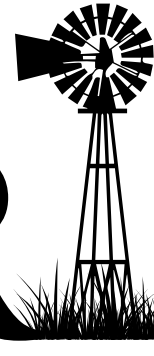


# THE STAPLETON ENTERPRISE

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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2021

NO. 5

## Auditor makes fire district recommendations

The Nebraska Auditor of Public Accounts office has urged 83% of the state's 414 rural fire districts to correct one or more problems with their fiscal processes.

Recommendations were included in letters sent to 343 of the 397 Nebraska fire districts that requested audit waivers for the 2019-20 fiscal year.

Stapleton Rural Fire District was among the 54 districts that did not receive recommendations for improvement with their audit waiver.

The auditor selected minutes from fire district board meetings and noted the boards had not actually voted to approve spending items.

Only one board member signed checks in several cases. State law requires the board's president and secretary-treasurer must sign checks.

Other issues included excessive per-meeting payments to board members exceeding state law and lack of documentation for payments to first-

responder agencies.

The state auditor's office reports that audit-waiver letters were being issued to help smaller boards protect taxpayers against embezzlement.

Craig Kubicek, assistant deputy state auditor said while an audit is still not required, the office is asking that fire districts correct deficiencies before next year. None of the recommendations in the letters reflected criminal wrongdoing or misconduct.

## SPS board of education reorganizes

Electing officers and appointing committees were on the agenda of the January 18 regular board of education meeting at Stapleton Public Schools.

Kristy Opela was elected president, Steve Schaeffer, vice president, Kim Kramer, secretary, and Frank Kramer, treasurer. Committees for 2021 were appointed as follows:

Negotiations: Frank Kramer, Kim Kramer and

Rex Walz.

Buildings & Grounds & Safety: Rich Burnside, Kristy Opela, and Rex Walz.

Transportation: Frank Kramer, Steve Schaeffer, and Rex Walz.

Committee on American Civics: Frank Kramer, Kristy Opela, and Steve Schaeffer.

Technology: Rich Burnside, Kristy Opela and Steve Schaeffer.

School Improvement-Curriculum: Rich Burnside, Kim Kramer and Steve Schaeffer.

Wellness Committee: Kristy Opela.

PLC Committee: Frank Kramer.

Foundation Representative: Steve Schaeffer.

Coop Committee: Rich Burnside, Frank Kramer, and Kim Kramer. Rex Walz, alternate.

In other action at the meeting:

- The architect contract

was tabled until after the building and grounds committee meeting.

- The board approved Ameritas as the Bond Underwriter for \$2,900,000.

- The Nebraska Association of School Board's Code of Conduct will be used as best practice guidelines

- Community First Bank, Stapleton, was designated as the official depository of school district funds, KSB Law Firm will be the official legal counsel for the district, and The Stapleton Enterprise was designated the official news publication.

- A contract for Principal Kris Walker for the 2021-22 school year was extended.

- The maintenance/custodian position was tabled and further advertising approved.

- Emilee Wells was hired as the new guidance counselor.

## Locals Join Rally At Nation's Capital



STEVE SCHOLZ PHOTO

Agriculturalists joined the rally at the nation's capitol. Pictured in front of the Capitol on Jan. 6 are, left to right, Nathan Kramer, Dan Phelps, Rusty Kemp, Kyle Gifford, Casey Macken, Steve Scholz, Rob Ita, and Arlan Paxton.

By Carrie Stadheim  
for Tri-State Livestock News

Jan. 6, 2021, Congress convened to certify the vote that elected Joe Biden president of the United States. That day, President Trump stood before an audience of thousands and incited his supporters to violence and insurrection.

That's the official account, according to mainstream media and many in Congress, who voted to impeach Trump days later, based on his words and the actions taken that day.

Eyewitness accounts and the transcript of Trump's speech tell a somewhat different story.

According to photos, video and eyewitness accounts, an unknown number of rally participants broke a window in the Capitol and entered the building, posing for photographs at the desk of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., and allegedly stealing her laptop.

The rally ended with several arrests, at least one rally-goer dead, and some police officers injured, according to ABC news.

In an article published Jan. 6, and updated Jan. 8, *The New York Times* wrote, "And when that day came, the president rallied thousands of his supporters with an incendiary speech. Then a large mob of those supporters, many waving Trump flags and wearing Trump regalia, violently stormed the Capitol to take over the halls of government and send elected officials into hiding, fearing for their safety."

### BEING HEARD

Western Nebraska cattle feeder Steve Scholz said he attended the rally because, "I believe this is a turning point in America where we have to be there and make our voices heard to save this republic."

Scholz said he doesn't know who the bad actors were, and he was far enough back he couldn't see them very well, but all of the people he encountered were peaceful, as were the leaders and speakers. "You throw a cross section of a million people, you are going to get a few whack jobs," he said.

"There were enough people there that if we wanted to storm the Cap-

itol, there was nothing they could have done about it."

Another rally attendee, Dennis Miller, a 70-year-old eastern North Dakota farmer, said he believes most who attended the rally were protesting the election results.

"The reason they were there was because this election was stolen - nobody's talking about that," he said.

Scholz estimates that over a million people - of every race, color, gender and age - gathered to support President Trump and protest the certification of former Vice President Joe Biden as the 46th president of the United States.

