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January 4, 2023
DCB / Umpqua Valley Beekeepers Association
Abby's Pizza Annex

Call to order 6:00 PM – Adrian

Welcome to the first 2023 DCB/UMVBKA meeting January 4, 2023. We have a new board, and we have a lot to talk about. There are some different directions we want to take the club, and want you to remember this is your club as much as ours.

Intro of Board:

President: Adrian Aramburu

Vice President: Charley Moyer

Secretary: Kim Kinney

Treasurer: Cynthia Moyer

Chairs: Event: Ivory Los Banos

Swarms: Ian Fuller

Community Liaison: Tony Beerbohm

Social Media: Cynthia Moyer

Membership Coordinator: Ann Fuller

Education: Kim Kinney

Discussion of topics club membership would like to explore:

Hands-on team building, bonfires/social events, sharing hives, field trips, something during “key” times of the year, coming along on swarm catches, pop-up laundry hamper as swarm box container. As part of community involvement, the club will order business cards for everyone to be able to hand out with the club’s contact info. Everyone can be involved with community education and outreach.

Treasurer’s report: Attached document

Reports from Chairs:

Swarms: Ian – swarms / cutouts : Ian has been beekeeping a couple of years and has Layens and Langstroth hives. He’s creating a list of people interested in swarms and those interested in getting more education in how to get a swarm. The process of how we will handle swarm notifications is still in the process.

Cutouts : Cutouts by the club are problem for a lot of reasons: tearing a building apart and not putting back together, angry bees causing injury, Douglas County is huge area for a small club to cover, multiple hazards exist from cutting into older buildings. We are dividing the county into regions and creating POCs for outreach, especially in outlying areas. Three people on coast, some from Lane Co. This will cut

down on costs and be healthier for the bees. We want to attract people that want to get swarms and learn about it. Our website will have a resource area for people willing to take on responsibility for liability of the cutout, but not the club.

Events chair: Ivory – The club did a lot of events last year (11), many with observation hives. We'll decide as a club which ones we want to do in 2023 based on interest of members. Our intent is education and community service, get our name out there to let people know we have a service to offer, and educate the public on pollinators, primarily the honeybee. Our focus will no longer be soliciting donations.

Education: Kim – we are going to have continuing education, calling it Winter Beek's and Summer Beek's academies (WBA, SBA). I'm asking for what topics the membership is interested in to start and get it going again.

Social media/Website: Cynthia – developing new and improved Facebook and website.

Community liaison: Tony – No report, as the year is beginning. The club will get Tony and others business cards soon.

OLD BUSINESS: 1/18/23

New Business:

- Name change : Umpqua Valley Beekeepers Association
- Adding emails and improved phone contact through Gmail to improve communication
- Changing and improving our social media footprint: website, Facebook
- Bylaws – email old and new to compare and will vote in March
- New board member position – Membership director: will develop a lending library, maintaining and emailing club roster, coordinating desire for a coach/mentor, coordinating your interests in bees

Beek questions and answers:

- Success of cutouts and swarms – depends on a lot of variables
- Swarm/cutout: How long do you keep them locked up, keep your queen blocked
- Mr. Lee (Harvard) boot repair, over hundred hives, invite him to come talk
- Equipment –
 - Dean and Rick have a bee vacuum that they'll go with people to help with swarms/cutouts
- Are we still meeting here? We are coordinating with courthouse / OSU Extension building

Next Board Meeting: All members are invited to attend. Minutes will be sent to the membership
January 18, 2023
Abby's Pizza Annex
6:00 PM

Next General Membership meeting:

February 1, 2023

Abby's Pizza Annex

6:00 PM

Meeting adjourned: 7:15 PM

2022 Transition – Douglas County Bees, a 501(c)3 nonprofit in Douglas County
Report for the Board of Directors meeting
January 18, 2023

Summary:

In 2022, **Beau Miakinkoff** was secretary/treasurer, and her husband **Robert Baune** was president of Douglas County Bees. All of these issues were brought before the Oregon Department of Justice, and their evaluations of these actions to the board are in red, according to ORS 65, governance for nonprofits.

