

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION PROCEEDINGS – August 18, 2025
(edited – official proceedings on file Clerk’s office)

A meeting of the Board of Equalization of Stanton County, Nebraska was held in an open and public session on August 18, 2025, at 8:00 AM in the County Commissioner’s room in Stanton, Nebraska.

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

Advance notice of the meeting was given by publication in the Stanton Register on August 6, 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 8:00 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 Oertwich to approve the agenda. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Oertwich and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Oertwich to approve the minutes of the July 21, 2025, meeting. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Oertwich and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

The following correspondence was reviewed and placed on file: Nebraska TERC – Finding and Order Denying Petition.

Amber Happold, county assessor, did not appear. There were no corrections sheets and no listings of clerical errors needing approval.

The county clerk presented a Notice of Rejection of Homestead Exemption (Form 458R) from the county assessor. The county board reviewed the document as presented.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Oertwich to deny the homestead exemption application for the real property located at Lot 2 Elkhorn Vista Addn, City of Stanton, because the applicant does not own the home and does not occupy the home. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Oertwich and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Oertwich, seconded by Huttman to adjourn and set the next meeting for September 15, 2025, at 8:00 AM. Voting: Ayes: Oertwich, Huttman 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 – August 18, 2025
(edited – official proceedings on file Clerk’s office)

A meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Stanton County, Nebraska was held in an open and public session on August 18, 2025, at 8:15 AM in the County Commissioner’s room in Stanton, Nebraska.

Present upon the 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 August 6, 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 8:20 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 Huttman, seconded by Kment to approve the minutes of the July 21, 2025, meeting. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Kment and Oertwich. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

The following correspondence was reviewed and placed on file: Auction Time – sale proceeds; NNSWC – landfill site observation August 13, 2025.

Preliminary levy allocation requests from Stanton County Agricultural Society [General], Stanton County Rural Fire District [General] and Hoskins Rural Fire District [General] were reviewed.

Motion made by Oertwich, seconded by Huttman to approve Resolution No. 2025.08-16 for the tax allocations requested for the 2025-2026 Year. Tax allocations requested for the 2025-2026 Fiscal Year are approved as follows: Stanton County Agricultural Society [General] \$91,800.00; Stanton County Rural Fire District [General] \$295,400.00; Hoskins Rural Fire District [General] \$90,000.00. Voting: Ayes: Oertwich, Huttman and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

A Joint Public Hearing (if necessary) will be held Thursday, September 18, 2025, at 6:15 PM in the Stanton County Courthouse. The political subdivisions who might be required to participate are Stanton County, the City of Stanton or the Stanton School District, if the increase to their property tax request is greater than the allowable growth percentage as defined in §77-1633.

The board reviewed the proposed 2025-2026 fiscal year budget with the county clerk. Discussion was held on the budget and the 2025-2026 property tax request compared to the 2024-2025 property tax request. Various funds were reviewed. The total tax request for 2025-2026 is \$5,689,860.94, an increase of \$219,295.75. The 2025 taxable valuation of Stanton County is \$2,399,251,621.00, an increase of \$373,041,262.00. The proposed 2025 tax levy rate is 0.237152, a decrease of 0.032839. Stanton County is not required to participate in the joint public hearing but will be required to hold the special hearing to set the final tax request. A copy of the 2025-2026

fiscal year budget is on file in the County Clerk’s office and available on the county website. The notice of the budget hearing and budget summary will be published prior to the budget hearing.

The Budget Hearing is scheduled for September 15, 2025 at 9:00 AM and the Special Hearing to Set Final Tax Request is scheduled for September 15, 2025 at 9:15 AM (time approximate at the conclusion of the budget hearing). A Special Meeting is scheduled for September 22, 2025 at 8:00 AM to approve the 2025-2026 fiscal year budget.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Oertwich to approve Resolution No. 2025.08-17 to add pledged security at Stanton State Bank, Stanton Nebraska. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Oertwich and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Gary Carson, weed superintendent, appeared before the county board. Gary informed the county board of his intention to retire effective December 31, 2025. Discussion was held on the procedure for replacement, required certification and other weed issues. The county board thanked Gary for his years of service. No action taken by the board at this time.

The Special Designated Liquor License applications of Greg Ptacek on behalf of Johnnie Byrd Brewing Company of Wayne NE were reviewed. The intent of the licenses for Johnnie Byrd Brewing Company is to have a small beer garden which will serve beer and mixed drinks during the Windmill Market event scheduled for August 30, 2025 and September 27, 2025 between the hours of 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM. Location of the Windmill Market is 57041 US Hwy 275, Pilger NE. The county sheriff indicated he did not have an issue with the issuance of the SDL licenses but noted that all liquor laws will be strictly enforced if any violations are reported or observed by law enforcement.

