

01 & 02 July 2016
Surval, Oudtshoorn

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

19 July 2016
@ 10am
The Cape Honey Factory, Koelenhof

SPRING FIELD DAY

27 August 2016
Hopefield (During Hopefield Fynbos Show)

MINUTES OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

31 May 2016 @ 10h00, Klein Nooitgedacht, Koelenhof

1. CONSTITUTIONING: Present: Danie Vorster (current chairman), Brendan Ashley-Cooper (current vice-chairman), Dawid Smit (current secretary & treasurer), Lynette Barnes, Pieter Theron, Nico Langenhoven (ex committee member), Tlou Masehela, Helena van der Westhuizen and Matthew Surridge.

Absent: Johan van As (without notice). Danie welcomed all, especially Nico as the outgoing MC member and Matthew as the incoming one.

2. ADDITIONS: The following items were added: Ujube & Brassica Pollination.

3. ELECTION OF NEW OFFICE BEARERS & ALLOCATION OF PORTFOLIOS: After some discussion, Danie Vorster was re-elected as chairman, Brendan as vice-chairman and Dawid as secretary & treasurer. Portfolios were allocated as per the accompanying table. Dawid indicated the necessity for succession planning for the secretarial position during this next term. Matthew was asked to review the inspection service for pollination and to propose updates at the next meeting.

4. APPROVAL OF & MATTERS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MINUTES : Danie read the minutes of the meeting of 19 April 2016. They were approved as a correct version of the meeting. Matters Arising:

a Matthew will supply the library books to Braam Stander & Ferdie du Preez to take control of them.

b Brendan will enquire from Ernest Phoku at Beecon 2016 about the issue of the large unclaimed container with honey at Hepro.

c Danie still needs to update the contact details on our display material ASAP. He will also explore the cost and design of new ones.

d Lynette, Helena and Tlou will attend the training day before Beecon 2016 and liaise with John Moodie as a start to the formalizing of a training course, which can be run under the flag of WCBA.

5. FINANCES: The balances on our accounts were as follows on 31 May 2016: Cheque R47659.21; Development Fund R90939.28 and Symposium Fund R42046.17. The balance of the Cash Box was not received from Lynette and she was asked to supply it ASAP. Dawid read some of the major transactions on the cheque account since the start of the year --- especially those pertaining to the upcoming Beecon 2016.

6. MEMBERSHIP MATTERS: The number for the current financial year is about 45. Dawid will drop one more reminder pointing to the printing of the membership cards within a week.

7. YEAR PROGRAM & FORTH-COMING EVENTS: Danie proposes that the Pre-pollination Info Day be dropped this year. It was agreed. Helena and Pieter to propose a program for the Spring Field Day in Hopefield on 27 August 2016 at our next meeting.

Dawid will update the program and send it along with the minutes.

8. CAPENSIS NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE

a. The next issue of Capensis is due in June (before Beecon 2016). Dawid to send Helena info of the AGM and this meeting ASAP. Helena stressed the need for the commenting / editing exercise by Dawid & Danie to be quicker next time.

b. The website will be updated with all relevant new documents soon by Dawid.

9 . CORRESPONDENCE: An email was received from Syngenta regarding expected pollination shortages on Brassica seed production this season. Dawid will send an email to members to notify them of the possibility of doing business in this regard.

10. SABIO MATTERS: Danie was nominated for election to the SABIO board at the coming AGM.

11. POLLINATION: Dawid, Brendan and Tlou will write a proper article on Pollination for the SA Fruit Journal. Dawid to liaise with Mike Allsopp and to find out about cut-off dates.

12. PESTS & DISEASES: None discussed.

13. BEE FORAGE: It was reiterated that Tlou's presentation for Beecon 2016 (Bee Forage Alarm) will be used as a generic presentation at opportunities in this regard. Brendan to assist Tlou in drafting this, liaising with Mike Allsopp. Nico are co-opted to the sub-committee (Tlou and Brendan) and to keep communicating with Dr Troskie regarding the development of a suitable strategy.

BESTUIWINGSRIGLYNE VIR 2016

Dawid doen 'n voorlegging namens die komitee oor die riglyn-tarief vir 'n bestuingsdiens in 2016. Alhoewel die prys van diesel afgekomp het, is die verhoogde markwaarde van 'n swerm bye, voeding agv droogte- toestande en die heuningprys die faktore wat veral verantwoordelik was vir 'n aansienlike verhoging in die koste van die diens.

Vir 'n volledige bestuingsdiens wat aan al die standaarde voldoen, word 'n tarief van R675 (BTW uitgesluit) per eenheid as riglyn deur die vergadering aanvaar. Dit verteenwoordig 'n 11,9% verhoging tov die vorige seisoen se R603. Die bakkie-vervoerkoste word as R4.20 per km (BTW uitgesluit) geneem.

