

BOARD OF EQUALIZATION PROCEEDINGS – Thursday, January 8, 2026
(edited – Official Proceedings on file in County Clerk’s office)

A meeting of the Board of Equalization of Stanton County, Nebraska was held in an open and public session on Thursday, January 8, 2026, 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 and Amber Happold, County Assessor, were also present.

Advance notice of the meeting was given by publication in the Stanton Register on December 31, 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 Kment to approve the minutes of the December 15, 2025, meeting. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Kment and Oertwich. 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 Oertwich to nominate Dennis Kment for Chairman, that nominations cease, and Dennis Kment be elected by affirmation. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Oertwich and Kment. Nays: None.

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

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Oertwich to adjourn and set the next meeting for Tuesday, January 20, 2026, 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 – Thursday, January 8, 2026
(edited – Official Proceedings on file in County Clerk’s office)

A meeting of the Board of Commissioners of Stanton County, Nebraska was held in an open and public session on Thursday, January 8, 2026, 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 December 31, 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 Kment to approve the minutes of the December 15, 2025, meeting. Voting: Ayes: Oertwich, Kment and Huttman. 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 Oertwich to nominate Dennis Kment for Chairman, that nominations cease, and Dennis Kment be elected by affirmation. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Oertwich and Kment. Nays: None.

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

he following correspondence was reviewed and placed on file: NENSWC – Landfill Site Observation Dec 12, 2025; Auction Time – sale proceeds 1994 GMC, tires; NPPD – Norfolk-Stanton North Project update; Gary Carson – thank you; Gary Carlson – Winter 2025 DNA Pesticide, Fertilizer and Noxious Weed newsletter.

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 Oertwich to approve Resolution No. 2026.01-1 designating the depositories for Stanton County funds for 2026 in the following banks for the term of January 1, 2026 to December 31, 2026: Bank First, Norfolk NE; First Nebraska Bank,

Stanton NE; Midwest Bank NA, Pierce, Pilger, Wisner NE; Stanton State Bank, Stanton NE ; NPAIT, Lincoln NE. Voting: Ayes: Huttmann, Oertwich and Kment. Naves: Naves. Motion Carried.

Committee appointments were reviewed. Discussion was held on the vacancy for NE Nebraska Dept Economic Development Representative – county representative (non-elected).

Motion made by Oertwich, seconded by Huttmann 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 – Douglas Oertwich; Emergency Planning Committee, local – Mike Frohberg and Doug Huttmann; NE Nebraska Community Action Partnership – Dennis Kment; NE Nebraska Area Agency on Aging Representative – Dennis Kment; NE Nebraska Dept Economic Development Representative – Douglas Huttmann; NE Nebraska Dept Economic Development Representative – county representative (non-elected) (vacant); NE Nebraska Juvenile Services Board – Dennis Kment, alternate – Mike Unger; Northstar Board – Douglas Huttmann; Region IV Mental Health Board – Douglas Oertwich; Safety Committee – Douglas Huttmann; alternate – Douglas Oertwich; NE Nebraska Area Agency on Aging Advisory Board – Linda Hewitt, 3 yr term (2025-2027) (non-elected); NE Nebraska Solid Waste Coalition Board – Douglas Oertwich; alternate – Dennis Kment (Res No.2025.01-03, Jan 9, 2025); NE Nebraska Solid Waste Coalition Board – Gary Svitak, Maple Creek Township (Res No.2018.01-003, Jan 4, 2018). Voting: Ayes: Oertwich, Huttmann and Kment. Naves: None. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Huttmann, seconded by Oertwich to confirm the re-appointment on January 5, 2023, for the following appointed officials for the years 2023 - 2026: Emergency Manager - Mike Frohberg; Highway Superintendent - Mark Mainelli; Planning/Zoning Administrator - Kylee Klug; Veterans’ Service Officer - Douglas Hart (apt July 21, 2025); Weed Superintendent - vacant (Dec 31, 2025). Voting: Ayes: Huttmann, Oertwich and Kment. Naves: None. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Huttmann, seconded by Oertwich 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 2026-2027 budget approval and also to continue the Weed Superintendent annual salary at \$12,000.00 (\$1,000.00 monthly). Voting: Ayes: Huttmann, Oertwich and Kment. Naves: None. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Oertwich, seconded by Huttmann to approve and place on file the following Stanton County Extension Board Members for the year 2026: Stephanie Cohn, Keith Drott, Pat Larson, LaWanda Novotny and Tim Stamm. Voting: Ayes: Oertwich, Huttmann and Kment. Naves: None. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Huttmann, seconded by Oertwich to approve and place on file the following Stanton County VSO committee Members for the year 2026: Keith Anderson, Jim Campbell, Robert Chilcoat, Bill Johnson and Clint Warnke. Voting: Ayes: Huttmann, Oertwich and Kment. Naves: None. Motion Carried.

Re-appointments to the Stanton County Planning Commission were reviewed. Members needing to be re-appointed for the year 2026 for a three (3) year term are: Judy Funk, Gerald Kuhn and Jeremy Svitak. Board members not needing re-appointment: year 2027 – Craig Korth, Paul Morfeld and Todd Zohner; year 2028 – Mark Christensen, Russell Kumm and Gerald Podany.

Motion made by Oertwich, seconded by Huttmann to re-appoint Judy Funk, Gerald Kuhn and Jeremy Svitak to a three (3) year term on the Planning commission board. Voting: Ayes: Oertwich, Huttmann and Kment. Naves: None. Motion Carried.

