

# Washington County, Minnesota

## Board of Commissioners - Actions

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### Actions at the Tuesday, September 20, 2011 Board Meeting

This page is a brief view of the actions taken by the Washington County Board of Commissioners. For further information, please telephone 651-430-6001.

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*Washington County's mission is to provide quality public services in a cost-effective manner through innovation, leadership, and the cooperation of dedicated people.*

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### County will provide election services for 2 school district special elections

Washington County will provide election services for special elections in the Mahtomedi and North St. Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale school districts this fall.

The Washington County Board of Commissioners approved joint powers agreements with those two school districts at its meeting Sept. 20. The elections will be Nov. 8.

Expenses for the elections are paid for in full by the school districts. Expenses for the Mahtomedi election are expected to be \$7,880; expenses for the North St. Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale school district election are expected to be \$25,400.

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### Company will continue to manage Environmental Center

The Washington County Board of Commissioners will continue to contract with Dynamic Recycling for recycling waste electronics collected at the Washington County Environmental Center, after the board approved an amendment to the current contract Sept. 20 with the vendor that manages the center in Woodbury.

Washington County has collected and recycled electronics from residents since November 2007, first at the household hazardous waste facility in Oakdale until its closure in June 2009, and now at the Washington County Environmental Center since September 2009.

Dynamic Recycling was contracted to work with the county in 2009. The amendment to that contract extends the term of the original agreement an additional year to Dec. 31, 2012, and sets better pricing.

This allows the county to maintain electronics collection and recycling services for its residents at the Environmental Center and weekend events in a cost-effective manner, while ensuring the electronics collected are recycled in compliance with transportation, safety, and environmental regulations.

The agreement also provides for potential reimbursement from Dynamic Recycling if the company obtains financial support from manufacturers as part of Minnesota's Electronics Recycling law. The county received about \$85,000 in reimbursement in 2010. With projected 2012 recycling costs of \$147,000, and reimbursement similar to that in 2010, net costs under this contract in 2012 are expected to be about \$62,000.

Washington County's Environmental Center provides residents with a free and convenient disposal option for household hazardous waste, electronics, and recyclables. The center is at 4039 Cottage Grove Drive in Woodbury and is open Tuesdays noon to 7 p.m., Thursdays 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., and Saturdays 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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## **Board takes action to formalize 2011 budget reductions**

The Washington County Board of Commissioners has been reviewing the county's 2012 budget, and setting the levy for the coming year, as it continued to manage budget reductions that have occurred in 2011. The board took action to approve the reductions in the 2011 budget at its Sept. 20 meeting.

Due to anticipated reductions in county program aid and money to reimburse the market value tax credit from the state, the Office of Administration has developed a plan to meet the revenue shortfall.

The combined revenue shortfall due to state reductions for 2011 is approximately \$4.2 million. The recommended reductions will occur in reduced pavement improvement projects, reduced contribution to Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB), and savings in the wages and benefit categories.

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