

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION PROCEEDINGS – Tuesday, January 21, 2025
(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 Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at 8:00 AM in the County Commissioner’s room in Stanton, Nebraska.

Present upon roll call were Douglas Huttman, Dennis Kment and Douglas Oertwich, Board of Equalization. Wanda Heermann, County Clerk and Amber Happold, County Assessor, were also present.

Advance notice of the meeting was given by publication in the Stanton Register on January 8, 2025, a copy of the proof of publication being attached to these minutes, and by posting on the county website.

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 8:05 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 Oertwich to approve the agenda. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Oertwich and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Kment, seconded by Huttman to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2024 and January 9, 2025, meetings. Voting: Ayes: Kment, Huttman and Oertwich. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Amber Happold, county assessor, presented and explained the correction sheets for the month.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Oertwich to approve and authorize the chairman to sign the correction sheets numbered 252 – 255 and place them on file. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Oertwich and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

There were no listings of clerical errors needing approval.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Oertwich to adjourn and set the next meeting for Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at 8:00 AM. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Oertwich and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

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

COMMISSIONER’S PROCEEDINGS – Tuesday, January 21, 2025
(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 Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at 8:15 AM in the County Commissioner’s room in Stanton, Nebraska.

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

Advance notice of the meeting was given by publication in the Stanton Register on January 8, 2025, a copy of the proof of publication being attached to these minutes, and by posting on the county website.

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

Motion made by Oertwich, seconded by Huttman to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2024 and January 9, 2025, meetings. Voting: Ayes: Oertwich, Huttman and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

The following correspondence was reviewed and placed on file: NNSWC – Annual Report; Nebraska Board Engineers/Architects – notice license; Mike Unger, sheriff – office activity 2024; NNSWC – landfill observation Jan 10, 2025; LENRD – notice application for Community Forestry Incentive Program; Casey Clausen, Straight-Line Striping – 2025 material purchase letter of intent.

Amber Happold, Sandy Zoubek and Mike Unger joined the meeting.

Mike Unger, county sheriff, informed the county board that he will need to replace a computer in his office and requested the cost be taken out of the miscellaneous general fund because this anticipated cost was not figured in his budget. The county board has advised officials if they need to replace computer equipment the cost can be paid out of the miscellaneous general fund. Mike presented a quote in the amount of \$1,125.00 from Frohberg Computers. Discussion was held on the computer and other equipment. The consensus of the county board is to allow the purchase of the computer equipment from the miscellaneous general fund.

Discussion was held on the request of the county sheriff to designate two (2) parking stalls in the north parking lot as “Law Enforcement only”.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Oertwich to designate two (2) parking stalls, No. 3 and 4, in the north parking lot as “Law Enforcement only”. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Oertwich and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Discussion was held on the semi-annual report for July – December 2024 with Sandy Zoubek, county treasurer.

Motion made by Oertwich, seconded by Huttman to approve Resolution No. 2025.01-5 for settlement of the County Treasurer’s Semi-Annual report. Voting: Ayes: Oertwich, Huttman and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

The county board reviewed the revised Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for the Stanton County Veterans Memorial Park. A previous MOU was approved by the county board on November 18, 2024. The County Veterans Memorial Park steering committee requested changes to the MOU before their approval. Mr. Lamkli reviewed the revisions and suggested changes.

Motion made by Oertwich, seconded by Huttmann to authorize the chairman to sign the revised Memorandum of Understanding/Stanton County Veterans Memorial Park which will replace the prior MOU approved November 18, 2024. Voting: Ayes: Oertwich, Huttmann and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried. [copy of MOU on file in County Clerk's office]

Gary Carson, Weed Superintendent, joined the meeting. The annual activity report, budget report, noxious weed infestation report, weed control authority board roster and Noxious Weed Control Plan were reviewed by the board. Discussion held on weed issues within the county.

Motion made by Huttmann, seconded by Oertwich to authorize the chairman to sign the annual reports for the weed department that need to be filed prior to January 31st. Voting: Ayes: Huttmann, Oertwich and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Kylee Klug, Planning and Zoning Administrator, joined the meeting.