In 2022, they

- 🔊 **Took \$2600.22 overpayment in January for a mileage payment** and refused to fix this error when it was brought to their attention. They claim 6,191 miles but prepared the check at \$0.56 a mile (\$3466.96), which was the federal business rate. When members pointed out that it should have been paid at the charitable rate of \$0.14 per mile (\$866.74), Miakinkoff first said she didn't know about the charitable rate, but then said (in writing) that Baune deserved all of it and more, doubling down on the fact that they don't see it as blatant theft. *This is theft.*
- 🔊 **Moved the club's website into their own private business website as a page**, therefore anyone who went to the club's website, ended up on theirs where they have many products and services for sale. *This is illegal.*
- 🔊 **Paid for the domain names** (DouglasCountyBees.com and DouglasCountyBees.org) with their own money, stated in the March 2022 minutes that they did that and that would give ownership back to the club at the end of the year as a donation – but as of January 1, 2023, they have stated that they are keeping the domain names, as well as the website, and have claimed that everything on the website page for the club is now theirs. In fact, when we told her that we had downloaded all the meeting minutes from the club's website, she accused us of theft, because everything on her website "belongs" to her. How do OUR meeting minutes belong to her? *This is theft.*
- 🔊 **They changed the Gmail account password** – an account that has existed for the club since before they were in office – and refused to give the vice president, a member of the board, the password when asked several times over the course of the second half of the year. *This is illegal.*
- 🔊 **They have never provided a member roster to anyone**, including the vice president, even when asked many, many times for this information. *This is illegal.*
- 🔊 **Yearly election was in October 2022** – the bylaws currently state that only "members in good standing (attended 6 meetings and helped with two events)" were allowed to vote. Miakinkoff refused to tell us who was in good standing. She said there were 18 members out of the 76 paid members who were allowed to vote, but we had no idea who they were. Miakinkoff and Baune obviously fully expected to win their seats again, but we overturned the election and now have three new officers, with the vice president staying in his position. A week after the election and again in December, Miakinkoff claimed the election was "illegal" because two of the people voted in were not "In good standing" at the time of the election. The bylaws specifically say, "All officers are to be good standing members of DCB," which sounds like when they are officers –

they are not officers at the time of the election. BUT – we had NO WAY TO KNOW who was in good standing before the meeting anyway. Miakinkoff rattled off the 18 names at the beginning of the vote so quickly that it was impossible to even write them down. *Not providing a roster prior to the election, noting who was eligible to vote is illegal.*

- 🐝 **Miakinkoff updated the bylaws twice**, in March 2022 and September 2022, and there was no vote of the membership to do this. In fact, by her own thinking, we would have not been able to vote on anything in March because there are no “members in good standing” until at least the July meeting. We do not know what the bylaws looked like before March 2022, no one has a copy. *This is illegal. Updates to the bylaws are to be voted on by the membership.*
- 🐝 **Miakinkoff has taken the club’s Facebook page**, changed the name to her new group and as of this writing, has never told anyone on that page that she is no longer a member of this group. *Not illegal, but incredibly deceptive to followers of the page.*
- 🐝 **Her new group** is called “Douglas County Beekeepers” instead of our club’s name of “Douglas County Bees” – an attempt, we’re sure, to confuse any and all members of the public to think she is still running our club. *Shady. Jeopardizes our use of “Douglas County Bees” in the future.*
- 🐝 At some point, **Miakinkoff cancelled the P.O. Box of the club**, and forwarded the mail to their private home. *Shady.*
- 🐝 **They used our club multiple times to advertise their beehives for sale** – by first placing our nonprofit website inside their for-profit website (see above), and again at the Douglas County Fair when they put the club’s booth together. They included Baune’s hives as a demonstration, along with a few other types of hives, but inside their hive was a full page telling everyone how to buy one. That’s advertisement. Miakinkoff also took over the fall bee school and the first presentation was supposed to be about which type of hive to get, but it’s a blatant advertisement for the three top bar hives that Baune makes, telling students other hives are bad for bees. She was told that including Baune’s hive info in the presentation was a conflict of interest, but she assured us it was not. It is. *This is illegal.*
- 🐝 **As part of our affiliation with the Oregon State Beekeepers Association, we are supposed to work to support the OSBA as well as the OSU Honey Bee Lab and associated science.** Miakinkoff stated continually, in person and in writing, that she refuses to support OSU because they don’t support us (not true), she complains about sending OSBA their yearly dues, she said she would not include anything about treatments in her bee school, or very little about Langstroth hives – the most common beehive available. In fact, more than one member has gone to her to ask for a member’s number to get help with their Langstroth hives, and her answer is always for them to throw away their Langstroths and buy top bar hives – which happen to be the hives her husband builds and sells. *None of this is illegal, but it is gatekeeping and unethical and goes against our affiliation with the OSBA.*

