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BOARD OF EQUALIZATION PROCEEDINGS – November 20, 2023
(edited – official proceedings on file Clerk’s office)

A meeting of the Board of Equalization of Stanton County, Nebraska was held in the open and public session on November 20, 2023, at 8:00 AM in the County Commissioner’s room in Stanton, Nebraska.

Present upon roll call were: Douglas Huttman, Dennis Kment and Duane Rehak, Board of Equalization. Wanda Heermann, County Clerk and Cheryl Wolverton, County Assessor, were also present.

Advance notice of the meeting was given by publication in the Stanton Register on November 8, 2023, a copy of the proof of publication being attached to these minutes.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance to the Board members, a copy of their acknowledgement of the receipt of notice and the agenda being attached to these minutes.

All proceedings hereinafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM by Chairman Kment, who announced that the open meetings act is posted on the wall in the commissioner’s room and a copy may be obtained from the county clerk’s office upon request.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Rehak to approve the agenda. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Rehak and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Rehak to approve the minutes of October 16, 2023, meeting. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Rehak and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Kment to recess the Board of Equalization meeting and open the Board of Commissioners meeting. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Kment and Rehak. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

The chairman re-opened the Board of Equalization meeting at 10:15 AM.

Cheryl Wolverton, county assessor, presented and explained the correction sheets for the month.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Rehak to approve and authorize the chairman to sign the correction sheets numbered 2023-22 to 2023-23 and place them on file. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Rehak and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

There were no listings of clerical errors needing approval.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Rehak to adjourn and set the next meeting for December 18, 2023, at 8:00 AM. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Rehak and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

/s/ Dennis Kment, Chairman, Board of Equalization, Stanton County, Nebraska
Attest: /s/ Wanda Heermann, County Clerk

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COMMISSIONER’S PROCEEDINGS – November 20, 2023
(edited – official proceedings on file Clerk’s office)

A meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Stanton County, Nebraska was held in the open and public session on November 20, 2023, at 8:15 AM in the County Commissioner’s room in Stanton, Nebraska.

Present upon roll call were: Douglas Huttman, Dennis Kment and Duane Rehak, Board of Commissioners. Wanda Heermann, County Clerk was also present.

Advance notice of the meeting was given by publication in the Stanton Register on November 8, 2023, a copy of the proof of publication being attached to these minutes.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance to the Board members, a copy of their acknowledgement of the receipt of notice and the agenda being attached to these minutes.

All proceedings hereinafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America the meeting was called to order at 8:15 AM by Chairman Kment, who announced that the open meetings act is posted on the wall in the Commissioner’s room and a copy may be obtained from the County Clerk’s office upon request.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Rehak to approve the agenda. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Rehak and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Rehak to approve the minutes of October 16, 2023, meeting. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Rehak and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

The following correspondence was reviewed and placed on file: Pohlman family – thank you; Candace Meredith, NACO – NACO FY2022-2023 report; NNSWC – NNSWC Annual Report; NNSWC – Landfill Site Observations; Road Groom Mfg – information brochure; Martin Marietta – price change.

The NIRMA Recommitment Resolution was reviewed. Stanton County will extend its commitment to participate in NIRMA/NIRMA II for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027 (three-year membership).

Motion made by Kment, seconded by Rehak to approve Resolution 2023.11-23 for recommitment to participate in NIRMA/NIRMA II for another three-year period. Voting: Ayes: Kment, Rehak and Huttman. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Amy Topp, University Nebraska Extension Zone Coordinator, and Kim Bearnes, Stanton County Extension Educator, joined the meeting to discuss the updated Interlocal Agreement for the Provision of Cooperative Extension Services and the Nebraska Extension Constitution and Bylaws for Nebraska Extension in Stanton County. Discussion was held on the updated agreement, the role of the extension office and the extension office budget.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Rehak to approve and authorize the chairman to sign the Interlocal Agreement for the Provision of Cooperative Extension Services and the Nebraska Extension Constitution and Bylaws for Nebraska Extension in Stanton County. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Rehak and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