The chairman re-opened the hearing at 9:30 AM on the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) application of Michael Hamernik to establish a private airstrip (personal use only) on property located in the SW 16-21-3 that was tabled December 16, 2024. Mike Hamernik appeared for the hearing. Kylee advised the county board about the FAA restriction for an airport runway versus an airstrip runway. There are less restrictions for an airstrip location. Discussion was held with Mike on the airstrip and the usage. Kylee stated that there would be no restrictions for future building by the surrounding landowners besides structures of uncommon height such as a cell tower. Kylee reviewed the planning commission recommendations to adhere to guidelines set forth by Stanton Co PPD, that construction to meet FAA guidelines, the landing area to be submitted to the FAA, to acquire emergency 911 signage, and that the airstrip is for private use only. She also advised the county board about a possible future airplane hangar on the property.

Motion made by Huttmann, seconded by Oertwich to close the hearing. Voting: Ayes: Huttmann, Oertwich and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Huttmann, seconded by Oertwich to approve the Conditional Use Permit (CUP) application of Michael Hamernik to establish a private airstrip (personal use only) on property located in the SW 16-21-3, as per Planning Commission recommendations. Voting: Ayes: Huttmann, Oertwich and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

W. Bert Lamkli, county attorney, joined the meeting.

Brent Niese appeared on behalf of Summit Carbon Solutions to present an update on the Summit Carson Solution Co2 Pipeline Project within Stanton County. The Co2 project will capture carbon dioxide emissions from the ethanol industry that otherwise would be emitted into the atmosphere, compress the captured emissions and transport them through a pipeline to North Dakota where it will be permanently stored underground in geologic storage locations. The Summit Carbon Solution project impacts the States of Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota. Transporting carbon dioxide by pipeline is the safest method for the large volumes of Co2 that will be captured and permanently stored underground based on EPA standards. Discussion was held on the economic impacts, support of ethanol and agriculture. There would be approximately 18 miles of anticipated pipeline in Stanton County Nebraska. No action needed by the board.

Ramsy Robertson, representative of Mainelli Wagner Assoc, joined the meeting.

Discussion was held on bridge and culvert projects. Discussion also held on the light pole placement on Benjamin Ave by Woodland Park.

Ramsy presented the county board with the bridge damage repair estimate for Bridge Structure No. C008411315 located south of 843 Rd on 564 Ave. The estimated cost to repair the bridge to its previous condition is \$29,420.00. This cost consists of \$11,000.00 engineering costs, \$14,920.00 construction costs and \$3,500.00 barricading costs. Commissioner Doug Huttmann will contact the landowner of the estimated cost to repair the bridge. Bid Letting set for February 18, 2025 at 10:30AM for "Materials Only" for the repairs of the bridge.

Anthony McPhillips, county veteran's officer, joined the meeting and requested the county board enter into a closed session to discuss a personal issue.

Motion made by Oertwich, seconded by Huttmann to enter into closed session at 11:00 AM for the protection or presentation of needless injury to the reputation of individuals. The county board remained and all others in attendance left the meeting. Voting: Ayes: Oertwich, Huttmann and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

The county board came out of closed session at 11:05 AM.

Motion made by Huttmann, seconded by Oertwich to resume the open meeting. Voting: Ayes: Huttmann, Oertwich and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Discussion was held on the CDL requirement for county road employees and options to obtain a CDL. No action taken by the board.

Mike Frohberg, emergency manager, joined the meeting.

Mike informed the county board that the Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP) is in the process of being updated, NEMA has elected to not continue their contract through BOLD Planning and all the information will need to be started over. The final draft for the Hazard Mitigation Plan is out for public review and comments, see the Stanton County EMA Website for further details. Mike continues to work on the Hazard Mitigation Grant for two (2) sirens, applied for a local grant for drone updates, and a cyber-security grant for the courthouse and among other regional grants. Discussion was held on the sheriff vehicles and future firmware and programming updates for radio equipment. The cost will need to be budgeted in the 2025 budget for the approximate amount of \$5,000.00. Mike advised the county board of the emergency manager vacancy in Cuming County. The emergency management region voted that the homeland security equipment from Cuming County will be given and stored in Stanton County and be a deployable asset from there. The region also voted Mike Frohberg to serve on the State NRIN board as the Northeast Representative. Mike was asked to participate in the Cooper Nuclear Exercise on February 18th as part of his Safety Officer Certification requirements. Future trainings for the county are a CPR class and a "stop-the-bleed" class, radar training with the National Weather Service in March, and a storm spotter class scheduled for Apr 7th.