14. AD HOC MATTERS

a. AGM Review Almost 30 persons (similar to the previous year) attended. All presentations were well received.

b. Beecon 2016

A further planning meeting was again held after this MC meeting under the convenorship of Lynette. The program must now urgently be finalised and more marketing done. Approx. 80 persons registered so far. The forms of the speakers must also be supplied ASAP --- Danie to arrange. Dawid to send invoices for the sponsors.

c. Ujubee

Brendan conveyed that a group of "greenies" is trying to influence nature institutions and city management members against allowing beekeepers in certain areas. This will be monitored and handled as it becomes a serious issue in due course.

d. Brassica Pollination See 9. above.

15. NEXT MEETING: 19 July 2016 @ 10h00 at Cape Honey Factory, Koelenhof.

A FAREWELL MESSAGE from Nico Langenhoven

After 50 years as a member of Western Cape Bee Industry Association it is time for a halt. During this time I served as committee member and as chairman of WCBA. I also served as a committee member of the Federation of Beekeepers Associations and served as Chairman from 1997 till its closure in 2002. There were many occasions with negative connotations and many more for the positive.

The most negative experience was the opinion that one is doing it for personal gain. Well, at my first, no second WCBA (then WP beekeepers Association) AGM there was not enough nominations to fill all the vacancies on the management committee. The chairman asks for volunteers. I did. My motivation was "I reaped so much over years and now I want to give something back". This was accepted with applause.

I do not want to give detail on particular negative incidents over years. But for the record there was two occasions where I had to do what I did.

First, as chairman of Federation I stopped the printing of the Bee Journal at the end of 1997 due to the lack of funds. For this I was blamed, but none of the critics was prepared to pay the outstanding R3 000 bill for the printing of the last Bee Journal. In monetary terms today it will be around R30 000.

Secondly, In 2001 I initiated the closing down of the then SABIE. For this I was also blamed. Well, SABIE was replaced by SABIO and since 2002 we had a BEECON every year with the exception of 2008 world soccer year. I do have sweet memories from the Beecons I attended.

On the local (WCBA) front I did a lot. I initiated the today R90 000 strong development fund with a small fist R250 contribution. Some of the money was used for projects of which the blue gum survey was probably the most important. The survey was to the benefit of beekeeping, in particular for the Western and Southern Cape beekeepers.



A question or critic that came up time and again, is does committee members serve to benefit themselves? To the contrary. When the blueberry issue was brought up a year and a half ago at a management committee level the first question in the management meeting was "is it a private or an association thing?" Now everybody, whether a member or not, can share in the experience.

Since early this year I was involved in negotiations with Dept. Agriculture at Elsenburg to promote bee forage. I hope to assist in these for the foreseeable future. It is a long-term project and will benefit all beekeepers not only locally but also nationally. At the AGM and at my last management meeting I was hailed with applause. Thanks to all who respect me and support me. And also to those who forgive me for my mistakes.

For those who read this and who are not a member of WCBA I plea to sign up as member, attend the field days and if necessary ask committee members to assist you. There is a lot of goodwill available. Use your judgement and see who the wreckers are and who the builders are. Support the builders.

And in tradition a joke to conclude. When Johnny one night in his dreams met Peter at the gateway to heaven he asked, "Please help me to win the lotto". Then Peter replied, "No problem, but can we meet halfway? Buy a lotto ticket." You need to put in something to get something back.

I want to hail the present WCBA management committee for hard work and in particular for this year's Beecon in Oudtshoorn. I am confident that the future is in good hands.

Quo Vadis. Fare well. (En in Afrikaans, gaan voorspoedig.)

Nico Langenhoven

WESTERN CAPE BEE INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

Bestuurskomitee 2016-2017:

Danie Vorster - 072 363 9478
Voorsitter, SABIO-skakeling, Chemie-intervlak, Bestuwing

Brendan Ashley-Cooper - 082 484 0030
Onder-voorsitter, Bye-welstand, Opleiding, Webtuiste

Lynette Barnes - 071 241 1411
Kantoor, Telefoon, Posbus, Heuning-plakkers, Ledekaarte, Kontant-trommel

Dawid Smit - 083 655 2280
Tesourier, Sekretaris, Administrasie, Kommunikasie, Webtuiste

Matthew Surridge 082 570 6274
Bestuwing, Bestuingsinspeksies, Velddae

Pieter Theron - 082 828 9291
Veld / Inligtingsdae, Toerusting, Registrasies, Biblioteek

Helena van der Westhuizen 072 802 3634
Capensis, Facebook, Bemarking/Promosie

Johan van As - 083 650 2079
Bestuwing, Velddae

Tlou Masehela - 078 285 2553
Projekte, Bye-weiding, Opleiding, Facebook



Nico & Marie Langenhoven

WCBA will always be grateful for Nico's input and dedicated work for the association.

Thank you Nico

NAMENS WKBV

**WKBV VOORSITTERVERSLAG VIR AJV 2016 /
WCBA CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE AGM 14
May 2016 (Summary)**

2015 was not an easy year for beekeepers. There was little rain, no honey and no catching swarms. I think there were definitely more people leaving beekeeping than starting.

So what did the WCBA management committee manage in the last 12 months?