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Interlocal Agreement for the Provision of Cooperative Extension Services / Constitution / ByLaws
[copy of Agreement, Constitution and ByLaws on file in County Clerk's office]
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Tom Schellpeper, member of the Stanton County Fair Board, appeared and updated the board and informed the board the bid received to remodel the floral hall is no longer viable and no other bids have been obtained. Tom advised the board a new building (40'x60') could be built for about \$120,000. Discussion was held on remodeling the floral hall or building a new building. The board received comments on the fair activities, camp sites, loan payment and insurance cost. Tom advised the board that Ron Tejkl and Greg Podany have retired from the Fair Board and that Blake Furstenau and Amber Andersen have been appointed to replace them.

Appearing on behalf of North Fork Area Transit were Julie Sweeney, General Manager; Corinne Donahue, NDOT Mobility Management Team; Miles Jenkinson, Operations Manager; and two (2) board members. North Fork Area Transit is a private non-profit agency which provides general public transit. Discussion continued on the 2024FY budget, local matching funds, fees charged, and services provided. North Fork Area Transit is requesting \$75,000 annually from Stanton County to continue service in the county. Ms. Donahue requested time on the December agenda to continue this discussion. The chairman indicated the December meeting was not available for a lengthy discussion and stated they could appear at the January 2024 meeting. Discussion to be placed on the January 16, 2024 meeting at 9:00 AM. No action was taken by the board.

Amber Happold appeared before the board to interview for the Interim County Assessor position. The board reviewed the employment application with Amber. Discussion was held on her qualifications and experience. The board thanked Ms. Happold for appearing and advised her she would be contacted later in the day as to their decision.

Joining the meeting were various elected and appointed officials to discuss the 2024 Holidays schedule. Sandy Zoubek, county treasurer, asked the board to consider closing for the Juneteenth Holiday because the federal and state governments are closed this day and if the state system fails there would be no one to call for assistance. She also stated the additional holiday was an added benefit to employees and the holiday would align with federal and state holidays. Discussion was held on the pros and cons of the additional holiday.

Motion made by Rehak, seconded by Huttmann to approve the county holidays for 2024 as follows: January 1 – New Year's Day; January 15 – Martin Luther King Day; February 19 – President's Day; April 26 – Arbor Day (Friday); May 27 – Memorial Day; June 19* – Juneteenth Day (Wednesday) [*recognized holiday – courthouse open – no paid day off*]; July 4 – Independence Day (Thursday); September 2 – Labor Day; October 14 – Columbus Day observed; November 11 – Veterans' Day; November 28 & 29 – Thanksgiving Holiday (Thursday & Friday); December 24 – Christmas Eve (1/2 day – close Noon) (Tuesday); December 25 – Christmas Day (Wednesday). Voting: Ayes: Rehak, Huttmann and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Huttmann, seconded by Rehak to recess the Board of Commissioners meeting and open the Board of Equalization meeting. Voting: Ayes: Huttmann, Rehak and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

The chairman re-opened the Board of Commissioners meeting at 10:30 AM.

Kylee Klug and Tony McPhillips, members of the safety committee, joined the meeting. Discussion was held on the road ditch obstructions and fences, repairs to courthouse sidewalk and stairs, courthouse parking, first aid kits and fire extinguisher training.

Kylee Klug, Planning and Zoning Administrator, updated the board on zoning issues. Discussion held on permit fees. No action needed by the board.

Ramsy Robertson, representative of Mainelli Wagner and Associates, joined the meeting. Discussion was held on various road and bridge projects within the county. Also discussed was the FEMA project [569 Ave/837 Rd – north of Elkhorn River (Wilke/Ray) and 837 Rd/568 Ave – south of Elkhorn River – (Wessel)] and the next step to proceed to file additional documentation for the costs of repair.