Motion made by Huttmann, seconded by Kment to approve for the month of December the Documentary Stamp Tax, co shr in the amount of \$4,099.59; County Clerk fees in the amount of \$3,505.50; P&M Fund fees in the amount of \$500.00; Misc Copy fees in the amount of \$0.00; Clerk of the District Court fees in the amount of \$81.57; Passport fees in the amount of \$175.00; County Treasurer's receipt of money received numbered 24504 - 24556, inclusive in the amount of \$279,245.77; Veterans' Service Office 2024-2025 1st Quarter Report; and place them on file. Voting: Ayes: Huttmann, Kment and Oertwich. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Huttmann, seconded by Oertwich to approve the following Accounts Payable and Payroll claims as presented and order checks drawn on the various funds. Voting: Ayes: Huttmann, Oertwich and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

GENERAL FUND – Mark Albin, atty fees, 242.25; Ameritas Retirement, ret-co shr, 10674.74; Antelope Co Shf Dept, boarding, 5220.00; Appera, services, 168.30; Applied Connective Tech, services, 3499.10; Kim Bearnese, phone, 40.00; Benchmark Government Solutions, meals, 232.15; Black Hills Energy, utilities, 768.28; BCBS, ins-co shr, 33478.33; Blue to Gold, reg fees, 395.00; Blue 360 Media, supplies, 102.95; Card Services, meals etc, 256.67; Cedar Co Crt, copies, 6.00; Central Plains Valuation, reappraisal costs, 5000.00; Cornhusker Auto Center, services, 79.95; DAS State Acct, equip fee, 150.00; Martha Detlefsen, prior service, 12.00; Donna Dixon, prior service, 57.50; Eakes Office Solutions, supplies, 151.15; Ewalt Law Office, public defender, 4333.33; Farmers Coop, fuel, 889.01; First Concord Benefits, flex fees, 35.00; Galls, supplies, 304.88; Great Amer Finc Services, rental pymt, 274.02; Hampton Inn, lodging, 2249.10; Amber Happold, mileage etc, 348.94; Heartland Fire Prot Co, inspect fees, 141.00; Wanda Heermann, mileage etc, 290.74; Cynthia Herbolsheimer, prior service, 80.78; Debra Hoehne, prior service, 115.40; IRS USA Tax Pymt, so sec tax-co shr, 11694.16; Intoximeters, services, 343.15; Kylee Klug, fuel etc, 36.52; Stanton Hardware, supplies, 8.98; Lamli Locke Beaudette, office allow, 996.00; Lincoln Marriott Cornhusker, lodging, 363.00; Luedeke Oil Co, fuel etc, 3771.48; Grafix Shoppe, supplies, 1370.00; Madison Co Jail, boarding, 50.00; Madison Co Shf, boarding etc, 1530.41; Madison Natl Life, ins-co shr, 55.22; Green Stripe, services, 80.00; Menards, supplies, 236.31; Janet Meyer, services, 120.00; Mid-American Benefits, hra fees etc, 6958.50; MIPS, services supplies, 3062.87; NACO Plan & Zoning, dues, 40.00; Nebr Assoc Co Assr, dues, 100.00; Nebr Clk Dist Crt Assoc, dues, 50.00; Nebr Public Health Environ Lab, services, 105.00; Lavern Newkirk, prior service, 17.00; One Office Solution, supplies, 1638.62; Physicians Laboratory, services, 300.00; Pierce Co Shf Dept, boarding, 350.00; Pitzer Digital, services, 318.41; Prime Sanitation, services, 79.50; The Radar Shop, services, 686.00; Region IV, 3rd Qtr Pymt, 1874.50; Stanton Auto Parts, services, 190.29; Jack B Scherer Lawn Service, services, 414.42; Edward Sokol, prior service, 115.40; Stanton Co Clk Dist Crt, crt costs, 36.00; Stanton Co Crt, crt costs, 975.00; Stanton Co Imprest Acct, ach fees, 21.00; Stanton Co PPPD, utilities, 1234.08; Stanton State Bank, safe box fee, 60.00; Stanton Telecom, services, 1837.86; Stanton Water Sewer, utilities, 99.40; Teeco, supplies, 62.95; The Lil Store, fuel, 3483.41; Thurston Co Shf, boarding, 2340.00; USave Pharmacy, prescriptions, 115.55; Univ Nebraska Lincoln, phone, 45.02; Verizon Wireless, service, 679.87; Carla Vogel, prior service, 46.16; Washtech Car Wash, supplies, 35.00; Cheryl Wolverton, prior service, 11.00; Sandra Zoubek, mileage, 216.68; Sandra Zoubek Stanton Co Treas, transfers interest, 750459.32;

