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**BOARD OF EQUALIZATION PROCEEDINGS – May 15, 2023**  
(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 May 15, 2023, 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 and Cheryl Wolverton, County Assessor, were also present.

Advance notice of the meeting was given by publication in the Stanton Register on May 3, 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.

Motion made by Kment, seconded by Huttman to approve the minutes of April 17, 2023, meeting. Voting: Ayes: Kment, Huttman and Rehak. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Cheryl Wolverton, county assessor, presented and explained the correction sheets for the month.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Rehak to approve and authorize the chairman to sign the correction sheets numbered 2023-12 to 2023-18 and place them on file. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Rehak and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

There were no listings of clerical errors needing approval.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Rehak to adjourn and set a meeting for June 1, 2023 at 8:00 AM and set the regular meeting for June 19, 2023, at 8:00 AM. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Rehak 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 – May 15, 2023**  
(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 May 15, 2023, 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 May 3, 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.

Joining the meeting were: Sandy Zoubek, county treasurer, and W. Bert Lammler, county attorney.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States of America the meeting was called to order at 8:18 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.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Kment to approve the minutes of April 17, 2023, meeting. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Kment and Rehak. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

The following correspondence was reviewed and placed on file: gWorks – rate increase; Michele York, Nebraska DNR – Lower Elkhorn Watershed update; NE Nebraska Solid Waste Coalition – site observation.

The Stanton County Audited Financial Statement for the year ending June 30, 2022 and an updated Management Letter were received from MDT LLC. A copy was given to the Board of Commissioners to review. Discussion held on the audit findings with the county treasurer and county clerk.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Rehak to approve and place on file the year ending June 30, 2022 audit. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Rehak and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

The board reviewed the letter received from Nebraska Department of Transportation in reference to the annual Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards passed through during the FY ending June 20, 2022. The county clerk advised the board that the Management Letter for a corrective action plan was rescinded after information provided for the review with the notes showing some of the expenditures were made in prior fiscal years. No action needed by the board.

The county treasurer and county clerk presented information to the board on the Nebraska Single Bank Pooled Collateral program (SBPC) administered by the Nebraska Bankers Insurance and Services Company (NBISCO) for pledged collateral. The board was advised the county treasurer and county clerk were approached by First Nebraska Bank of Stanton and informed their bank is a participating member of the Single Bank Pooled Collateral program and requested their bank accounts be enrolled into this program. Discussion held on the program, benefits and risks. Enrollment in the program will not require pledged collateral and individual pledged securities.

Motion made by Kment, seconded by Huttman to approve Resolution No. 2023.05-7 to release pledged securities at First Nebraska Bank, Stanton Nebraska. Voting: Ayes: Kment, Huttman and Rehak. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Dustin Will representative of Benefit Management of Lincoln appeared and presented a brief introduction as to the resources available through their company in relation to employee benefits, medical insurance, life insurance, etc. Mr. Will requested to be allowed to offer a comparison of benefits to be considered during the next renewal process. Consensus of the board is to allow Mr. Will to present a comparison of benefits. No action needed by the board.

Beth Ferrell, NACO legal counsel, joined the meeting. Discussion held on various upcoming workshops, webinars, county workshops, National conference/workshop, Legislative meeting to be held in October and the NACO annual conference to be held in December. No action needed by the board.

Brandon Petersen, Applied Connective Technologies representative, joined the meeting. Brandon updated the board on the status of support tickets and resolutions conducted for Stanton County. He gave a status report on various projects, cybersecurity, disaster plans and policies. Applied Connective has 3 regional locations: Albion (main office – 31 employees); Norfolk (13 employees) and Columbus (5 employees). No action needed by the board.

Tom Schellpeper, member of the Stanton County Fair Board, appeared and updated the board on the floral hall remodel and informed the board on the addition of camping sites. Tom presented an invoice for the annual loan payment of \$15,000 and asked the board to consider a continuance of the loan agreement for improvements to the fairgrounds and support of the county fair after the previous agreement expires in 2025. No action taken by the board because current agreement is in effect until 2025.

Kylee Klug, planning and zoning administrator, joined the meeting. The board reviewed the Extraterritorial Zoning Jurisdiction Map of the City of Norfolk extending their 2-mile jurisdiction in Stanton County. Discussion held on the map. No action needed by the board. Kylee advised the board she did not have any other planning and zoning issues needing review.

Mark Mainelli, highway superintendent, joined the meeting.