Motion made by Oertwich, seconded by Huttman to approve the Special Designated Liquor License applications of Greg Ptacek on behalf of Johnnie Byrd Brewing Company of Wayne NE to have a small beer garden which will serve beer and mixed drinks during the Windmill Market event scheduled for August 30, 2025 and September 27, 2025 between the hours of 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM, located at 57041 US Hwy 275, Pilger NE. Voting: Ayes: Oertwich, Huttman and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

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

The chairman opened the hearing at 9:30 AM on the Mixed Use Development (MUD) application of Ryan Cooper for an event center and cabin sites on property located in Pt SW 10-23-1. Ryan Cooper appeared along with eight (8) other individuals. Kylee explained the application, presented a survey of the area and advised the county board of the recommendation of denial of the Mixed Use Development application by the Planning Commission on August 11, 2025. Mr. Cooper explained his application, gave an overview of the area and stated how the proposed event center would have an economic impact on the county. Furthermore, Mr. Cooper explained that due to the concerns raised at the Planning Commission meetings, he would no longer be proposing the cabins at this time. Kayla Streich, Colette Hansen and Pat Sanne expressed concerns about road conditions, safety due to increased traffic, noise, and land use as mixed commercial within agricultural zoning. Karen Petersen spoke in favor of the event center and a letter received from Timothy Metcalf in favor of the proposed event center was received by the county board.

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

Discussion continued with those present on the definition of transitional ag zoning, access visibility to the event center, road concerns, trash (littering) and noise. The Planning Commission conditions were reviewed. It was discussed that if the application were to be approved a condition be added that music is to cease at 11:00 PM with patrons to being gone by midnight.

Motion made by Oertwich to approve the Mixed Use Development (MUD) application of Ryan Cooper for an event center (without cabin sites) on property located in Pt SW 10-23-1 as per the Planning Commission recommendations and the addition of condition #12 that music will cease at 11:00 PM and patrons will be gone by midnight. Motion died due to the lack of a second.

Motion made by Kment, seconded by Huttman to deny the Mixed Use Development (MUD) application of Ryan Cooper for an event center and cabin sites on property located in Pt SW 10-23-1, as per the Planning Commission recommendations. Voting: Ayes: Kment and Huttman. Nays: Oertwich. Motion Carried.

Kylee Klug, safety committee member, informed the county board of the safety meeting topics. Discussion was held on whether window tinting is necessary on county vehicles and equipment. Discussion was held on employee’s job performance and responsibilities.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Oertwich to amend the County Road Handbook to state that no additional window tinting is allowed to be installed on county equipment (factory tint only) without the approval of the Department Official (commissioner). Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Oertwich and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Kylee advised the county board that an In-Depth Flood Plain study is to be completed in the year 2027. No action needed by the board.

Discussion was held on a Memorandum of Agreement drafted for reimbursement of costs incurred by the County for the financial obligation of the CDL course and hours attending the course [copy of MOA on file in the county clerk’s office].

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Oertwich to approve the Memorandum of Agreement for reimbursement of costs incurred by the county for the financial obligation of the CDL course and hours attending the course. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Oertwich and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Discussion was held on emails received from the National Opioid Settlement Implementation Administrator in reference to two (2) new National Opioid Settlements reached with Purdue and Alvogen, Amneal, Apotex Hikma, Indivior, Mylan, Sun and Zydus. Nebraska has elected to participate in the settlements which will allow Stanton County to participate. Stanton County must “opt in” to participate in the new settlements prior to the September 30, 2025 and October 8, 2025 deadlines.

Motion made by Kment, seconded by Huttman to participate in the Purdue and Alvogen, Amneal, Apotex Hikma, Indivior, Mylan, Sun and Zydus settlements and authorize the county clerk to sign the necessary paperwork needed. Voting: Ayes: Kment, Huttman and Oertwich. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

No discussion was held on the Point-C HRS agreements. Documents still need to be reviewed.

The board reviewed the Annual Certification Form for STP and HBP Buyout Funds for the Federal Funds Purchase Program Agreement with the NDOT for July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025. The certification form is to be signed by the Chairman and returned prior to September 30, 2025.

Motion made by Oertwich, seconded by Huttman to approve and authorize the chairman to sign the Annual Certification Form for STP and HBP Buyout Funds for the Federal Funds Purchase Program Agreement with the NDOT for July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025. Voting: Ayes: Oertwich, Huttman and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Oertwich, seconded by Huttman to approve Resolution No. 2025.08 -18 to authorize the chairperson to sign the County Annual Certification of Program Compliance to Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards 2025. Voting: Ayes: Oertwich, Huttman and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried. [copy of County Annual Certification of Program compliance to Nebraska Board of Public Roads Classifications and Standards 2025 on file in county clerk’s office]

Mike Frohberg, emergency manager, joined the meeting.

