

CHAPTER 400

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

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400.01 POLICY AND AUTHORIZATION.

In order to protect the state's water, air and land resources so as to promote the public safety, health, welfare and productive capacity of its population, it is in the public interest that counties conduct solid waste management programs.

History: 1971 c 403 s 1

400.02 APPLICABILITY.

Sections 400.01 to 400.17 apply to all counties other than the counties of Hennepin, Ramsey, Washington, Anoka, Dakota, Scott, and Carver.

History: 1971 c 403 s 2

400.03 DEFINITIONS.

Subdivision 1. For the purposes of sections 400.01 to 400.17 the terms defined in this section have the meaning given them. The terms defined in chapter 116 and section 115A.03, also apply to the terms used in sections 400.01 to 400.17.

Subd. 2. [Repealed, 1980 c 564 art 13 s 2]

Subd. 3. [Repealed, 1980 c 564 art 13 s 2]

Subd. 4. [Repealed, 1980 c 564 art 13 s 2]

Subd. 5. [Repealed, 1980 c 564 art 13 s 2]

Subd. 6. [Repealed, 1980 c 564 art 13 s 2]

Subd. 7. [Repealed, 1980 c 564 art 13 s 2]

History: 1971 c 403 s 3; 1973 c 153 s 1; 1974 c 346 s 6; 1980 c 564 art 9 s 1

400.04 SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM.

Subdivision 1. **General.** Any county may conduct a solid waste management program which may include activities authorized by sections 400.01 to 400.17 and such other activities as are necessary and convenient to effectively carry out the purposes of sections 400.01 to 400.17.

Subd. 2. **Acquisition of real property.** A county may acquire by gift, lease, purchase or eminent domain as provided by law any land or interest in land upon such terms and conditions as it shall determine, including the use of contracts for deed, within or outside of the county, which the board deems suitable for these purposes; provided that no such land or interest in land situated in any other county shall be acquired without the approval by resolution of the county board thereof.

Subd. 3. **Acquisition, construction and operation of property and facilities.** A county may acquire, construct, enlarge, improve, repair, supervise, control,

maintain, and operate any and all solid waste facilities and other property and facilities needed, used, or useful for solid waste management purposes, and may purchase and lease materials, equipment, machinery and such other personal property as is necessary for such purposes upon terms and conditions determined by the board including the use of conditional sales contracts and lease-purchase agreements. A county may employ such personnel as are reasonably necessary for the care, maintenance and operation of such property and facilities. A county shall contract with private persons for the construction, maintenance, and operation of solid waste facilities where the facilities are adequate and available for use and competitive with other means of providing the same service.

Subd. 4. **Management and service contracts.** A county may enter into contracts for the construction, installation, maintenance and operation of property and facilities on private or public lands and may contract for the furnishing of solid waste management services.

Subd. 5. **Plans.** The county may provide for surveys and plans to determine locations available, appropriate, and suitable for property and facilities needed for the program, and plans for the improvement of property and facilities.

Subd. 6. **Expenditure of funds.** A county is authorized to expend funds for the purposes enumerated in this section and for any other activities necessary to an efficient solid waste management program.

History: 1971 c 403 s 4; 1980 c 564 art 9 s 2

400.05 SERVICE AREAS; ESTABLISHMENT AND ENLARGEMENT.

Without diminishing the county's authority and responsibility as provided in sections 400.01 to 400.17 and in order to provide solid waste management services in those areas needing such services, the county board by resolution may establish and determine the boundaries of solid waste management service areas in the county. Before the adoption of the resolution the county board shall hold a public hearing on the question. If a service area is established, the county board may impose service charges for solid waste management services against the users of such services within the area and may levy a tax on all the property in the area, or any combination of charges and taxes. The county board on its own motion may enlarge any existing service area following the procedures specified in this section. Upon the petition of a land owner, his land may be added to the service area without a public hearing on the enlargement.

