

# Proposed Salary Ordinance

WHEREAS, the provisions of the Ramsey County Home Rule Charter (Charter) relating to compensation for the Board of Commissioners state that:

- a) The Board may determine the annual salary of its members by passage of a salary ordinance; and,
- b) The salary ordinance must be passed by July 1 of the year prior to the effective date of the ordinance; and,
- c) The ordinance shall not become effective until the first business day of the following year (January 1, 2027); and,

WHEREAS, The Charter requires that per diem payments be made to the County and that, with the exception of fees, payments and other compensation paid to an officer of the Association of Minnesota Counties, the County will not add these payments to the Commissioners' salary when payments are received from the various boards, committees and other governmental agencies; and

WHEREAS, The current annual salary of the Board of Commissioners is \$107,199 for County Board Members, and \$112,559 for the County Board Chair; and,

WHEREAS, In 2026, Ramsey County employees received a general wage increase of 3.50%; and,

WHEREAS, It has been the intention of the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners that future salary increases for the Board of Commissioners be set at a rate that matches the general increase in wages given to employees in the previous year; and,

WHEREAS, An increase of 3.50% for the Board of Commissioners will result in a salary increase equivalent to the cost of living adjustment (COLA) given to employees in the calendar year 2026;

Now, Therefore, The Board of Commissioners for the County of Ramsey Does,

ORDAIN, That the annual salary for the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners for calendar year 2027 shall increase to \$110,951 for County Board Members and to \$116,499 for the County Board Chair; and Be it Further

ORDAINED, With the exception of fees, payments and other compensation paid to an officer of the Association of Minnesota Counties, the Board voted to decline fees, payments and other compensation paid to County Board members in exchange for representing the County on outside boards, committees and other governmental agencies and any subcommittees thereof, and that any funds received by the County would remain within the County's General Fund; and Be It Further

ORDAINED, That the Commissioners are eligible to receive fees, payments and other compensation paid from the following boards, committees and other governmental agencies and any subcommittees thereof;

Association of Minnesota Counties (if serving as an Officer)

And Be It Further

ORDAINED, That all appointments of County Commissioners to various boards, committees and other governmental agencies shall be ratified by County Board resolution before per diems shall be paid; and Be It Further

ORDAINED, That any subsequent new appointments or changes in appointments to new or existing boards, committees or governmental agencies, and any subsequent establishment

57 of new per diem rates or increase in current per diem rates shall be ratified by  
58 County Board resolution before per diems shall be paid; And Be It Further

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60           ORDAINED, That any increase in per diems or new per diems which are approved by  
61 the above described process, shall be included in the next annual salary ordinance, and Be It  
62 Further

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64           ORDAINED, That the Ramsey County Board of Commissioners shall be allowed to  
65 receive actual and necessary expenses for attendance at conferences, seminars, etc., in  
66 connection with their official County Commissioner duties as do all other Ramsey County  
67 employees; and Be It Further

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69           ORDAINED, That unless a valid referendum petition is filed within 45 days after the  
70 publication of this ordinance, this ordinance shall:

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72 a) Become effective on January 1, 2027 and replace the previous salary ordinance (Ordinance  
73 B2025-138); and,

74 b) Continue in effect throughout calendar year 2027 and subsequent years until changed by a  
75 subsequent County Board ordinance.

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