



## A Brief Look at Chisago County History

Chisago County was established in 1851, seven years before Minnesota became a state. The county seat, first at Taylors Falls, moved to Chisago City in 1865

and to Center City in 1875. The wood-frame courthouse built at Center City in 1876 stood at the site of the new Government Center until 1990 when it was moved to Taylors Falls.

The St. Croix River which forms the county's eastern boundary brought the earliest settlers to the area. The Dakota and Ojibway were largely gone when the first white settlers appeared. Europeans arrived from the north as early as 1680. French fur traders following the same route southward from Lake Superior established trading posts along the river as far south as Taylors Falls in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. In the late 1880s the first sawmills were built along the St. Croix. The logging industry boomed into the twentieth century.

Among the first permanent settlers was a party of Swedes who traveled upriver from Illinois in 1851 and established a colony at Center City. This colony was made famous by Swedish writer Vilhelm Moberg in his novels the *Emigrants*, *Unto a Good Land* and *The Last Letter Home*.

Farming, begun in the 1850s, was a focus until the 1890s when vacationers discovered the county's bountiful lakes and rivers. Today it is the beauty of the Dalles of the St. Croix, its park system and abundant recreational areas that bring visitors to the county.

*By Lloyd Hackel*

County of Chisago  
313 North Main Street  
Center City, MN 55012  
651-213-8830  
Fax: 651-213-8876

# County of Chisago

## 2017 INFORMATION GUIDE



Visit our Website at:  
[www.chisagocounty.us](http://www.chisagocounty.us)

For Employment Opportunities:  
Call our Job Line at: 651-213-8860

*Chisago County Government Center*

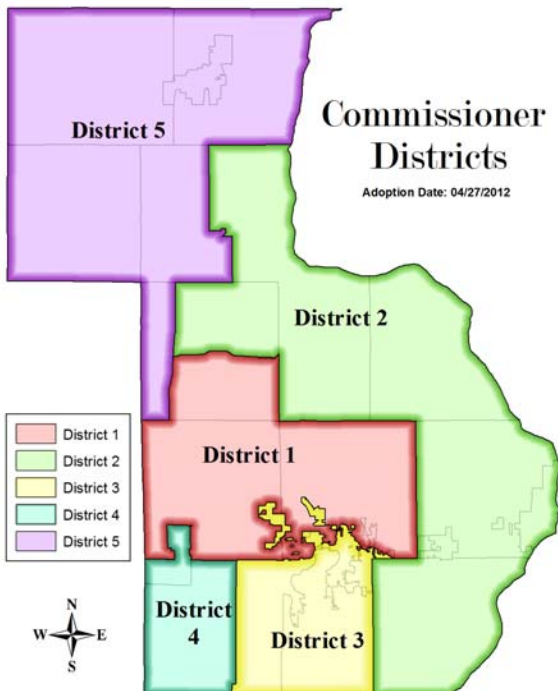
313 North Main Street  
Center City, MN 55012

651-257-1300

674-4433

888/234-1246

## DEPARTMENT DIRECTORY



### CHISAGO COUNTY COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS

**District #1** (213-8831)  
Lora Walker  
P. O. Box 105  
Stacy, MN 55079  
651-462-9308

**District #2** (213-8832)  
Rick Greene, Vice  
37655 Oriole Avenue  
North Branch, MN 55056  
651-583-2513

**District #3** (213-8833)  
George McMahon  
27720 Woodland Drive  
Chisago City, MN 55013  
651-257-2701

**District #4** (213-8834)  
Ben Montzka, Chair  
P. O. Box 307  
Wyoming, MN 55092  
651-464-8515

**District #5** (213-8835)  
Mike Robinson  
P.O. Box 23  
Rush City, MN 55069  
320-358-3223

Administration .....	Bruce Messelt
.....	651-213-8830
Board of Commissioners.....	651-213-8830
Assessor .....	John Keefe
.....	651-213-8550
Attorney .....	Janet Reiter
.....	651-213-8400
Auditor .....	Dennis Freed
.....	651-213-8500
Court Administration .....	Kathleen Karnowski
.....	651-213-8650
Court Services/Probation .....	Amy Chavez
.....	651-213-8350
Emergency Management.....	Scott Sellman
.....	651-775-9973 or 651-213-6313
Extension Services .....	651-277-0151
Heartland Express Transit Director.....	Craig Rempp
.....	763-689-8131
Human Resources .....	Renee Kirchner
.....	651-213-8866
HHS - Human Services.....	Nancy Dahlin
.....	651-213-5600
Household Hazardous Waste Facility, North Branch	
.....	651-237-0912
Parks Services.....	Laird Mork
.....	651-674-2345
Public Health/Nursing .....	Courtney Wehrenberg
.....	651-213-5200
Public Works/Highway .....	Joe Triplett
.....	651-213-8700
Recorder .....	Janet Converse
.....	651-213-8580
Sheriff .....	Rick Duncan
.....	651-257-4100
Treasurer .....	Dennis Freed
.....	651-213-8540
Veterans Services.....	Al Budde
.....	651-213-5600
Zoning/Environmental.....	Kurt Schneider
.....	651-213-8370

HRA-EDA Executive Director..... Nancy Hoffman  
Located in North Branch..... 651-674-5664

### City Offices

<b>Center City</b> .....	651-257-5284
Box 245, 300 N. Center Avenue, Center City, MN 55012	
<b>Chisago City</b> .....	651-257-4162
Box 611, 10625 Railroad Ave, Chisago City, MN 55013	
<b>Harris</b> .....	651-674-7546
Box 111, 43970 Ginger Avenue, Harris, MN 55032	
<b>Lindstrom</b> .....	651-257-0620
13292 Sylvan Ave, Lindstrom, MN 55045	
<b>North Branch</b> .....	651-674-8113
PO Box 910, 6408 Elm St, North Branch, MN 55056	
<b>Rush City</b> .....	320-358-4743
Box 556, 325 S. Eliot, Rush City, MN 55069	
<b>Shafer</b> .....	651-257-4726
17656 303 <sup>rd</sup> Street, Shafer, MN 55074	
<b>Stacy</b> .....	651-462-4486
30955 Forest Blvd, Stacy, MN 55079	
<b>Taylor's Falls</b> .....	651-465-5133
637 First Street, Taylor's Falls, MN 55084	
<b>Wyoming</b> .....	651-462-0575
PO Box 188, 26855 Forest Blvd, Wyoming, MN 55092	

### Township Offices

<b>Amador</b> .....	651-583-3108
37475 Park Trail, Almelund, MN 55012	
<b>Chisago Lake</b> .....	651-257-6906
Box 649, 31603 Mildred Avenue, Lindstrom, MN 55045	
<b>Fish Lake</b> .....	651-674-7709
2170 Brunswick Road, Harris, MN 55032	
<b>Franconia</b> .....	651-500-8258
P.O. Box 175, 25156 St. Croix Trl N, Shafer, MN 55074	
<b>Lent</b> .....	651-462-3009
33155 Hemingway Ave., Stacy, MN 55079	
<b>Nessel</b> .....	320-396-2702
49205 Acacia Trail, Stanchfield, MN 55080	
<b>Rushseba</b> .....	320-358-4569
51445 Forest Blvd., Rush City, MN 55069	
Mailing Address: 11051 530 <sup>th</sup> St, Rush City, MN 55069	
<b>Shafer</b> .....	651-583-2168
18259 St Croix Trail, Shafer, MN 55074	
<b>Sunrise</b> .....	651-674-6046
P.O. Box 933, 41275 Oak St, North Branch, MN 55056	