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BOARD OF EQUALIZATION PROCEEDINGS – Thursday, January 4, 2024
(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 Thursday, January 4, 2024, 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, was also present.

Advance notice of the meeting was given by publication in the Stanton Register on December 20, 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.

The re-organizational meeting was held in open session by law and as per Statute.

Nominations opened for Chairman of the Board of Equalization. Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Rehak to nominate Dennis Kment for Chairman, that nominations cease, and Dennis Kment be elected by affirmation. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Rehak and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Nominations opened for Vice Chairman of the Board of Equalization. Motion made by Kment, seconded by Rehak to nominate Doug Huttman for Vice Chairman, that nominations cease, and Doug Huttman be elected by affirmation. Voting: Ayes: Kment, Rehak and Huttman. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Rehak, seconded by Huttman to adjourn and set the next meeting for Tuesday, January 16, 2024, at 8:00 AM. Voting: Ayes: Rehak, Huttman 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 – Thursday, January 4, 2024
(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 Thursday, January 4, 2024, 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 December 20, 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.

Anthony McPhillips, Veterans’ Service Officer, joined the meeting.

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.

The re-organizational meeting was held in open session by law and as per Statute.

Nominations opened for Chairman of the Board of Commissioners.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Rehak to nominate Dennis Kment for Chairman, that nominations cease, and Dennis Kment be elected by affirmation. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Rehak and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Nominations opened for Vice Chairman of the Board of Commissioners.

Motion made by Kment seconded by Rehak to nominate Doug Huttman for Vice Chairman, that nominations cease, and Doug Huttman be elected by affirmation. Voting: Ayes: Kment, Rehak and Huttman. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Sandy Zoubek, County Treasurer, joined the meeting.

Discussion held on the request received from Aaron Bos, Investment Services Director of Nebraska CLASS (Nebraska Cooperative Liquid Assets Securities system) to be added as an official depository for Stanton County with the County Treasurer. The consensus of the county board is to add Nebraska CLASS as a depository for Stanton County and that the resolution presented by Mr. Bos will not be signed.

The applications for County Depository Banks were reviewed. A Statement of Disclosure was given by Dennis Kment regarding the employment of his son, David Kment, at Stanton State Bank.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Rehak to approve the Resolution No. 2024.01-01 designating the depositories for Stanton County funds for 2024 in the following banks for the term beginning January 1, 2024 and ending December 31, 2024: Bank First, Norfolk NE; First Nebraska Bank, Stanton NE; Midwest Bank NA, Pierce, Pilger, Wisner NE; Stanton State Bank, Stanton NE; NPAIT, Lincoln NE; Nebraska CLASS. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Rehak and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Discussion was held on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs (NDVA) and Stanton County. Tony explained the reasoning for the amendment to extend the original NDVA VetraSpec agreement for two years (through December 31, 2025).

Motion made by Rehak, seconded by Huttman to approve and authorize the chairman to sign Amendment One of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs (NDVA) and Stanton County Nebraska effective through December 31, 2025. Voting: Ayes: Rehak, Huttman and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried. [Memorandum of Understanding between the Nebraska Department of Veterans' Affairs and Stanton County Nebraska – Amendment One on file in the County Clerk's office].