History: 1971 c 403 s 5

400.06 INSPECTION; COOPERATION WITH AGENCY.

All counties shall provide for the periodic inspection of mixed municipal solid waste facilities and mixed municipal solid waste management property and facilities located and being operated within their respective boundaries to determine whether the property and facilities are being maintained and operated in compliance with applicable county ordinances and rules, regulations, standards, orders, permits, and requirements of the agency. In the event that the property and facilities are not so in compliance, the county board shall take actions necessary to assure future compliance with all applicable ordinances, rules, regulations, standards and requirements, according to law, and shall cooperate with the agency in obtaining and maintaining compliance. All inspectors provided or used by the county under this section shall be certified by the agency in accordance with section 116.41.

History: 1971 c 403 s 6; 1980 c 564 art 9 s 3

400.07 DEVELOPMENT OF RESOURCE RECOVERY SYSTEMS.

All counties shall cooperate with the agency in the planning, development and implementation of resource recovery systems, and toward that end, shall modify applicable county ordinances consistent with rules and standards of the agency.

History: 1971 c 403 s 7; 1980 c 564 art 9 s 4

400.08 SERVICE CHARGES.

The county may establish by ordinance, revise when deemed advisable, and collect just and reasonable rates and charges for solid waste management services provided by the county or by others under contract with the county. The ordinance may obligate the owners, lessees, or occupants of property, or any or all of them, to pay charges for solid waste management services to their properties and may obligate the user of any facility to pay a reasonable charge for the use of the facility. Rates and charges may take into account the character, kind, and quality of the service and of the solid waste, the method of disposition, the number of people served at each place of collection, and all other factors that enter into the cost of the service, including but not limited to depreciation and payment of principal and interest on money borrowed by the county for the acquisition or betterment of facilities. The rates and charges may be billed and collected in a manner the board shall determine. On or before October 15 in each year, the county board shall certify to the county auditor all unpaid outstanding charges for services hereunder, and a statement of the description of the lands which were serviced and against which the charges arose. It shall be the duty of the county auditor, upon order of the county board, to extend the assessments with interest not to exceed six percent as provided for in the county ordinance upon the tax rolls of the county for the taxes of the year in which the assessment is filed. For each year ending October 15 the assessment with interest shall be carried into the tax becoming due and payable in January of the following year, and shall be enforced and collected in the manner provided for the enforcement and collection of real property taxes in accordance with the provisions of the laws of the state. The charges, if not paid, shall become delinquent and be subject to the same penalties and the same rate of interest as the taxes under the general laws of the state. All rates and charges shall be uniform in their application to use and service of the same character and quantity. A notice of intention to enact such an ordinance, published pursuant to section 375.51, subdivision 2, shall provide for a public hearing thereon to be held prior to the meeting at which the ordinance is to be considered.

History: 1971 c 403 s 8; 1979 c 164 s 1

400.09 REVENUE BONDS.

The county may issue revenue bonds, payable solely from net revenues derived from rates and charges established as provided in section 400.08 in excess of current, reasonable, and necessary costs of the operation and maintenance of the county solid waste management program, for the acquisition or betterment of facilities for the program, or for refunding outstanding revenue bonds. It may irrevocably pledge and appropriate for the payment of the revenue bonds and interest thereof the net revenues from the operation of all or any defined portion of the solid waste management program, and by resolution of the board or by an indenture executed under its authority may make any and all covenants with the bondholders, or with a trustee for the bondholders, which are determined by it to be necessary or proper to assure the marketability of the bonds, the completion of the facilities financed thereby, the segregation of the revenues pledged in a special account in the solid waste management fund, and the establishment, maintenance, and collection of rates and charges sufficient to

produce net revenues adequate to pay the bonds and interest thereon when due and to create and maintain a reserve for that purpose, and may mortgage the site and facilities to the trustee. The bonds shall be authorized, issued, and sold as provided in chapter 475.

History: 1971 c 403 s 9

400.10 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS.

