

Board of Commissioners Resolution

B2020-242

15 West Kellogg Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55102
651-266-9200

Sponsor: Property Tax, Records and Election Services

Meeting Date: 12/1/2020

Item Number: 2020-537

Title: Compensation Rate for Election Judges

Background:

The Elections Office is responsible for administering state and county elections for the County and, under contract, to perform similar duties on behalf of 12 municipalities and 5 school districts in the County. Minnesota Statutes section 204B.21 sets forth the duty to appoint election judges and Minnesota Statutes section 204B.31, subd.1(4) requires election judges to be compensated for their service. Election judges are County employees and the County Board sets the compensation of all County employees under Minnesota Statutes section 383A.282.

Serving as an election judge is one of the most valuable methods of civic engagement available to County residents, and election judges play an essential part in the administration of elections in the County. The dramatic increase in absentee voting has created an even greater demand for these services at our early vote centers and administrative offices to process absentee ballots.

Neighboring municipalities have set election judge compensation starting at \$17 per hour. To ensure the County remains competitive amid the election judge recruitment process and can recruit an election judge pool reflective of our county's population, the Elections Office is requesting the County Board approve establish the following hourly compensation rates, effective January 1, 2021:

i.	Absentee ballot board judges	\$22.00 per hour
ii.	Voting system judges	\$22.00 per hour
iii.	Area logistics judges	\$20.00 per hour
iv.	Head judges	\$20.00 per hour
v.	Assistant head judges	\$18.00 per hour
vi.	Precinct & Student judges	\$16.00 per hour

Recommendation:

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners resolved to:

1. Rescind the compensation schedule for election judges authorized by the County Board in Resolution B2016-283.
2. Establish hourly compensation rates for election judge, effective January 1, 2021:
 - i. Absentee ballot board judges \$22.00 per hour
 - ii. Voting system judges \$22.00 per hour
 - iii. Area logistics judges \$20.00 per hour
 - iv. Head judges \$20.00 per hour
 - v. Assistant head judges \$18.00 per hour
 - vi. Precinct & Student judges \$16.00 per hour

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner Frethem, seconded by Commissioner Reinhardt.
Ayes – 7: Frethem, MatasCastillo, McDonough, McGuire, Ortega, Reinhardt, Carter. Motion passed.

By: _____
Janet M. Guthrie, Chief Clerk – County Board