"There were Chinese families with little kids holding flags, there were 80-year-old ladies with walkers, clinging to their American flags. People were singing patriotic songs, people were quoting scripture, people were quoting the constitution, there were people dressed in Revolutionary War type costumes." Scholz said there were even a few protesters horseback. "I've never seen a crowd like that. There were even people from other coun-

tries. Their eyes are on America. They know if America falls, they all fall. They expressed that."

Miller said that he attended an event the evening before the rally where he and the crowd heard at least 15 speakers including Gen. Michael Flynn, a retired United States Army lieutenant general who was briefly the national security adviser to President Trump, and Roger Stone, Trump's political adviser, the president's pastor and many developers of alternative media.

"I did not hear one speaker urge aggression or violence," said Miller. "Speakers encouraged prayer. If I could shrink what I heard into one sentence the rally speakers urged us to go home, register voters, convince our neighbors that conservative values will be the only way to guarantee the future of our country."

### TRUMP'S SPEECH

Trump's speech included calling his supporters to action, and outlining what he said is proof of voter fraud, for 70 minutes. The final words of his speech were:

See RALLY Page 2

## Fund-raiser proceeds to help with golf course improvement

The Stapleton Golf Association is holding a fund-raiser and gun raffle with proceeds going towards improvements at the Augusta Winds Golf Course south of Stapleton.

The steak dinner will be served Saturday, February 13, at 7:00 p.m. at the Stapleton Community Center. Tickets are \$20.00 each with the purchase of a raffle ticket, or \$25.00 at the door. There will be a cash bar.

Members are raffling off a .22 mag Henry rifle. Tickets are \$10.00 each or 10 for \$80.00. Second place will be your choice of a golf bag or one year family membership. You do not need to be present to win.

The golf association held their annual meeting, Sat-

urday, January 23, and officers for 2021 are Skip Hecox, president; Chayton Crow, secretary; and Scott Gaites, treasurer.

Jayce Doyle is the new board member joining Kaman Dailey, Eric Garrelts, Mike Needs, Travis Hansen, and Tim Karn.

Memberships are due April 1 and are \$275.00 for a single person; \$350.00 for a family; and \$150.00/associates.

Green fees are \$15.00 for nine holes or \$20.00 for all day.

Cart spaces are \$75.00 for gas carts and \$100.00 for electric.

A limited number of rental carts are available.

Contact Skip Hecox at 308-529-1861 for more information on the raffle or steak dinner.

## New DHM measures as state moves to "green"

Gov. Pete Ricketts announced that the state is moving from the "blue" to "green" phase of its coronavirus pandemic response plan. As a result, new directed health measures went into effect at 12:01 a.m. Saturday, Janu-

ary 30. The new DHMs change some of the restrictions put in place to help manage the coronavirus pandemic.

Nebraska's pandemic response plan links DHM

See New DHM Page 12

## Croghan recognized

John Croghan of Stapleton has been recognized by Custer Public Power District for 40 years of service. Croghan is a lead lineman at the Stapleton Service Center. He apprenticed under retired lineman Don Slingsby. Custer PPD, headquar-

tered in Broken Bow, is geographically the largest rural public power district in Nebraska serving over 8,000 square miles of territory.

Area service centers are maintained in Sargent, Callaway, Stapleton, and Thedford.

## -- News Briefs --

### Stapleton Area Chamber To Elect Officers

The Stapleton Area Chamber of Commerce membership drive dinner to be held February 1 was cancelled.

Election of officers will take place at the February 25 regular meeting of the organization at noon at the Stapleton Community Center. Dues of \$40.00 per year are payable to Cindy Frey, treasurer.

### Vet's Club Chili Cook-Off Winners

The Vet's Club hosted a chili cook-off contest Saturday, January 23, and Velda Cassell, manager, reports there was a very good turnout for the event.

Winners were: Mild Division - 1. Janet Barnum; 2. Darcie Krauter. Hot Division - 1. Ann Wells; 2. LeAnn.

Be watching for more activities at the club that will also include Karaoke.

## Weather

| DATE | HI | LOW | MT  |
|------|----|-----|-----|
| 23   | 31 | 19  | T   |
| 24   | 27 | 20  | T   |
| 25   | 28 | 21  | T   |
| 26   | 25 | 10  | T   |
| 27   | 18 | 9   | .54 |
| 28   | 19 | 3   | .01 |
| 29   | 20 | 4   | T   |

A trace of snow was recorded on Jan. 23, 24, 25 & 28. 4.5" was recorded on Jan. 25 and .5" on Jan. 27. Wind chill was recorded at 5 degrees on Jan. 25 at 1:24 p.m. and -7 degrees on Jan. 26 at 9:08 p.m.

Mavs Are MNAC Conference Runners-Up  
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## McPherson Co. News



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- Graphic Files
- "Precious Memories"
- Bloodmobile Results

## Notices

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- McPherson Co. Commissioners Public Notice
- Village of Stapleton Notice Of Meeting
- Stapleton Rural Fire Protection District Meeting Notice
- McPherson County School District #90 Notice Of Meeting
- Logan & McPherson Notices Of Tax Sale
- Logan Co. Tax Exempt Public Notice

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