Darrell Hansen, Jim Herscheid and Terry Mendlik, county bridge crew, joined the meeting. Discussion was held on the ongoing culvert and bridge projects, priority of the projects and completion dates. A request for portable radios needed for communication between the bridge crew members when working within the creek bed and on the roadway was discussed. Mike Frohberg indicated that he was able to provide radios for this purpose.

Mike Frohberg, emergency manager, updated the county board on county issues. Mike informed the county board that he was requested by Dixon County to assist/help at the Missouri River Expo in September and would be taking county emergency management equipment. Mike also received a request to use the Rapid Response trailer for a cooling center at the Thunder by the River event this weekend in Wisner. Usage agreement to be filed. Discussion was held on the setting of the poles at Willer’s Cove for the weather siren. Tire recycling was discussed, the county board requested Mike to look into the grant associated with the tire recycling.

Motion made by Huttmann, seconded by Oertwich to approve for the month of July the Documentary Stamp Tax, co shr in the amount of \$2,270.77; County Clerk fees in the amount of \$3,316.50; P&M Fund fees in the amount of \$469.50; Misc Copy fees in the amount of \$0.00; Clerk of the District Court fees in the amount of \$351.45; Passport fees in the amount of \$00.00; County Treasurer’s receipt of money received numbered 24930 – 24987, inclusive in the amount of \$457,742.44; Veterans Service Office 4th Qu 2024-2025/Annual Report; and place them on file. Voting: Ayes: Huttmann, Oertwich and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

