

CHAPTER 383A

RAMSEY COUNTY

383A.62 Elections department merger.

383A.75 Joint property tax advisory committee.

383A.62 ELECTIONS DEPARTMENT MERGER.

The city of St. Paul and Ramsey county may, by agreement subject to this section, provide for the merger of the city elections office with the county election office. The consolidation shall be set to begin at the beginning of a fiscal year. In the preceding fiscal year and each year thereafter the county shall provide a budget and levy a property tax for the merged office that will defray the costs of the services provided throughout the county by the merged office. The county shall succeed to the obligations of the city under any collective bargaining agreements in existence at the time of the merger. Nothing in this section or in an agreement for merger under this section shall diminish any rights defined in collective bargaining agreements. The merger must not occur until bargaining units representing affected employees have completed negotiations on post-merger terms and conditions of employment. The county shall succeed to the other obligations and to the real and personal property of the merged city offices.

History: 1993 c 375 art 17 s 16

383A.75 JOINT PROPERTY TAX ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

Subdivision 1. **Creation.** There is created the joint property tax advisory committee.

Subd. 2. **Membership.** The membership of the committee consists of the mayor and up to three members of the city council of the city of St. Paul; the county manager and up to three members of the county board of Ramsey county; and the superintendent and up to three members of the board of education of independent school district No. 625. The chair of the Ramsey county league of local governments shall be a nonvoting ex officio member. The committee shall be convened by the mayor of St. Paul, and at the first meeting, the chair for the first year must be determined by lot, and thereafter, the chair must annually rotate among the mayor or designee, the superintendent or designee, and the county manager or designee.

Subd. 3. **Duties.** The committee is authorized to and shall meet from time to time to make appropriate recommendations for the efficient and effective use of property tax dollars raised by the jurisdictions for programs, buildings, and operations. In addition, the committee shall:

(1) identify trends and factors likely to be driving budget outcomes over the next five years with recommendations for how the jurisdictions should manage those trends and factors to increase efficiency and effectiveness;

(2) agree, by August 1 of each year, on the appropriate level of overall property tax levy for the three jurisdictions and publicly report such to the governing bodies of each jurisdiction for ratification or modification by resolution;

(3) plan for the joint truth-in-taxation hearings under section 275.065, subdivision 8; and

(4) identify, by December 31 of each year, areas of the budget to be targeted in the coming year for joint review to improve services or achieve efficiencies.

In carrying out its duties, the committee shall consult with public employees of each jurisdiction and with other stakeholders of the city, county, and school district, as appropriate.

Subd. 4. **Staff; funding.** The committee must be staffed by employees as designated by each jurisdiction. The committee may also seek public or private funding from any source to assist its work and may utilize volunteer help as appropriate.

Subd. 5. Recognition of innovative efforts by local employees. The committee may use public or private funding to recognize or reward efforts by local government employees to restructure service delivery to improve efficiency or achieve cost savings.

History: *1993 c 375 art 7 s 14*

NOTE: This section, as added by Laws 1993, chapter 375, article 7, section 14, expires after December 31, 1997. See Laws 1993, chapter 375, article 7, section 29.