

Board of Commissioners Resolution

15 West Kellogg Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55102
651-266-8350

Sponsor: Property Tax, Records and Election Services

Meeting Date: 10/6/2020

Item Number: 2020-279

Title: Increased Compensation for Election Judges for the 2020 Primary and General Election

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, attributed to COVID-19, 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 a \$4.00 per hour increase for all election judges serving in the 2020 General election.

Recommendation:

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners resolved to:

Approve a temporary \$4.00 per hour increase to the current hourly rate for election judges assigned by the Ramsey County Elections office for the 2020 Primary and General elections, effective September 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020, with the new temporary rates being:

Absentee ballot board judges	\$20.00 per hour
Voting system judges	\$20.00 per hour
Area logistics judges	\$18.00 per hour
Head judges	\$18.00 per hour
Assistant head judges	\$16.00 per hour
Precinct & Student judges	\$14.00 per hour

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

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