The board reviewed the utility permit received from Dale Becker to construct an electrical line under 832 Rd 1300' east of 563 Ave (permit to cross the road to the south only) located in the NW 13-22-1 in Union Creek Precinct. Discussion was held on the permit and proposed site.

Motion made by Huttmann, seconded by Kment to approve Utility Permit No. 20231120.01 for Dale Becker to construct an electrical line under 832 Rd 1300' east of 563 Ave (permit to cross the road to the south only starting at the power pole 1300' east of 563 Ave) located in the NW 13-22-1 in Union Creek Precinct and subject to the requirements and provision of the permit and with the following conditions: 1) the electrical line needs to be 4' (four feet) below the road and 4' (four feet) below any culvert, 2) all culverts are to be bored under, not cut through, 3) the road needs to be returned to its original condition or the cost for repairs to fix the damages will be billed to the applicant, 4) if additional gravel is needed on the road after construction the costs may be charged to the applicant, and 5) contact Darrell Hansen, bridge foreman, prior to beginning to be certain all culverts have been flagged and with any questions, or concerns. Voting: Ayes: Huttmann, Kment and Rehak. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Discussion held on the Year-End Certification of County Highway superintendent form which is the basis for determining 2023 incentive funds. The certification, meeting minutes appointing the county highway superintendent and resolution needs to be returned to the Nebraska DOT in order to qualify for annual incentive payments.

Motion made by Huttmann, seconded by Rehak to approve Resolution 2023.11-24 to authorize the chairman to sign the Year-End Certification of the County Highway Superintendent. Voting: Ayes: Huttmann, Rehak and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

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Year-End Certification of County Highway Superintendent [copy on file in County Clerk's office]
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The board reviewed the Memorandum of Understanding received from the Madison County Attorney in reference to the 2024-2025 Community Based Juvenile Services Grant application. The crime commission requires the county attorney and the chairman of the board to approve the agreement.

Motion made by Huttmann, seconded by Rehak to approve and authorize the chairman to sign the Memorandum of Understanding between the Madison County Attorney and Stanton County Attorney for the Nebraska Crime Commission's 2024-2025 Community Based Juvenile Services Grant application. Voting: Ayes: Huttmann, Rehak and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING [copy on file in County Clerk's office]
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Motion made by Rehak, seconded by Huttmann to approve for the month of October the Documentary Stamp Tax, co shr in the amount of \$940.91; County Clerk fees in the amount of \$2,113.00; P&M Fund fees in the amount of \$328.50; Misc Copy fees in the amount of \$14.00; Clerk of the District Court fees in the amount of \$56.13; Passport fees in the amount of \$70.00; County Treasurer's receipt of money received numbered 23700 – 23769, inclusive in the amount of \$1,011,466.21; County Treasurer's List Distress Warrants issued

October 31, 2023; County Sheriff 3rd Qu report; and place them on file. Voting: Ayes: Rehak, Huttman and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Rehak, seconded by Kment to approve the following Accounts Payable and Payroll claims as presented and order checks drawn on the various funds:

