



## 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*

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# County of Chisago

## 2020 INFORMATION GUIDE

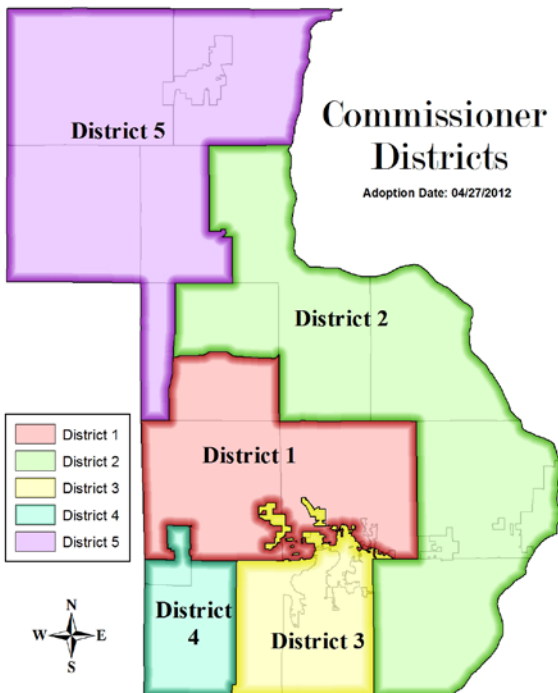


Visit our Website at:  
[www.chisagocounty.us](http://www.chisagocounty.us)

**For Employment Opportunities:**  
Click on the Employment LINK on our website

*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)  
Chris DuBose, Vice  
313 North Main St  
Center City, MN 55012  
651-208-6054

**District #2** (213-8832)  
Rick Greene  
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.....Chase Burnham  
..... 651-213-8830  
Board of Commissioners..... 651-213-8830

Assessor..... John Keefe  
..... 651-213-8550  
Attorney..... Janet Reiter  
..... 651-213-8400  
Auditor-Treasurer.....Bridgitte Konrad  
..... 651-213-8500  
Court Administration..... Kris Cunningham  
..... 651-213-8650  
Emergency Management..... Scott Sellman  
..... 651-775-9973 or 651-213-6313  
Enterprise Services..... Jon Eckel  
..... 651-213-8200  
Extension Services..... 651-277-0151

Heartland Express  
Transit Director..... Paul Smith  
..... 763-689-8130  
Human Resources.....Renee Kirchner  
..... 651-213-8866  
HHS - Human Services.....Robert Benson  
..... 651-213-5600

Household Hazardous Waste Facility, North Branch  
..... 651-237-0912  
Parks Services.....Joseph Tart  
..... 651-674-2345  
Probation..... Amy Chavez  
..... 651-213-8350  
Public Health/Nursing..... Courtney Wehrenberg  
..... 651-213-5200  
Public Works/Highway..... Joe Triplett  
..... 651-213-8700  
Recorder..... Janet Converse  
..... 651-213-8580  
Sheriff..... Brandon Thyen  
..... 651-257-4100  
Veterans Services..... Bryan Brown  
..... 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

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

### Township Offices

**Amador**..... 651-583-3108  
37475 Park Trail, Almelund, MN 55012  
**Chisago Lake**..... 651-257-6906  
Box 649, 12400 316<sup>th</sup> Street, Lindstrom, MN 55045  
**Fish Lake**..... 651-674-7709  
2170 Brunswick Road, Harris, MN 55032  
**Franconia**..... 651-890-9009  
Box 175, 25156 St. Croix Trl N, Shafer, MN 55074  
**Lent**..... 651-462-3009  
33155 Hemingway Ave., Stacy, MN 55079  
**Nessel**..... 320-396-2702  
49205 Acacia Trail, Stanchfield, MN 55080  
**Rushseba**..... 320-358-3543  
51445 Forest Blvd., Rush City, MN 55069  
Mailing Address: Box 481, Rush City, MN 55069  
**Shafer**..... 651-583-2168  
18259 St Croix Trail, Shafer, MN 55074  
**Sunrise**..... 651-674-6046  
Box 933, 41259 Oak St, North Branch, MN 55056