We had 6 management meetings and 4 field days.
-1st field day was our annual Pre-pollination day at Dorstersnes in Vyeboom. It was by far the best-attended Pollination field day that was ever hosted by the WCBA. There were 30+ growers and farm managers of fruit farms. Purpose was to give growers insight on challenges beekeepers are facing.
-2nd field day was our Spring field day in Ouderaapkraal. The main focus of this day was clearly how to handle AFB once you found it.
-3rd field day an Autumn field day in Grabouw at Bradford Apiaries.
-4th field day also an Autumn field day in Hopefield.

Brendon Ashley-Cooper, Johan van As and Mike Allsop got interviewed on Carte Blanche regarding the AFB issue. Some of our members were also interviewed on 50/50, Focus and RSG.

Brendon made a striking AFB presentation at the Hortgro Science Technical Symposium in Franschoek in June 2015. It gave 200+ members of Hortgro some insight on what we as beekeepers go through to handle disease and beekeeping issues.

In February WCBA were involved with a Blueberry growers day at Becksburg in Joostenberg hosted by Eurafruit. The reason WCBA got involved was the high demand for pollination under nets and in tunnels.

Our management committee has also been involved with a lot of stakeholders in the industry and different departments.

-Brendon, Tlou and Mike Allsop met with the mayor of Stellenbosch regarding the municipality's 1million tree project.

-Our MC came to the conclusion that the forage problem

is our biggest problem. Oom Nico, Brendon and Mike Allsop met with Dr. Trautman from Elsenburg. A follow up meeting was held and Dr. Trautman offered the services of Elsenburg's strategist Dr. Trotskie.

-Minister Allan Winde from Department Agriculture Western Cape along with some SABIO and DAFF delegates went to visit some AFB hives from oom Nico. A meeting with Minister Winde transpired afterwards and Minister Winde made a press release regarding the AFB threat the Western Cape are facing.

WCBA committee had some requests for better communication between Management Committee and our members – we've decided to attach a summary of our minutes to each Capensis newsletter.

Our inspection service had 2 requests the past season with very good feedback from the clients according to the inspectors.

Honey:

Unfortunately the 2015 season was really poor, with little or no crops reported. The little rain and worst drought in 100 years took its toll on the bees and they had to be fed to be kept alive in various parts. Since Spring 2015 it picked up a little bit with fair honey being cropped all over. Much more honey had to be imported to supply the local demand.

Capensis:

Our Capensis newsletter got sent out on 3 occasions. I want to wholeheartedly thank Helena for being our editor and oom Ferdi du Preez for his contribution to our newsletter as well as too the SABIO bee journal.

Pollination:

The 2015 pollination price increased with about 11% and the 2016 guideline price will most likely increase with a similar percentage. The demand for pollination is increasing steadily which will probably have a severe impact on honey production in the near future.

AFB:

Later in the morning we will receive some feedback on the current AFB situation.

Beecon 2015:

Beecon was held in Pietermaritzburg. A successful and well attended event – myself, Dawid Smit and Lynette Barnes from our committee attended the event. Our first day was full of insightful talks and the option to attend a bee-apiary or spend time at the "KZN Honey Hall". The second day was full of talks, the SABIO AGM and the Gala evening.

Beecon 2016:

WCBA are hosting Beecon in Oudtshoorn in July. There are so many beekeepers in that area and a lot of honey production and massive seed production happens in the Klein Karoo. Lynette Barnes got chosen to be the Beecon convenor. We have 2 international speakers attending: Dr Christiaan Maus from Bayer Germany and Dr Doug Somerville from Australia. The congress is starting on the Friday until the Saturday afternoon, ending off with a gala function. For the first time there will be a training session for emerging and new beekeepers on the Thursday.

To achieve our goals we need a dedicated team.

1. Brendon Ashley-Cooper – Vice-Chairman. Your ever willingness to help and assist made being chairman much easier.
2. Lynette – Thanks for your assistance whenever I needed and taking charge of Beecon.
3. Dawid Smit – Thanks for being our admin guru and secretary.



4. Johan van As – Thanks for giving us the all important industry perspective.

5. Pieter Theron – Thanks for your eagerness to assist, especially with your organizing of our field days.

6. Tlou Masehela – Thanks for your input from SANBI's side.

7. Helena – As mentioned before your work with Capensis is a lot of work and we appreciate it.

8. Mike Allsop – you have assisted us so much in the last years – I want to specially thank you for this.

9. Oom Nico Langenhoven – you are a special person. You have served WCBA and beekeeping in SA with great pride and passion. Your term is finished and you are unfortunately not available for re-election. You will be sorely missed and what we learned from you we will remember for a long time. Thanks for serving our industry with so much passion.

Lastly I just want to say that us as committee serve the WCBA in our own time with no expectation for thank you's or compensation. We have no personal gain except that when our industry is thriving we will thrive as well.

HEPRO HONEY

It has come to WCBA's attention that a consignment of 150 drums(40 tons) of imported honey was rejected in 2009 and has been standing outside at HEPRO ever since. The inspectors for national health rejected the honey due to the presence of antibiotics. These drums are rusting, collapsing and starting to leak honey. It is DAFF's responsibility to attend to the destruction of this honey. DAFF has been contacted numerous times and still nothing has been done. We will continue to harass DAFF until they destroy the honey and honor their mandate.

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