GENERAL FUND

Ameritas Retirement, ret-co shr, 9240.13;
Antelope Co Shf Dept, boarding etc, 8435.00;
Appeara, services, 333.39;
Applied Connective Tech, services, 2567.23;
Kim Bearnes, phone etc, 48.97;
Shawn Beaudette, services, 103.00;
Big Red Printing, supplies, 1431.16;
Black Hills Energy, utilities, 80.22;
Donna Bloom, mileage, 41.92;
BCBS, ins-co shr, 37575.06;
Card Services, meals etc, 76.56;
Gary Carson, dues, 135.00;
Consolidated Mgmt Co, meals, 43.25;
Cornhusker Auto Cntr, services, 362.60;
DAS State Acct, fees, 196.00;
Martha Detlefsen, prior service, 12.00;
Eakes Office, supplies, 555.16;
Egley Fullner Montag etal, atty fees, 447.15;
Ewalt Law Office, public defender, 3500.00;
Farmer's Coop, fuel, 1374.39;
First Concord Benefits, flex benefits fees, 40.00;
Floor Maintenance, supplies, 202.00;
Francotyp-Postalia, rental pymt, 395.40;
Friends of the Stanton Library, fund allotment, 5000.00;
Great America Finc, rental pymt, 270.50;
Great Plains Uniforms, supplies, 99.96;
Robert Hartl, mowing, 300.00;
Norfolk Daily News, services, 86.52;
IRS USA Tax Pymt, so sec tax-co shr, 10009.91;
Jack's Uniform Equip, supplies, 180.85;
Diane Kander, mileage etc, 256.68;
Kylee Klug, mileage, 53.71;
Kubat Pharmacy, prescriptions, 444.00;
Stanton Hardware, supplies, 35.98;
Walter Lammler Jr, mileage lodging, 439.12;
Lammler Locke Beaudette, office allow, 975.00;
Cory Locke, mileage, 282.96;
Luedeke Oil Co, services, 80.80;
Madison Co Shf, boarding etc, 5369.37;
Madison Natl Life Ins Co, ins-co shr, 33.54;
Janet Meyer, services, 45.00;
Mid-American Benefits, hra fees-co shr, 7997.50;
MIPS, fees, 2924.35;
Nebr Assoc Co Officials, dues, 1755.31;
Nebr Law Enf Train Cntr, meals, 100.00;
Lavern Newkirk, prior service, 17.00;
One Office, supplies, 2536.69;
Pilger Library, supplies, 91.99;
Pitzer Digital, services, 880.82;
Prime Sanitation, services, 39.75;
Stanton Auto Parts, services, 85.00;
Rita Roenfeldt, prior service, 20.00;
Stanton Co Clk Dist Crt, fees, 139.00;
Stanton Co Crt, fees, 525.00;
Stanton Co Imprest Acct, ach fees, 20.25;
Stanton Co PPD, utilities, 1458.54;
Stanton Telecom, services, 1861.60;
Stanton Water Sewer, utilities, 245.86;
Eric Stone, supplies, 145.55;
Stratton Delay Doele etal, atty fees, 5021.78;
Teeco, supplies, 71.90;
The Lil Store, fuel, 3590.56;
Thomson Reuters-West, supplies, 953.00;
Total Fire & Security, services, 400.00;
Mike Unger Co Shf, fees, 37.18;
Michael Unger, supplies, 66.68;
Univ Nebr Lincoln Extension-Stanton Co, phone, 45.02;
Verizon Wireless, service, 489.53;
Norman Weber, mowing, 300.00;
Winsupply, supplies, 81.48;
Cheryl Wolverson, reimburse fee, 75.00;
Sandra Zoubek Co Treas, transfers etc, 744996.06;

ROAD FUND

Advance Auto Parts, parts, 35.41;
AKRS Equip, supplies, 83.92;
Ameritas Retirement, ret-co shr, 4219.76;
Appeara, services, 87.66;
ATCO Intl, supplies, 415.60;
Backus Sand Gravel, gravel, 10304.16;
Behmer Trucking, hauling, 6075.00;
BCBS, ins-co shr, 23713.16;
Bomgaars, supplies, 1775.77;
K2 Concrete Leveling, services, 4858.00;
Century Link, services, 86.89;
Clarkson Plbg Htg, supplies, 99.62;