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

GENERAL FUND – Mark D Albin, atty fees, 209.50; Ameritas Retirement, ret-co shr, 11134.47; Antelope Co Shf Dept, boarding, 4025.00; Appeara, services, 176.85; Applied Connective Tech, services, 3451.10; Barnhill Enterprises LLC, equip, 1234.00; Kim Bearnes, phone etc, 94.42; Benchmark Government Solutions, meals, 13.95; Black Hills Energy, utilities, 93.84; BCBS, ins-co shr, 35725.89; Bomgaars, parts, 24.99; CA Enterprises, envelopes, 395.27; CATV Stanton/Town Country Tech, services, 201.49; Card Services, supplies, 160.73; Gary Carson, reg fee, 150.00; Central Plains Valuation, reappraisal costs, 6513.75; Cornhusker Auto Cntr, services, 175.65; DAS State Acct, equip fee, 150.00; Martha Detlefsen, prior service, 12.00; Eakes Office Solutions, supplies, 30.81; Egley Fullner Montag etal, atty fees, 5497.32; Electronic Engineering, radio parts, 1661.70; Ewalt Law Office, public defender, 4333.33; Farmer’s Coop, fuel, 908.21; First Concord Benefits, flex fees, 35.00; Floor Maintenance, supplies, 333.78; Great Amer Finc, rental pymt, 277.89; Hampton Inn, lodging, 330.00; Amber Happold, meals mileage, 33.69; IRS Tax Pymt, so sec tax-co shr, 12522.72; Clark Jenkinson/Cowboy Construction, concrete labor, 60750.00; Johnson’s Plbg Htg, services, 160.60; K’s Marketplace, meals, 64.42; L4 Hardware/Stanton Hardware, supplies, 87.45; Lampli Locke Beaudette, office allow, 996.00; Luedeke Oil Co, fuel etc, 255.32; Madison Co Clk Dist Crt, fees costs, 50.00; Madison Co Shf, fees, 30.41; Madison Natl Life Ins, ins-co shr, 66.06; Janet Meyer, services, 90.00; Microfilm Imaging Sys, scanning equip, 624.00; Midwest Special Services, services, 606.80; MIPS, services, 2881.98; Motorola Solutions, lease pymt, 72730.38; NACO, reg fees, 265.00; Nebraska Law Enforce Training Cntr, reg fee, 80.00; Lavern Newkirk, prior service, 17.00; One Office Solution, supplies, 1707.62; Ian Peterson, mileage, 149.80; Physicians Laboratory, services, 2750.00; Pilger Storem, fuel, 28.00; Pitzer Digital, services, 1476.04; Point C, hra fees, 332.00; Postmaster, box rent, 680.00; Stanton Auto Parts, services, 263.50; Schneider Geospatial, GIS services, 23712.00; Brandon Schock, mowing, 1200.00; Stanton Co Clk, recording fees, 34.00; Stanton Co Crt, costs, 238.00; Stanton Co HRA Reimb Acct, HRA contribution-co shr, 4250.00; Stanton Co Imprest Acct, ach fees, 21.50; Stanton Co PPD, utilities, 1757.79; Stanton Telecom, services, 1806.53; Stanton Water Sewer, utilities, 302.38; Statement Analysis, reg fees, 199.00; Vaughn Stiles, mowing, 200.00; Stratton DeLay Doele etal, atty fees, 1580.15; Teeco, supplies, 62.95; The Lil Store, fuel, 4675.72; Tri-State Comm, services, 531.00; USave Pharmacy, supplies, 10.55; Univ Nebr Lincoln-Stanton Co Extension, phone, 45.02; Verizon Wireless, service, 699.79; Washtech Car Wash, supplies, 26.25; Washington Co Shf, boarding, 2015.00; Winsupply Norfolk, supplies etc, 725.44; Cheryl Wolverton, prior service, 11.00; ROAD FUND – Ameritas Retirement, ret-co shr, 5062.71; Appeara, services, 90.42; ATCO Intl, supplies, 839.90; Bauer Built, services, 479.61; Isaac Baumert/Rusty Nuts Repair, services, 21034.86; Behmer Trucking, hauling, 3150.00; Black Hills Energy, utilities, 46.68; BCBS, ins-co shr, 23413.58; Boelter Farm Repair, services, 3566.26; Bret Burtwistle, hauling, 4275.00; Century Link, services, 91.57; Colonial Research, supplies, 217.40; Cornhusker Intl Trucks, services, 1807.15; Johnson Trucking Sand Gravel, gravel, 16238.84; Doernemann Farm Service, parts, 663.95; Eisenmann Ag Supply, supplies, 79.99; Elkhorn Rural PPD, utilities, 245.75; Faith Regional Health, services, 110.00; Farmer’s Coop, fuel, 7676.15; IES Commercial, equipt, 14830.00; IRS Tax Pymt, so sec tax-co shr, 6071.95; Island Supply Welding, supplies, 49.60; Kelly Supply, supplies, 198.92; Kimball Midwest, supplies, 282.52; Stanton Hardware, supplies, 124.43; Lammers Trailer Repair, services, 1353.72; LG Everist, rock, 8068.79; Love Signs, signs, 60.00; Luedeke Oil Co, fuel etc, 12843.43; Madison Natl Life Ins, ins-co shr, 17.65; Matteo Sand Gravel Co, gravel, 48938.61; Medical Enterprises, services, 130.00; Midwest Service Sales, supplies, 467.25; NMC Exchange, services, 7860.06; NECC, reg fee, 1065.00; Pilger Store, fuel, 3495.07; Pinkelman Truck Trailer, services, 1799.70; Pitzer Digital, services, 60.54; Power Plan, parts, 806.22; Stanton Auto Parts, parts, 50.57; Road Groom Mfg, equip, 17500.00; Ron’s Farm Repair, supplies, 133.13; Seals Service, services, 30.30; Stalp Gravel Co, gravel, 57788.31; Stanton Co HRA Reimb Acct, HRA contribution-co shr, 3000.00; Stanton Co PPD, utilities, 618.13; Stanton Telecom, services, 334.87; Stanton Water Sewer, utilities, 48.10; Teeco, supplies, 58.75; Terracon Consultants, fees, 443.75; US Cellular, services, 63.09; Verizon Connect Fleet, services, 770.90; Village Pilger, utilities, 130.59; Weldon Parts, supplies, 130.13; EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FUND – Ameritas Retirement, ret-co shr, 393.86; John C Avidano/Ideal HTML, services, 1705.00; Base Case, equip, 2399.00; Black Hills Energy, utilities, 47.84; Electronic Engineering Co, services, 684.95; Farmer’s Coop, fuel, 75.76; Mike Frohberg, supplies etc, 133.67; IRS Tax Pymt, so sec tax-co shr, 555.33; Stanton Hardware, supplies, 13.96; Madison Natl Life Ins Co, ins-co shr, 5.42; Menards, supplies, 135.68; NACO, reg fee, 30.00; Pilger Store, fuel, 11.00; Renegade, supplies, 144.00; SDS Weather, reg fee, 190.00; Stanton Co PPD, utilities, 221.83; Stanton Telecom, services, 59.63; Stanton Water Sewer, utilities, 60.84; The Lil Store, fuel, 703.69; Dale Vitito/Jack’s Uniform Equipment, supplies, 364.70; INHERITANCE TAX FUND – Stanton Co PPD, tower, 160.35; EMERGENCY 911 FUND – City Norfolk, dispatching, 18493.31; Platte Valley Comm, camera equip, 810.50; Stanton Telecom, services, 73.23; Total aggregate salaries of all county employees \$252,800.59.

Motion made by Oertwich, seconded by Huttmann to adjourn and set the next meeting for September 15, 2025, at 8:15 AM, set the Budget Hearing for September 15, 2025 at 9:00 AM, and schedule the Special Hearing to Set Final Tax Request for September 15, 2025 at 9:15 AM (time approximate at the conclusion of the budget hearing) and set a Special Meeting for the Budget Approval for September 22, 2025 at 8:00 AM. Voting: Ayes: Oertwich, Huttmann and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

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