Discussion held on the 2023-2024 Budget. The board stated the departments should remain within a 2% increase of services and supplies when considering their department budget for the upcoming year. Discussion held on the appointment of the budget making authority for the next fiscal year.

Motion made by Rehak, seconded by Huttman to appoint Wanda Heermann, Stanton County Clerk, as the budget making authority for the fiscal year 2023-2024 budget. Voting: Ayes: Rehak, Huttman and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

The county clerk informed the board of the District Judge's request to update the judge's office. The board advised the county clerk to look into options for a small table and chairs.

Discussion held on the NACO Health Insurance Pool with Blue Cross Blue Shield letter of April 24, 2023. The NACO Board of Directors has made a final determination that the rates for 2023-2024 will have an increase of 3.98% for health insurance. Being part of the NACO pool allows counties to accumulate the risk together as a group. The new rates effective July 1, 2023 will be \$870.34 for an employee only plan, \$1,747.12 for an employee/spouse/child plan and \$1,998.88 for an employee/family plan. The county pays for full family insurance at this time which is a benefit to the employees. There will be no change to the current county deductible with this renewal. The deductible will remain \$6,100.00 employee/\$12,200.00 family. Also discussed was the current HRA \$3,000.00 contribution per employee for assistance with the health insurance deductible and other medical costs. To assist employees with medical costs, it was discussed to contribute an additional \$100.00 per employee per month to the Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) with Mid-American Benefits was considered. The annual HRA contribution per employee would increase to \$4,200.00.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Rehak to proceed with the renewal of the county health insurance with NACO BCBS PPO \$6,100 QHDHP Plan effective July 1, 2023 and that the county will continue to pay the full family insurance for employees at this time and authorize the county clerk to sign the subgroup renewal application. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Rehak and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Rehak that Stanton County will contribute an additional \$100.00 (submitted on a 1/6 basis) per employee eligible for insurance coverage through the county health plan to the Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) managed by Mid-American Benefits effective July 1, 2023 for the remaining 2023 year and to set the 2024 annual HRA contribution per employee at the rate of \$4,200.00 to assist employees with medical costs and authorize the county clerk to sign the necessary paperwork. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Rehak and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

The board reviewed the NACO Section 125 plan re-enrollment notice received from First Concord Benefits Group. For 2023 the IRS has announced an increase to the healthcare flexible spending account. The annual limit increased to \$3,050.00. Discussion held on the plan.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Kment to increase the FSA maximum annual limit to \$3,050.00 as per the IRS index amount. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Kment and Rehak. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

The highway superintendent reviewed the Construction Storm Water Notice of Intent (CSW-NOI Permit Number: CSW-202207331) documentation for Project: C008411610, C-84(315), Stanton Southwest (839 Rd, approximately 215' west of 563 Ave) with the board.

Motion made by Rehak, seconded by Huttman to approve and authorize the chairman to sign the Construction Storm Water Notice of Intent Permit Number: CSW-202207331. Voting: Ayes: Rehak, Huttman and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

The board reviewed the gravel contract received from Matteo Sand & Gravel of Norfolk.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Kment to approve and sign the gravel contract received from Matteo Sand & Gravel. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Kment and Rehak. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Mark updated the board on grading options for 564 Ave between 840/841 Rd. Quotes will need to be received for reshaping/rebuilding the road. Also discussed were other road and bridge projects.

Tim Stamm, representative of the Stanton Fire Department, appeared before the board to discuss possible purchase of bunker gear through the ARPA funds received by the county from the federal government. Tim advised the board the fire department needs to upgrade their gear and presented a quote from Heiman Fire Equipment for coats, pants, boots, helmets and gloves in the amount of \$117,786.00. Discussion held on possible grants available to assist with equipment upgrades and prior offers from the Co2 carbon pipeline companies to purchase equipment (air packs, face masks, etc) for fire districts within their proposed pipeline area. The board will have Mike Froberg check into this option. Matter tabled until the June 19, 2023 meeting at 11:30AM. No action taken by the board.

Bid letting was held on the surplus property (2012 Chevrolet truck box 6'6" long and front/back bumpers) at 12:10 PM. No one appeared for the bid letting. The chairman opened the sealed bids and read them aloud. Bids were received from the following: Matthew Kersten of Speedway Truck and Auto, Norfolk - \$600.00; Trace Stapleton, Norfolk - \$2,022.22; Tom Schellpeper, Stanton - \$476.00. Bids were reviewed by the board.

