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**COMMISSIONER'S PROCEEDINGS – March 27, 2024 – Special Meeting held jointly with the City of Stanton**

A meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Stanton County, Nebraska was held in the open and public session on Wednesday, March 27, 2024, at 6:30 PM in the Stanton City Hall meeting room, Stanton, Nebraska.

Present upon roll call were Douglas Huttman and Duane Rehak, Board of Commissioners. Wanda Heermann, County Clerk was also present. Present upon roll call for the City of Stanton were Kyle Voecks, Mayor; Nan Hetzler, Jennifer Michaels, Paul Poeschl and Tim Sweeney, members of the Stanton City Council. Also present were Nancy Morfeld, City Clerk and Alisha Claussen, City Treasurer.

Advance notice of the meeting was given by continuing the March 18, 2024 meeting to March 27, 2024 and posting on the county website calendar. 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.

Members of the Stanton Fire Department, Stanton Rescue, Norfolk Fire Department and other individuals attended the meeting.

The vice-chairman opened the County Board meeting in the Stanton City Council meeting room. Mayor Voecks opened the City Council meeting at 6:30 PM and announced that the open meetings act is posted on the wall.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Rehak to approve the agenda.

Voting: Ayes: Huttman and Rehak. Nays: None. Absent: Kment. Motion Carried.

Dennis Kment, Chairman Board of Commissioners, joined the meeting at 6:32 PM.

Kory Krutz, Stanton Fire Chief, requested to enter into closed session to discuss fire and rescue services.

Mayor Voecks stated there was no valid reason to enter into closed session.

Tim Wragge and Trever O'Brien, members of the Norfolk Fire Department, attended the meeting. Mr. Wragge updated the board members that the Elkhorn Valley Mutual Aid agreement was not designed to cover the increased service calls for Stanton. Tim stated that in the past 5 years there has been an increase in all service calls in Norfolk and surrounding areas.

Discussion was held on department staffing, EMT training, 24hr on call requirement, personnel burnout, etc. Many small communities rely on volunteers for department staffing and EMT personnel and are having the same issues.

Options to be considered are mutual aid agreements with non-volunteer departments, monetary reimbursement for services and getting more individuals interested in volunteering.

Members of the City Board and County Board appreciate the assistance they receive from the Norfolk Fire Department. No action taken. The city closed their meeting.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Rehak to adjourn the County Board meeting to the next meeting set for April 15, 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