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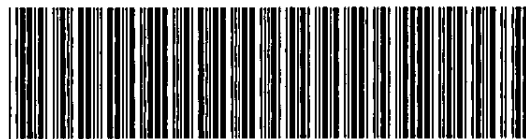
(Business Entity Name)

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SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32307

T. Burch MAY 24 2012

COVER LETTER

Department of State
Division of Corporations
P. O. Box 6327
Tallahassee, FL 32314

SUBJECT: Ridge Beekeepers Association, Inc.
(PROPOSED CORPORATE NAME - MUST INCLUDE SUFFIX)

Enclosed is an original and one (1) copy of the Articles of Incorporation and a check for :

☐ \$70.00
Filing Fee

☒ \$78.75
Filing Fee &
Certificate of
Status

☐ \$78.75
Filing Fee
& Certified Copy

☐ \$87.50
Filing Fee,
Certified Copy
& Certificate

ADDITIONAL COPY REQUIRED

FROM: Russell C. Hart, Trustee
Name (Printed or typed)

P.O. Box 7784
Address

Winter Haven, FL 33883-7784
City, State & Zip

863.207.2188
Daytime Telephone number

russell@rchart.biz
E-mail address: (to be used for future annual report notification)

NOTE: Please provide the original and one copy of the articles.

Articles of Incorporation

In Compliance with Chapter 617, F.S., (Not for Profit)

Article I Name

The name of the corporation shall be: **Ridge Beekeepers Association, Inc.**

Article II Principal Office

The principal street address is: 400 N. Orange Ave.
Ft. Meade, FL 33841

Article III Purpose

1. The corporation is organized exclusively for charitable, educational, and scientific purposes, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.
2. The Association shall be to promote the common interests and general welfare of beekeeping.
3. Act as an educational resource in the development and promotion of beekeeping and its methods to the public and community and foster the best practices and techniques in apiary management.
4. Act in the interest of domesticated bees and their beekeepers in protecting and conducting beekeepers affairs.
5. Act as the representative of the Ridge Beekeepers Association members before State, and National beekeeping organizations.
6. Encourage all members to interact positively and pro-actively with State of Florida apiary officials, commercial beekeepers, beekeeping supply houses, federal agricultural officials, university researchers, and the elected representatives and citizens of Polk County Florida.

Article IV Manner of Election

The manner in which the directors are elected or appointed is provided in the bylaws of the corporation.

Article V Initial Directors and/or Officers

Name and Title: David Smith Pres/Dir
Address: 8331 N. Carey
Litha, FL 33547

Name and Title: Richard Cochran VP/Dir
Address: 2680 Brooke Rd., N
Ft. Meade, FL 33841

Name and Title: Russell Gant Treas/Dir
Address: 400 N. Orange Ave.
Ft. Meade, FL 333841

Name and Title: Jonelle Cochran Sec/Dir
Address: 2680 Brooke Rd., N
Ft. Meade, FL 33841

Name and Title: Bert Kelley Dir
Address: 115 Patten Heights St.
Lakeland, FL 33803

Article VI Limitations

No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its members, trustees, officers, or other private persons, except that the corporation shall be authorized and

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TALLAHASSEE, FL 32399

empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in Article III hereof.

No substantial part of the activities of the corporation shall be the carrying on of propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements) any political campaign on behalf of or in opposition to any candidate for public office.

Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, this corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

Article VII Dedication of Assets

Upon the dissolution, termination, or winding up of the corporation, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a Court of Competent Jurisdiction of the county in which the principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said Court shall determine, which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

Article VIII Initial Registered Agent and Street Address

Name: Russell C. Hart, TTEE
Address: 2000 Executive Road, West
Winter Haven, FL 33884

Article IX Incorporator

Name: Russell C. Hart, TTEE
Address: P.O. Box 7784
Winter Haven, FL 33883-7784

Having been named as registered agent to accept service of process for the above stated corporation at the place designated in this certificate, I am familiar with and accept the appointment as registered agent and agree to act in this capacity.

Signature of Registered Agent Russell C. Hart, TTEE Date 5/18/2012

I submit this document and affirm that the facts stated herein are true. I am aware that any false information submitted in a document to the Department of State constitutes a third degree felony as provided for in s.817.155, F.S.

Signature of Incorporator Russell C. Hart, TTEE Date 5/18/2012

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