Motion made by Kment, seconded by Rehak to accept the bid of Trace Stapleton for the 2012 Chevrolet truck box 6'6" long (red) and front/back bumpers in the amount of \$2,022.22. Voting: Ayes: Kment, Rehak and Huttman. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Mike Frohberg, emergency manager, joined the meeting. Mike updated the board on the May 12<sup>th</sup> storm damage within the county. Numerous tornado sightings were confirmed. Discussion held on possible increase to tower rental fees. Mike advised the board that he will be helping at the Wayne Air Show May 23 – 28, 2023.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Rehak to approve for the month of April the Documentary Stamp Tax, co shr in the amount of \$3,381.66; County Clerk fees in the amount of \$2,406.65; P&M Fund fees in the amount of \$378.00; Misc Copy fees in the amount of \$0.00; Clerk of the District Court fees in the amount of \$61.40; Passport fees in the amount of \$70.00; County Treasurer's receipt of money received numbered 23356 – 23408, inclusive in the amount of \$384,035.35; and place them on file. Voting: Ayes: Huttman, Rehak and Kment. Nays: None. Motion Carried.

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Rehak to approve the following Accounts Payable and Payroll claims as presented and order checks drawn on the various funds:

GENERAL FUND – Ameritas Retirement, ret-co shr, 8510.39; Antelope Co Shf Dept, boarding, 1760.00; Appeara, services, 165.21; Applied Connective Tech, services, 2307.75; Kim Bearnese, phone etc, 50.00; Shawn Beaudette, services, 103.00; Big Red Printing, supplies, 1230.78; Black Hills Energy, utilities, 360.25; BCBS, ins-co shr, 36136.87; Boarders Inn & Suites, lodging, 190.00; Brite, supplies, 128.00; Card Services, meals etc, 297.72; Cornhusker Auto Cntr, services, 334.75; State Acct, equip fee, 43.88; Martha Detlefsen, prior service, 12.00; Eakes Office Solutions, supplies, 374.72; Tyler Evans, supplies, 271.69; Ewalt Law Office, public defender, 3500.00; Farmer's Coop, fuel, 1494.69; First Concord Benefits, fees, 45.00; Floor Maintenance, supplies, 145.67; Gene Steffy, 2023 Dodge Charger, 27050.00; Grafix Shoppe, services, 51.00; Great Amer Finc Serv, rental pymt, 267.30; Holiday Inn Kearney, lodging, 235.90; Norfolk Daily News, services, 642.87; IRS USA Tax Pymt, so sec tax-co shr, 9787.41; Hilltop Drug, services, 239.81; Kuehn's Auto Body, services, 250.00; Stanton Hardware, supplies, 231.96; Walter A Lammler Jr, mileage etc, 609.91; Lammler Locke Beaudette Law, office allow, 958.00; Madison Co Shf, boarding etc, 3190.00; Madison Natl Life Ins Co, ins-co shr, 34.01; Janet Meyer, services, 30.00; Mid-American Benefits, hra fees-co shr, 5796.00; Midwest Special Services, transport fees, 38.50; MIPS, fees, 2859.25; Moyer Moyer Lafleur, atty fees, 3255.55; NJ Crim Interdiction LLC, fees, 299.00; Natl Pen Co, supplies, 271.85; Nebraska.Gov, copies, 1.00; Nebr Assoc Co Ext Boards, fees, 100.00; Nebraska Assoc Co Officials, dues etc, 1775.31; Lavern Newkirk, prior service, 17.00; NE Nebr Area Agency Aging, FY fees, 3172.00; NE Nebr Economic Dev Dist, dues, 915.00; One Office, supplies, 1572.73; Paper Tiger Shredding, services, 540.00; Pilger Library, supplies, 313.16; Pitzer Digital, services, 563.25; Prime Sanitation, utilities, 39.75; Stanton Auto Parts, services etc, 408.90; Rita Roenfeldt, prior service, 20.00; Ron's Ag Auto Repair, services, 127.50; Stanton Co Clk, postage, 3.79; Stanton Co Crt, fees, 211.00; Stanton Co Imp Acct, ach fees, 21.75; Stanton Co PPD, utilities, 1078.96; Stanton Downtown Business Coalition, fees, 50.00; Stanton Telecom, services, 1900.29; Stanton Water Sewer, utilities, 82.50; Teeco, supplies, 53.95; Lil Store, fuel, 4002.17; Thurston Co Shf, boarding, 250.00; Univ Nebraska Extension-Stanton Co, phone, 45.02; Verizon Wireless, service, 480.12; Winsupply Norfolk, parts, 1856.75; Sandra Zoubek Co Treas, transfers etc, 255023.00;