The county may issue general obligation bonds for the acquisition or betterment of facilities for the program, or for refunding outstanding general obligation bonds issued for this purpose, in the manner and subject to the limitations provided in chapter 475, except as otherwise provided in this section. It may by resolution of the county board provide for the payment of such bonds and interest thereon primarily from the net revenues to be derived from rates and charges established as provided in section 400.08, and may irrevocably pledge and appropriate for this purpose the net revenues from the operation of all or any defined portion of the solid waste management program. If such a pledge of revenues is made, the bonds shall be designated as general obligation revenue bonds, and no election shall be required thereon, and the bonds shall not be included in the net debt of the county for the purpose of any limitation of indebtedness. Upon the issuance of any series of such bonds a reserve shall be established from revenues on hand or from the proceeds of the bonds, and the full faith and credit of the county shall be pledged for the maintenance of the reserve thereafter, in an amount equal at all times to the maximum amount of principal and interest to become due on the bonds in any subsequent year until the reserve is sufficient for the retirement of all remaining bonds of the series. While any of the bonds are outstanding the county shall establish, maintain, and collect rates and charges sufficient to produce net revenues adequate to pay the principal and interest on the bonds when due and estimated to be sufficient to maintain the reserve. The amount of any taxes which are required to be levied for the restoration of any deficiency in the reserve shall be reimbursed from the solid waste management fund to the general fund of the county whenever net revenues become available for this purpose, in excess of amounts required to pay current principal and interest and to maintain the reserve.

History: 1971 c 403 s 10

400.11 TAX LEVIES; ADVANCE FUNDING.

The county may levy taxes for solid waste management purposes upon all taxable property within the county, which shall not affect the amount or rate of taxes which may be levied for other county purposes. The county may levy a tax in anticipation of need for solid waste management purposes as specified in the resolution levying the tax, appropriating the proceeds of the tax to a special fund to be used only for those purposes and, until used, to be invested in securities authorized in section 475.66.

History: 1971 c 403 s 11; 1973 c 583 s 32

400.12 [Repealed, 1973 c 583 s 37]

400.13 SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT FUND.

Any county owning or operating solid waste management property or facilities pursuant to section 400.04, subdivision 3, and establishing fees for the provision of services by the county pursuant to section 400.08, shall continuously maintain a special account on its official books and records designated as the solid waste management fund, to which it shall credit all receipts from the rates and charges authorized in section 400.08 and from the sale of real or personal property pertaining to solid waste management purposes, and the proceeds of all

gifts, grants, loans, and issues of bonds for such purposes, and to which it shall charge all costs of the acquisition, construction, enlargement, improvement, repair, supervision, control, maintenance, and operation of property, facilities, and services. Separate accounts may be established within this fund for the segregation of revenues pledged for the payment of bonds or loans, or money granted or borrowed for use for a specific purpose.

History: 1971 c 403 s 12; 1980 c 564 art 9 s 5

400.14 DISPOSITION OF PROPERTY.

The county board may sell, lease, convey, or otherwise dispose of any real or personal property held for solid waste management purposes, upon determination that it is no longer needed for such purposes, or may provide for its use for other lawful county purposes. Real or personal property shall be sold, leased, and conveyed upon advertisement for bids in accordance with section 373.01.

History: 1971 c 403 s 13

400.15 GIFTS, GRANTS, OR LOANS.

The county may by resolution of the board accept gifts, grants, or loans of other property from the United States of America, the state of Minnesota, or any agency or subdivision thereof, or from any other source, for any solid waste management purpose; may enter into any agreement required in connection therewith, for repayment or otherwise, and may hold, use, and dispose of such money or property in accordance with the terms of the gifts, grant, loan, or agreement.