Re-appointments to the Stanton County Board of Adjustment were reviewed. Members needing to be re-appointed for the year 2026 are: (vacant) and alternate, Larry Schrage. Board members not needing re-appointment are: 2027 – Robert Lueninghoener and Ryan Simons; 2028 – John Gall and Paul Morfeld.

Motion made by Oertwich, seconded by Huttmann to re-appoint (vacant) and alternate, Larry Schrage to a three (3) year term on the Stanton County Board of Adjustment. Voting: Ayes: Oertwich, Huttmann and Kment. Naves: None. Motion Carried.

Discussion was held on the correspondence received from the Nebraska Department of Administrative Services on the 2026 mileage reimbursement rate update.

Motion made by Oertwich, seconded by Huttmann to approve the revised mileage rate to \$.72½ cents/mile effective January 1, 2026, 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: Oertwich, Huttmann and Kment. Naves: None. Motion Carried.

The county legal newspaper, radio stations and county website were approved as a means of publication of legal notices or other announcements at the December 15, 2025, meeting.

Discussion was held on the current HRA \$2,500 contribution per employee for assistance with the health insurance deductible. Contributions are submitted monthly during the year.

Motion made by Kment, seconded by Huttmann to continue with the contribution of \$2,500 per employee eligible for insurance coverage through the county health plan to the Health Reimbursement Arrangement plan managed by Point C (Mid-American Benefits) for the year 2026, and review during the renewal of the county health plan coverage. Voting: Ayes: Kment, Huttmann and Oertwich. Naves: None. Motion Carried.

Joining the meeting were: Sandy Zoubek, treasurer and Mike Unger, sheriff.

Discussion continued on the setting of the salaries for the elected officials tabled at the December 15, 2025, meeting. The salaries of all elected county officers must be fixed by the county board prior to January 15th of the year in which a general election will be held for the respective offices. The board reviewed and discussed the NACO 2027-2030 salary guidelines for county officials with the various officials present. Also discussed was compensation for the administrative duties to the City of Stanton for the law enforcement contract which expires December 31, 2026.

Motion made by Huttmann, seconded by Oertwich to approve Resolution No. 2026.01-2 setting the salaries of the elected county officials for the 2027 – 2030 term of office pursuant to Section 23-1114 of the NRS:

County Assessor: annual salary be established at \$75,500.00 for year 2027, each year thereafter a \$1,500.00 cost-of-living increase, year 2028 - \$77,000.00, year 2029 - \$78,500.00, and year 2030 - \$80,000.00.

County Attorney: annual salary be established at \$76,500.00 for year 2027, each year thereafter a \$1,500.00 cost-of-living increase, year 2028 - \$78,000.00, year 2029 - \$79,500.00, and year 2030 - \$81,000.00.

Co Clerk (ex-officio): annual salary plus the ex-officio additional office duties, be established at \$78,500.00 for year 2027, each year thereafter a \$1,500.00 cost-of-living increase, year 2028 - \$80,000.00, year 2029 - \$81,500.00, and year 2030 - \$83,000.00.

County Commissioner: annual salary be established at \$37,750.00 for year 2027, each year thereafter a \$750.00 cost-of-living increase, year 2028 - \$38,500.00, year 2029 - \$39,250.00, and 2030 - \$40,000.00.

County Commissioner Board Chair: annual salary for the County Commissioner Board Chair shall be established at \$38,250.00 for the year 2027, each year thereafter a \$750.00 cost-of-living increase, year 2028 - \$39,000.00, year 2029 - \$39,750.00, and year 2030 - \$40,500.00.

County Sheriff: annual salary be established at \$86,500.00 for the calendar year 2027, each year thereafter a \$1,500.00 cost-of-living increase, year 2028 - \$88,000.00, year 2029 - \$89,500.00, and 2030 - \$91,000.00.

County Surveyor: annual salary be established at \$200.00 per year plus per diem expenses.

County Treasurer: annual salary be established at \$75,500.00 for the calendar year 2027, each year thereafter a \$1,500.00 cost-of-living increase, year 2028 - \$77,000.00, year 2029 - \$78,500.00, and 2030 - \$80,000.00.

Budget Making Authority: annual salary be established at \$5,250.00 for the calendar year 2027, year 2028 - \$5,500.00, year 2029 - \$5,750.00, and year 2030 - \$6,000.00.

In addition to the above stated salary each elected official shall receive during his or her term of office the same health and medical coverage as offered to all county employees, with the exception of the County Surveyor, who is not eligible for insurance coverage or benefits. Also, elected officials shall be enrolled in and shall receive the benefits of the County Employees Retirement System, as set forth by Nebraska Revised Statutes and receive all statutory benefits; or an elected official shall receive during his or her term of office at the county expense an opt-out provision (aka “cash in lieu of” provision) if they elect to opt out of the county health and medical plan. This option will be available as permitted by Federal and State statues and rules and regulations of agencies. Pursuant to the “cash in lieu of” program, an elected official will receive “cash in lieu” of health insurance.

[Resolution on file county clerk’s office]. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Oertwich and Kment. Nays: Nays. Motion Carried,

Motion made by Oertwich, seconded by Huttman to adjourn and set the next meeting for Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at 8:15 AM.

Voting: Ayes: Oertwich, Huttman and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

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

Attest: /s/ Wanda Heermann, County Clerk