After the election, Miakinkoff and Baune were unavailable and refused to communicate with us as adults. We would email questions, trying to transition to the new board so we could have everything in place by January 1, but she refused to give us anything during that time.

We contacted the Oregon State Beekeepers Association to let them know what was happening. They agreed the mileage overpayment amounts to theft, but without a lawyer, we'd probably never see that money again. They advised us to contact the Oregon Department of Justice, to, at the very least, go on record so that the state knows what happened, to avoid our own legal issues should this ever come up again.

On Tuesday, December 13, 2022, Cynthia Moyer spoke with Oregon Department of Justice Investigator Frank Najer, and he agreed that the amount of money they took wasn't worth a legal battle, but to report back on what happened January 1 – the final date for Miakinkoff and Baune had to return everything that belongs to the club – physical and digital.

As of January 1, and now January 17 when writing this, Miakinkoff has still not provided:

- A member roster
- The Gmail account password
- ANY financial records during their time in office (2020, 2021, 2022)
- ANY receipts, paperwork, anything associated with running this club from 2020-2022
- The website domain
- The club's website is still inside their website
- The Facebook page was stolen
- The Amazon Smiles account was cancelled and we're in the process of reinstating it
- The Fred Meyer Rewards information
- The Square reader disk or any of that information, if it exists or not

We literally have nothing from them, and Miakinkoff used our club's roster twice after January 1 to email our members. *This is illegal*. We have no idea if she plans to use our members' contacts for her own gain somehow.

We as a group felt it may come to this following the October election, so our new information is:

UMPQUA VALLEY BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 924, Roseburg OR 97470

Swarm hotline: (541) 236-4732

Business line: (541) 236-5952

UVBABoard@Gmail.com

UmpquaValleyBeekeepers@Gmail.com

Our website will be at: UmpquaValleyBeekeepers.org

But we have also secured UmpquValleyBeekeepers.com

Our 2023 Board of Directors:

President Adrian Aramburu
Vice President Charley Moyer
Secretary Kimberly Kinney
Treasurer Cynthia Moyer

Chairpersons:

Events: Ivory Los Banos
Education: Kim Kinney
Social Media: Cynthia Moyer
Membership Coordinator: Ann Fuller
Swarms: Ian Fuller
Community Liaison: Tony Beerbohm





Transition Dates:

December 8, 2022: Umpqua Bank account was moved to the new board members: Adrian Aramburu and Cynthia Moyer. Charley Moyer was already on the account, and Miakinkoff was not needed for this transition at all.

January 1, 2022: All documents presenting the takeover by the former board members were turned over to the Oregon Department of Justice because our property was not returned by this date.

January 2, 2022: Application filed at the Oregon Secretary of State for new name, new officers, and new agent on record for the club.

As of January 17, 2023, the name change has not occurred yet, but when the name is officially changed, the club will be notifying:

-  Umpqua Bank, and ordering new checks
-  Oregon State Beekeepers Association
-  When filing federal/state tax documents for 2022
-  All festival contacts

As of February 8, 2023, the agent of record and the board of directors' names have been updated at the Oregon Secretary of State. The name change has not quite gone through, but it should happen at any time.