Committee appointments were discussed. Discussion was held on the need to appoint a county representative (non-elected) member to the NE Nebraska Department Economic Development.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Rehak to approve the appointments to various positions as follows: County Health Dept Board – Dennis Kment; County Health Dept Board – Tracey Jackson, county representative (non-elected); DOT regulations for Drug Free Workplace Supervisor – Duane Rehak; Emergency Planning Committee, local – Mike Froberg and Doug Huttman; NE Nebraska Community Action Partnership – Dennis Kment; NE Nebraska Area Agency on Aging Representative – Dennis Kment; NE Nebraska Dept Economic Development Representative – Douglas Huttman; NE Nebraska Dept Economic Development Representative – (vacant – need to appoint), county representative (non-elected); NE Nebraska Juvenile Services Board – Dennis Kment, alternate – Mike Unger; Northstar Board – Douglas Huttman; Region IV Mental Health Board – Duane Rehak; Safety Committee – Douglas Huttman; alternate – Duane Rehak; NE Nebraska Area Agency on Aging Advisory Board – Linda Hewitt, 3 yr term (2022-2024) (non-elected); NE Nebraska Solid Waste Coalition Board – Duane Rehak; alternate – Dennis Kment (Res No.2018.01-002, Jan 4, 2018); NE Nebraska Solid Waste Coalition Board – Gary Svitak, Maple Creek Township (Res No.2018.01-003, Jan 4, 2018). Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Rehak and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Rehak, seconded by Huttman to confirm the re-appointment on January 5, 2023 for the following appointed officials for the years 2023 - 2026: Emergency Manager - Mike Froberg; Highway Superintendent - Mark Mainelli; Planning/Zoning Administrator - Kylee Klug; Veterans' Service Officer - Anthony McPhillips; and Weed Superintendent - Gary Carson. Voting: Ayes: Rehak, Huttman and Kment. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Kment to re-visit the hourly rate for the Planning/Zoning Admin and Veterans' Service Officer and to re-visit the salary for the Emergency Manager at the 2024-2025 budget approval and also to continue the Weed Superintendent annual salary at \$12,000.00 (\$1,000.00 monthly). Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Kment and Rehak. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Kment, seconded by Huttman to approve and place on file the following Stanton County Extension Board Members for the year 2024: Keith Drott, Jackie Gubbels, Pat Larson, Kim Spence and Tim Stamm. Voting: Ayes: Kment, Huttman and Rehak. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Rehak to approve and place on file the following Stanton County VSO committee Members for the year 2024: Robert Chilcoat and Clint Warnke, 2025: Jim Campbell, 2027: Keith Anderson and Bill Johnson. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Rehak and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Re-appointments to the Stanton County Planning Commission were reviewed. Members needing to be re-appointed for the year 2024 for a three (3) year term are: Mike Kabes, Craig Korth and Todd Zohner. Board members not needing re-appointment were: year 2025 – Gerald Podany, Russell Kumm and Doug Oertwich; year 2026 – Judy Funk, Gerald Kuhn and Jeremy Svitak.

Motion made by Kment, seconded by Huttman to re-appoint Mike Kabes, Craig Korth and Todd Zohner to a three (3) year term on the Planning Commission Board. Voting: Ayes: Kment, Huttman and Rehak. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Re-appointments to the Stanton County Board of Adjustment were reviewed. Members needing to be re-appointed for the year 2024 are: Robert Lueninghoener and Ryan Simons. Board members not needing re-appointment were: 2025 – John Gall and Robert Locke; 2026 – Doug Oertwich and alternate, Larry Schrage.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Rehak to re-appoint Robert Lueninghoener and Ryan Simons to a three (3) year term on the Stanton County Board of Adjustment. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Rehak and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Rehak to approve the revised mileage rate of \$.67 cents/mile effective January 1, 2024 for all reimbursable mileage incurred by county employees; and further providing that the sheriff is permitted to charge an additional \$.03 cents/mile for paper service all as per NRS §81-1176. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Rehak and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Kment, seconded by Huttman to approve the legal newspaper as the Stanton Register for the year 2024, to set the legal radio stations as WJAG/KEXL and US92 for legal and weather-related announcements and designate the Stanton County website (<https://stantoncounty.nebraska.gov>) as a means of publication of legal notices or other announcements. Voting: Ayes: Kment, Huttman and Rehak. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Discussion was held on the current HRA \$4,200 contribution per employee for assistance with the health insurance deductible. Contributions are submitted on a monthly basis during the year.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Rehak to continue with the contribution of \$4,200 per employee eligible for insurance coverage through the county health plan to the Health Reimbursement Arrangement plan managed by Mid-American Benefits for the year 2024, and review during the renewal of the county health plan coverage. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Rehak and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Discussion continued on the utility permit received from Mark Petersen of Great Plains Communications to construct a fiber optic line along the south side of 827 Rd from 558 Ave (Madison County line) east 56275 827 Rd located in 7,8,9,10,11-21-1 in Dimick Precinct tabled at the January 4, 2024 meeting. Commissioner Rehak to review the 827 Rd with road department employee and contact Mark Mainelli with questions on the placement of the line. The matter is continued to the January 16, 2024 meeting.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Rehak to adjourn and set the next meeting for Tuesday, January 16, 2024, at 8:15 AM. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Rehak and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

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