Janice Coates, prior service, 17.00;
Stanton Lumber, supplies, 97.60;
Johnson Trucking Sand Gravel, gravel, 428.86;
Doernemann Farm Service, supplies, 1712.06;
James Duncan, prior service, 16.00;
Farmer's Coop, fuel etc, 5455.44;
Fastenal Co, supplies, 1.78;
GI Trailer, tools, 4879.32;
Hoskins Mfg Co, supplies, 8.79;
IRS USA Tax Pymt, so sec tax-co shr, 4939.82;
Island Supply Welding, supplies, 146.82;
Kelly Supply, supplies, 255.46;
Kimball Midwest, supplies, 332.16;
Stanton Hardware, supplies, 50.92;
LG Everist, gravel, 887.33;
Leigh Motor Service, tools, 115.65;
Luedeke Oil Co, fuel etc, 18681.48;
Madison Natl Life Ins, ins-co shr, 8.64;
Mainelli Wagner Assoc, eng fees, 86588.97;
Martin Marietta Materials, gravel, 1049.90;
Meisinger Oil Co, supplies, 299.90;
Menards, supplies, 29.94;
Mid-American Benefits, hra fees-co shr, 4900.00;
Midwest Service Sales, supplies, 180.00;
NMC Exchange, services, 5791.36;
Norfolk Implement, parts, 218.80;
Pilger Store, fuel etc, 4272.17;
Powerplan, services, 5464.43;
Prime Sanitation, services, 50.00;
RDO Truck Centers, parts, 40.94;
Stanton Auto Parts, services, 1855.09;
Road Builders Mach Supply, services, 18552.69;
Rons Ag Auto Repair, services, 1742.89;
Stalp Gravel, gravel, 15415.74;
Stanley Petroleum Maintenance, services, 386.70;
Stanton Co PPD, utilities, 455.34;
Stanton Telecom, services, 225.86;
Stanton Water Sewer, utilities, 46.10;
Teeco, supplies, 26.25;
US Cellular, services, 133.94;
Verizon Connect Fleet, services, 823.40;
Village Pilger, utilities, 122.94;

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FUND

Ameritas Retirement, ret-co shr, 365.63;
Black Hills Energy, utilities, 39.91;
Eakes Office, supplies, 9.99;
Emergency Medical Products, supplies, 480.49;
Farmer's Coop, fuel, 106.24;
Fire Cam, fees, 1700.00;
Mike Frohberg, meals etc, 74.40;
IRS USA Tax Pymt, so sec tax-co shr, 513.77;
Stanton Hardware, supplies, 18.75;
Luedeke Oil Co, services, 138.24;
Madison Natl Life Ins, ins-co shr, 5.42;
Menards, supplies etc, 725.91;
Prime Sanitation, services, 12.50;
Sanitary Imp Dist 1, equip, 425.00;
Stanton Co PPD, utilities, 97.50;
Stanton Telecom, services, 70.49;
Stanton Water Sewer, utilities, 43.50;
The Lil Store, fuel, 797.37;
The Windshield Doctors, services, 16.80;
Sandra Zoubek Co Treas, fees, 20.00;

INHERITANCE TAX FUND

Stanton Co PPD, tower, 131.64;

EMERGENCY 911 FUND

Applied Connective Tech, equip, 500.00;
Town & Country, equip, 100.32;
City Norfolk, dispatching, 17488.39;
Stanton Telecom, utilities, 73.23;
Ryan Wehrle, install services, 3500.00;
Winsupply, HVAC equip, 3457.90;

Total aggregate salaries of all county employees \$204,818.01.
Voting: Ayes: Rehak, Kment and Huttmann. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Discussion continued on the Interim County Assessor Position.

Motion made by Huttmann, seconded by Rehak to offer the Interim County Assessor's Position to Amber Happold with an employment date of January 2, 2024 and instructed the County Clerk to contact Amber with the County Board's decision. Voting: Ayes: Huttmann, Rehak and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Huttmann, seconded by Rehak to adjourn and set the next meeting for December 18, 2023, at 8:15 AM. Voting: Ayes: Huttmann, Rehak and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

/s/ Dennis Kment, Chairman, Board of Commissioners, Stanton County, Nebraska
Attest: /s/ Wanda Heermann, County Clerk