History: 1971 c 403 s 14

400.16 SOLID WASTE AND SEWAGE SLUDGE DISPOSAL REGULATIONS.

The county may by ordinance establish and revise rules, regulations, and standards for solid waste and sewage sludge management and land pollution, relating to (a) the location, sanitary operation, and maintenance of solid waste facilities and sewage sludge disposal facilities by the county and any municipality or other public agency and by private operators; (b) the collection, processing, and disposal of solid waste and sewage sludge; (c) the amount and type of equipment required in relation to the amount and type of material received at any solid waste facility or sewage sludge disposal facility; (d) the control of salvage operations, water or air or land pollution, and rodents at such facilities; (e) the termination or abandonment of such facilities or activities; and (f) other matters relating to such facilities as may be determined necessary for the public health, welfare, and safety. The county may issue permits or licenses for solid waste facilities and may require that such facilities be registered with an appropriate county office. The county shall adopt the ordinances for mixed municipal solid waste management. The county shall make provision for issuing permits or licenses for mixed municipal solid waste facilities and shall require that such facilities be registered with an appropriate county office. No permit or license shall be issued for a mixed municipal solid waste facility unless the applicant has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the county board the availability of revenues necessary to operate the facility in accordance with applicable state and local laws, ordinances, and rules. The county ordinance shall require appropriate procedures for termination or abandonment of any mixed municipal solid waste facilities or services, which shall include provision for long term monitoring for possible land pollution, and for the payment by the owners or operators thereof, or both, of any costs incurred by the county in completing such procedures. The county may require such procedures and payments with respect to any facilities

or services regulated pursuant to this section. In the event the operators or owners fail to complete such procedures in accordance with the ordinance, the county may recover the costs of completion in a civil action in any court of competent jurisdiction or, in the discretion of the board, the costs may be certified to the county auditor as a special tax against the land to be collected as other taxes are collected. The ordinance may be enforced by injunction, action to compel performance, or other appropriate action in the district court. Any ordinance enacted under this section shall embody minimum standards and requirements established by rule of the agency.

History: 1971 c 403 s 15; 1980 c 564 art 9 s 6

400.161 HAZARDOUS WASTE REGULATIONS.

The county may by ordinance establish and revise rules, regulations, and standards relating to (a) identification of hazardous waste, (b) the labeling and classification of hazardous waste, (c) the collection, transportation, processing, disposal, and storage of hazardous waste, (d) other matters as may be determined necessary for the public health, welfare and safety. The county may issue permits or licenses for hazardous waste generation and may require the generators be registered with a county office. The ordinance may require appropriate procedures for the payment by the generator of any costs incurred by the county in completing such procedures. If the generator fails to complete such procedures, the county may recover the costs of completion in a civil action in any court of competent jurisdiction or, in the discretion of the board, the costs may be certified to the county auditor as a special tax against the land as other taxes are collected. The ordinance may be enforced by injunction, action to compel performance, or other action in district court. Any ordinance under this section shall embody standards and requirements established by rule of the agency. Issuing, denying, modifying, imposing conditions upon, or revoking permits pursuant to the provisions of this section or regulations promulgated hereunder shall be subject to review, denial, suspension, modification, and reversal by the pollution control agency. The pollution control agency shall after written notification have 15 days to review, deny, suspend, modify, or reverse the action of the county. After 15 days, the action of the county board shall be final subject to appeal to the district court as provided in section 115.05.

History: 1974 c 346 s 7; 1980 c 564 art 9 s 7

400.162 COUNTY DESIGNATION OF RESOURCE RECOVERY FACILITY.

Except within the metropolitan area, the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District established by Laws 1971, Chapter 478, as amended, and any solid waste management district established under sections 115A.62 to 115A.72, any county may require that all or any portion of the solid waste that is generated within the boundaries of the county or any service area thereof and is disposed of in the state be delivered to a resource recovery facility designated by the county board or a transfer station serving such a facility, provided that the designation is approved by the waste management board. The board may require the county to complete a comprehensive solid waste management plan conforming to the requirements of section 115A.46. In establishing, continuing, and terminating the designation, the county shall be governed by all standards, exemptions, procedures, and other requirements provided in section 115A.70, subdivisions 2 to 6.

History: 1980 c 564 art 9 s 8

NOTE: This section is effective July 1, 1982. See Laws 1980, Chapter 564, Article 13, Section 3.

400.17 CITATION.

Sections 400.01 to 400.17 may be cited as the County Solid Waste Management Act of 1971.

History: 1971 c 403 s 16