ROAD FUND – AKRS Equip Solutions, parts, 272.70; Ameritas Retirement, ret-co shr, 4549.75; Appera, services, 43.83; ATCO Intl, supplies, 1803.60; Leigh Motor Service, parts, 78.00; Black Hills Energy, utilities, 610.98; BCBS, ins-co shr, 19505.52; Boelter Farm Repair, services, 1289.35; Bomgaars, supplies, 812.69; Cech Excavating, dirt work etc, 9757.53; Century Link, services, 85.79; Clarkson Plbg Htg, supplies, 107.87; Colonial Research, supplies, 283.22; Dixon Construction, bridge pymt 1, 473618.55; Doernemann Construction, gravel, 10792.32; Doernemann Farm Service, parts, 1169.57; James Duncan, prior service, 16.00; Farmers Coop, fuel, 4698.64; Farmers Un Coop Supply, supplies, 54.00; Floor Maintenance Supply, supplies, 65.10; GI Trailer, trlr equip, 10989.42; Grubb Grinding, services, 825.00; Darrell Hansen, reimburse boots, 181.89; Hass Repair, services, 30.00; Wanda Heermann, reimburse fees, 25.00; IRS USA Tax Pymt, so sec tax-co shr, 5540.74; Island Supply Welding, supplies, 49.60; John Deere Finc, supplies, 280.48; Northeast Glass, services, 545.00; Kelly Supply, supplies, 7.23; Kimball Midwest, supplies, 143.18; Spenser Trench, services, 248.95; Kuehn's Auto Body, services, 195.00; Stanton Hardware, supplies, 76.04; Luedeke Oil Co, fuel etc, 12255.07; Madison Natl Life, ins-co shr, 19.05; Mainelli Wagner Assoc, engineer fees etc, 56445.02; Martin Marietta Materials, gravel, 6993.65; Matteo Sand Gravel, gravel, 6487.00; Christopher Mauer, first aid supplies, 94.93; Medical Enterprises, services, 5.00; Meisinger Oil Co, supplies, 83.88; Menards, supplies, 624.35; Mid-Amer Benefits, hra fees-co shr, 4200.00; Midwest Service Sales, supplies, 18749.28; Moellers Auto Tinting, services, 625.00; Murphy Tractor Equip, grap hook, 26930.00; Pilger Store, fuel etc, 3066.77; Prime Sanitation, utilities, 50.00; B&A Welding, steel, 5696.40; Stanton Auto Parts, services etc, 4547.67; Ron's Farm Repair, parts etc, 155.45; Lavern Schroeder, surveying, 8700.00; Stalp Gravel Co, rock, 521.80; Stanton Co PPD, utilities, 709.07; Stanton Telecom, services, 333.87; Stanton Water Sewer, utilities, 50.10; Teeco, supplies, 51.50; Terracon Consultants, services, 951.25; Topps Body Shop, services, 728.99; US Cellular, services, 65.52; Verizon Connect Fleet, services, 971.75; Village Pilger, utilities, 135.53;

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FUND – Ameritas Retirement, ret-co shr, 372.65; Black Hills Energy, utilities, 148.10; Mike Frohberg, meals, 51.06; Hampton Inn, lodging, 374.85; IRS USA Tax Pymt, so sec tax-co shr, 525.26; Luedeke Oil Co, services, 30.00; Madison Natl Life Ins Co, ins-co shr, 5.42; Menards, supplies, 47.86; Meyer Tool Service, tools, 204.97; Pilger Store, fuel, 50.50; Prime Sanitation, services, 12.50; Stanton Auto Parts, services, 726.68; Stanton Co PPD, utilities, 202.17; Stanton Telecom, services, 62.28; Stanton Water Sewer, utilities, 45.50;

INHERITANCE TAX FUND – Stanton Co PPD, tower, 264.19;

EMERGENCY 911 FUND – Jeanette Davidson, tower rent, 120.00; City Norfolk, dispatching, 18105.57; Stanton Telecom, services, 73.23;

Total aggregate salaries of all county employees \$234,599.87.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Oertwich to adjourn and set the next meeting for Tuesday, February 18, 2025, at 8:15 AM. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Oertwich and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

/s/ Dennis Kment, Chairman, Board of Commissioners, Stanton County, Nebraska

Attest: /s/ Wanda Heermann, County Clerk