ROAD FUND – A&R Construction, services, 17860.03; Ameritas Retirement, ret-co shr, 4019.13; Appeara, services, 90.05; ATCO Intl, supplies, 575.00; B's Enterprises, supplies, 305.00; Backus Sand Gravel, gravel, 4413.92; Black Hills Energy, utilities, 1162.12; BCBS, ins-co shr, 24485.79; Bomgaars, supplies, 905.57; Century Link, services, 84.94; Clarkson Plbg Htg, supplies, 22.76; Janice Coates, prior service, 17.00; Johnson Trucking Sand Gravel, gravel, 12864.11; Doernemann Farm Service, supplies etc, 356.34; James Duncan, prior service, 16.00; Farmer's Coop, fuel etc, 8454.97; Farmers Un Coop Supply, supplies, 730.36; Fastenal Co, supplies, 62.23; Grimes Asphalt Paving, supplies, 2797.20; IRS USA Tax Pymt, so sec tax-co shr, 4688.76; Island Supply Welding, supplies, 235.90; David Jensen, hauling, 3825.00; John Deere Finc, parts, 26.39; Johnson Sand Gravel, gravel, 432.39; Kaup Forage Turf, seeding, 2259.00; Kelly Supply, supplies, 109.98; Kimball Midwest, supplies, 183.60; Stanton Hardware, supplies, 57.12; Luedeke Oil Co, fuel etc, 18047.56; Madison Natl Life Ins, ins-co shr, 8.64; Mainelli Wagner Assoc, fees, 15055.00; Matteo Sand Gravel, gravel, 40992.85; Menards, supplies, 63.88; Mid-American Benefits, hra fees-co shr, 3500.00; Nebr Fed Surplus Prop, 2015 Chev etc, 39860.00; NMC Exchange, services, 712.55; Village Pilger, utilities, 115.61; Pilger Concrete Recycling, gravel, 1287.00; Pilger Store, fuel etc, 8303.54; Pitzer Digital, services, 61.43; Platte Valley Equip, services, 509.56; Powerplan, services, 2764.42; Prime Sanitation, utilities, 50.00; Profire Safety, services, 348.00; RDO Truck Centers, services, 7647.27; Stanton Auto Parts, services, 1487.16; Ron's Ag Auto Repair, supplies, 352.50; Sioux City Truck Sales, parts, 66.60; Stanley Petroleum Maintenance, parts, 57.00; Stanton Co Clk, fees, 28.00; Stanton Co PPD, utilities, 1635.45; Stanton Telecom, services, 223.08; Stanton Water Sewer, services, 43.70; Teeco, supplies, 58.75; Theisen Construction, services, 118654.20; Truck Center Co, parts, 154.71; US Cellular, services, 69.03; Verizon Connect Fleet, services, 823.40; Sandra Zoubek, fees, 10.00;

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FUND – Advexure LLC, portable tablet, 679.00; Airdata UAV, subscription, 309.00; Ameritas Retirement, ret-co shr, 327.94; Black Hills Energy, utilities, 93.80; Cornhusker Auto Center, services, 181.40; Echo Group, parts, 27.45; Farmer's Coop, fuel, 348.07; Fire Cam, propellers etc, 869.95; Frohberg Electric, services, 2697.54; Mike Frohberg, reimbursement, 140.37; IRS USA Tax Pymt, so sec tax-co shr, 467.25; Luedeke Oil Co, services, 30.00; Madison Natl Life Ins Co, ins-co shr, 5.42; Menards, supplies, 547.79; Motoplex, 2023 Can-Am, 9500.00; One Office, supplies, 25.90; Prime Sanitation, utilities, 12.50; Stanton Co PPD, utilities, 65.57; Stanton Telecom, utilities, 55.47; Stanton Water Sewer, utilities, 41.25; Lil Store, fuel, 181.04; Tri-State Comm, radio repair, 140.00;

P&M FUND – One Office, supplies, 91.45;

INHERITANCE TAX FUND – Stanton Co PPD, tower, 124.55;

EMERGENCY 911 FUND – City Norfolk, dispatching, 16666.67; Stanton Telecom, services, 73.23; Tri-State Comm, radio repair, 1245.00;

Total aggregate salaries of all county employees \$198,185.76.

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

Motion made by Huttman, seconded by Rehak to adjourn and set a meeting for June 1, 2023 at 8:00 AM and set the regular meeting for June 19, 2023, at 8:15 AM (which will also be the fiscal year meeting). 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