

Midway Extension District #15
November 14, 2024 Meeting Minutes
Russell 4-H Building, 6:30pm

The regular monthly meeting of the Midway Extension District board meeting was called to order by President Gaylon Walter on November 14, 2024 at 6:30pm at the Russell 4-H Building. Board members present were Marcia Blundon, Justin Hlaus, Melinda Olson, Virginia Vetter and Amy Westerman with Gunnar Hays joining at 6:40pm. All extension agents were present.

Agenda items were approved with the correction of moving new business item a) 2023 Financial Audit to be discussed before agent reports by Amy Westerman and Virginia Vetter seconded. The vote passed unanimously. Amy Westerman moved to approve the consent agenda, Melinda Olson seconded and the vote passed unanimously.

Alex with Adams Brown presented his firm's audit of the 2023 Fiscal Year of the Midway District. Melinda Olson approved the audit, Marcia Blundon seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

All agents presented their monthly reports. Melinda Olson from the Board Excellence Committee reminded the board about the Board Leadership that needs to be completed. Amy Westerman moved to approve both agent and committee reports, Marcia Blundon seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

In unfinished business, Clinton Laflin presented quotes on three vehicles to the board to replace the old van. Virginia Vetter moved to go to Ehler Chevrolet to look at the 2025 Chevrolet Trax Lt and see if it meets the requirements on space – if so the agents have the go ahead to purchase the vehicle. Melinda Olson seconded and the motion carried unanimously. Clinton and Gaylon will go early next week to get the vehicle.

Craig Dinkel gave the board an update on his Farm Bureau Casten Fellows program and the time requirements it will take to complete. Time away during working hours will be two days in December in Manhattan, KS and 10-14 days internationally and falls in professional development and can allow Craig to network with other ag professionals. Amy Westerman approved to allow Craig to use professional development time to attend this program for two days in state travel and 10-14 out of state travel. Gunnar Hays seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Gaylon recapped the Midway District Goal Setting and Needs discussion that was held at the last meeting. The agents will go over this and present their goals at the next meeting.

In new business, Karrie Van Winkle presented the clubs that need their financials reviewed. Justin Hlaus moved to approve the financials on Ellsworth clubs Ash Creek, County Liners, Elkhorn, Trying Tommies, Wilson Winners, Midway District Shooting Sports – Ellsworth County, Junior Leaders, and 4-H Council; and Russell clubs Big Creek, Lone Star, Sunflower, and Wolf Creek Valley. Marcia Blundon seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Karrie Van Winkle also presented 4-H Volunteers that need board approval. Melinda Olson moved to approve Camille Beckman, Sherri Howard, Lindsey Huseman, Matt Jundt, Stephen Mueting, Lindsey Mueting, Chuck Norris, Tobina Norris, Paula Svaty-Gray, Sarah Maske, Judy Robbins, Janella Eck, Rodney Eck, and Erin Cook. Virginia Vetter seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Agents recommended Ellsworth Packing, the Jake and Kim Schneider family, to be recipients of the district KSRE Appreciation award. Virginia Vetter moved to have Ellsworth Packing receive the KSRE Appreciation award with a meal provided for the family, board and agents at the next board meeting by the Smoking Barrell in Ellsworth and a trophy or plaque purchased through Star Dust costing about \$25. Justin Hlaus seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Karrie Van Winkle presented the Big Creek Fundraising Form that needs approval which goes towards senior scholarships and a memorial dog park. Marcia Blundon moved to approve the club's fundraiser and Melinda Olson seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Jessica Kootz updated the board on K-State procedures on holiday time off. Justin Hlaus moved to approve time off for agents and extension staff to be off from December 24th through January 1st. Gunnar Hays seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Amy Westerman approved the 2025 holiday schedule that follows the same off days as the year's past. Gunnar Hays seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Gunnar Hays moved to go into executive session to discuss non-elected personal and performance for ten minutes with all board members present and Jessica Kootz. Melinda Olson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The board went into session at 9:06pm and exited at 9:16pm. Gunnar Hays moved to reenter executive session to discuss non-elected personnel with all board members and Jessica Kootz present. Melina Olson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The board enter session at 9:17pm and exited at 9:22pm.

Gunnar Hays moved to enter executive session for fifteen minutes to discuss non-elected personnel with only board members present. Marcia Blundon seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The board entered session at 9:25pm and exited at 9:40pm. Melinda Olson moved to extend executive session 10 minutes, Marcia Blundon seconded and the motion passed. The board entered executive session at 9:40pm and exited at 9:45pm. Amy Westerman moved to increase all agent salaries by 2% effective January 1, 2025. Marcia Blundon seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Marcia Blundon moved to adjourn the meeting and Virginia Vetter seconded.

Gaylon Walter, President

Amy Westerman, Secretary