

Midway Extension District #15
February 13, 2025 Meeting Minutes
Zoom, 6:00pm

The regular monthly meeting of the Midway Extension District board meeting was called to order by President Gaylon Walter on February 13, 2025 at 6:00pm. Board members present were Marcia Blundon, Gunnar Hays, Melinda Olson, Julie Nienke, Virginia Vetter and Amy Westerman. Jessica Kootz, Craig Dinkel, Clinton Laflin and Karrie Van Winkle were also present.

Julie Nienke moved to approve the agenda as presented, Melinda Olson seconded and the vote passed unanimously. Amy Westerman moved to approve the consent agenda items with the correction to the minutes of changing the date from January 10, 2024 to January 10, 2025 and Marcia Blundon seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

All agents presented their monthly reports. Julie Nienke moved to approve agent reports, Melinda Olson seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

In unfinished business, Jessica Kootz reported on the progress on Midway District goals which include Water, Childcare, and Marketing. Craig Dinkel discussed Kansas State Water Table Goals at the Ellsworth County Conservation meeting. Jessica Kootz is working with Melinda Olson on working through ideas to get more daycare options in Russell and working with Central Plains schools. Flyers are being more widely discussed in Ellsworth. Before March's meeting, all board members are going to review the Midway District website and give inputs on what could be changed or updated.

Jessica Kootz gave a report on continued QuickBooks discussions. Amy Westerman moved to go with Quickbooks Online Plus only for \$855.36/year and Rutika will process payroll manually for the four hourly employees. Marcia Blundon seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Craig Dinkel discussed with the board funding for Casten Fellows. Marcia Blundon moved to fund \$500 to Craig's Casten Fellows program. Virginia Vetter seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

In new business, Gaylon Walter and Jessica Kootz gave a recap on the KSRE Partnership Meeting. Board excellence was discussed

Jessica Kootz led the board through Civil Rights & Parity Review. Board members from tonight's meeting will need to sign the Parity Review.

Jessica Kootz and Clinton Laflin discussed Master Farm Family nominations for 2025 that is due on May 9th. Green Garden Angus is nominated for the 2025 Master Farm Family from discussions last spring. If they pass on the opportunity, we will discuss a new family at the next meeting. Jessica Kootz and Karrie Van Winkle will look into finding plaques to display past Master Farm Families from both counties.

Jessica Kootz shared which board members terms will be up in 2025. The deadline to apply to be on the ballot is June 2nd at noon. Julie Nienke and Gunnar Hays from Ellsworth Marcia Blundon and Gaylon Walter from Russell terms will be up for reelection or to step off the board.

Marica Blundon moved to enter executive session to discuss matters of non-elected personnel to discuss personnel performance for 10 minutes with all board members and agents present. Melinda Olson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Executive session was entered at 7:55pm and exited at 8:05pm. No action was taken. Virginia Vetter moved to extend executive session to discuss matters of non-elected personnel to discuss personnel performance by 5 minutes with all board members and agents present. Melinda Olson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Executive session was entered at 8:06pm and exited at 8:11pm. No action was taken. Marcia Blundon moved to extend executive session to discuss matters of non-elected personnel to discuss personnel performance by 2 minutes with all board members and agents present. Melinda Olson seconded and the motion passed unanimously. Executive session was entered at 8:14pm and exited at 8:16pm. No action was taken.

Julie Nienke moved to adjourn the meeting and Marcia Blundon seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Gaylon Walter, President

Amy Westerman, Secretary