

**Midway Extension District #15
Ellsworth and Russell Counties
Regular Monthly Meeting – April 11, 2024
6:30pm at the Ellsworth County Courthouse**

The regular monthly meeting of the Midway Extension District #15 was held on Thursday April 11, 2024 at 6:30pm. Chairman Gaylon Walter called the meeting to order. Other board members in attendance were Marcia Blundon, Gunnar Hays, Justin Hlaus, Melinda Olson, Virginia Vetter and Amy Westerman. Extension agents in attendance were Jessica Kootz, Craig Dinkel, Clinton Laflin and Karrie Van Winkle.

Melinda Olson approved the agenda without any corrections, Marcia Blundon seconded and the motion carried unanimously. Marcia Blundon approved the consent agenda items with no corrections or amendments, Amy Westerman seconded and the motion passed unanimously. All four agents presented their monthly reports and there were no committee reports. Gunnar Hays approved the reports, Virginia Vetter seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business

- a) Jessica Kootz gave the board an update on the 4-H Summer Intern Program. Both interns accepted the position, Sophie Pancost and Lexi West. They will go to Wichita for training in May with Karrie Van Winkle.

New Business

- a) Karrie Van Winkle presented the new fair book changes for both Ellsworth and Russell counties. Gunnar Hays moved to approve the fair book changes as presented, Marcia Blundon seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- b) Karrie Van Winkle discussed details from the last Ellsworth County 4-H PDC meeting. The winner of the fair book cover contest which theme is "Picture Yourself in 4-H" was won by Camrie Kasper. The committee discussed how to get 4-H into the schools by partnering with FFA for Ag in the Classroom and presenting at monthly FFA meetings.
- c) Virginia Vetter and Karrie Van Winkle lead the discussion on the Russell County 4-H PDC meeting. They discussed the changes in the fair schedule and fair book changes with the committee in favor of the State Fair additions. They included the change in the non-livestock silent auction to allow participants to sell 2 entries. They also discussed getting 4-H into Russell County schools but with major changes in Russell schools they will continue to brainstorm.
- d) Craig Dinkel discussed getting 2 new tires with quotes from the Ellsworth Coop. Virginia Vetter approved for Craig to purchase two Hercules tires quoted at \$235.00 per tire, Gunnar Hays seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- e) Jessica Kootz discussed a half day closure of the Ellsworth offices on May 3, 2024 from 1-5pm for all agents and Ellsworth office professionals to participate in the Big Kansas Road Trip. The Russell office professional will remain in office as regularly scheduled. Gunnar Hays approved the request, Amy Westerman seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- f) Jessica Kootz and Clinton Laflin discussed the Master Farm Family Nominations. Nominations are due May 10 and the board agreed to nominate Green Garden Angus for selection.

- g) Craig Dinkel discussed traveling to Kansas Farm Bureau Communications, Media and Spokesperson Training on April 23 and the 24th in Lawrence. The only cost would be travel. Melinda Olson approved the request, Marcia Blundon seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session

No executive session was taken.

Gaylon Walter provided the announcements. The next meeting will be by May 9, 2024 at the Russell County 4-H Building at 7:00pm. The next KSRE partnership meeting will be by April 23, 2024 in person.

Melinda Olson moved to adjourn the meeting, Gunnar Hays seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Gaylon Walter, Chairman

Amy Westerman, Secretary