

Midway Extension District # 15
January 8, 2026 Meeting Minutes
Russell County 4-H Building, 6:00 pm

The monthly meeting of the Midway Extension District board was called to order by President Gaylon Walter on January 8, 2026 at 6:00pm. Board members present: Gaylon Walter, Marcia Blundon, Melinda Olson, Chadd Stevenson, Daron Stevenson, Erin Cook, and Mariana Kinnard. Members present via Zoom: Gunner Hays and Justin Hlaus. Also present: Craig Dinkel and Raine Bradshaw. Jessica Kootz attended via Zoom due to illness.

Marcia Blundon moved and Melinda Olson seconded to accept the agenda as presented. Motion carried. Marcia moved and Gunner Hays seconded to move election of Midway Board Member officers from New Business to the beginning of the meeting. Motion passed.

Melinda moved and Marcia seconded to cast a unanimous ballot for; Mariana Kinnard as President, Melinda Olson as Vice President, Amy Westerman as Secretary and Justin Hlaus as Treasurer. Motion carried.

Melinda moved and Daron Stevenson seconded to approve consent agenda and minutes with spelling corrections and the addition of Aliesa Good attending via Zoom. Motion carried.

Craig and Raine gave Agent reports. Jessica due to illness did not report. There were no committee reports.

Justin Hlaus moved and Erin Cook seconded to accept agents and committee reports. Motion carried.

Unfinished Business:

Jessica reported that the Ellsworth office situation was still on hold. The 2027 rent would be \$3,600.

Midway board training would remain in unfinished business.

Metrics for Merit would remain in unfinished business, but as per December minutes was not tied to raises.

New Business:

Craig requested a review of Memorandum of Understanding. Melinda moved and Mariana seconded to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with KSU. Motion carried.

Mariana moved and Erin seconded to approve the GAAP Waiver. Motion carried.

Melinda moved and Chadd Stevenson seconded to retain Citizens State Bank as Midway District Funds Depository and to add Chadd Stevenson, Erin Cook, Daron Stevenson, and Mariana Kinnard to the bank signature card. Also, to remove outgoing members; Gaylon Walter, Gunner Hays, Julie Nienke, and Marcia Blundon from the signature card.

Melinda moved and Daron seconded to set the Midway Extension meeting date for the second Wednesday of the month at 6:30 pm. Motion carried.

Melinda moved and Daron seconded to approve inventory items over \$500.00 with the addition of Training Wheels located in the Russell office. Motion passed.

Craig reviewed the Director position hiring process. Daron moved and Chad seconded to not exceed \$500.00 in the advertisement of the Midway Director position. Motion carried.

Raine presented the board with a salary renegotiation request. Melinda moved and Mariana seconded to enter into Executive session including board and Craig for the purpose of discussing non-elected personnel for 15 minutes, from 7:47-8:00 pm. Motion carried. Mariana discussed with Raine that data driven evidence would need to be submitted to the board as to time invested in livestock, at the conclusion of the interim period. Also, all species would have designated times and places for spring weigh-in and tagging.

Melinda moved and Mariana seconded to enter into Executive Session for 15 minutes, from 8:12-8:27 pm to discuss non-elected personnel and to include Craig and the board. Melinda moved and Daron seconded to accept the Memorandum of Understanding for the Interim director position. Motion carried.

Erin moved and Daron seconded to have the next board meeting February 12,2026 @ 6:00pm at the Ellsworth Courthouse, and begin the Second Wednesday meeting time in March due to a February scheduling conflict. Motion passed.

Melinda moved and Daron seconded to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:33 pm.

Mariana Kinnard, President

Melinda Olson, Acting Secretary