

CHAPTER 375

COUNTY BOARDS

375.025 Commissioner districts.
 375.03 Term of commissioners.
 375.164 Broadcast facilities.

375.192 Reductions or abatements of valuation
 or taxes.

375.025 COMMISSIONER DISTRICTS.

[For text of subd 1, see M.S.1990]

Subd. 2. Voters rights. Any qualified voter may apply to the district court of the county for a writ of mandamus (a) requiring the county to be redistricted if the county board has not redistricted the county within the time specified in subdivision 1, or (b) to revise the redistricting plan. Any application for revision of a redistricting plan filed with the county auditor more than 15 weeks before the state primary in a year ending in two that seeks to affect elections held in a year ending in two must be filed with the district court within three weeks but no later than 14 weeks before the state primary in the year ending in two. If a plan for redistricting a county is filed less than 14 weeks before the state primary in a year ending in two, any application for revision of the plan that seeks to affect an election in the year ending in two shall be filed with the district court within one week after the plan has been filed with the county auditor. The district court may direct the county board to show cause why it has not redistricted the county or why the redistricting plan prepared by it should not be revised. On hearing the matter it may allow the county board additional time in which to redistrict the county or to correct errors in the redistricting plan. If it appears to the court that the county board has not been sufficiently diligent in performing its redistricting duties, the court may appoint a redistricting commission to redistrict the county in accordance with the standards set forth in subdivision 1 and any other conditions the court shall deem advisable and appropriate. If a redistricting commission is appointed, the county board shall be without authority to redistrict the county.

[For text of subd 3, see M.S.1990]

Subd. 4. Redistricting plan; election following redistricting. A redistricting plan whether prepared by the county board or the redistricting commission shall be filed in the office of the county auditor. A redistricting plan shall be effective on the 31st day after filing unless a later effective date is specified but no plan shall be effective for the next election of county commissioners unless the plan is filed with the county auditor not less than 30 days before the first date candidates may file for the office of county commissioner. One commissioner shall be elected in each district who, at the time of the election, is a resident of the district. A person elected may hold the office only while remaining a resident of the commissioner district. The county board or the redistricting commission shall determine the number of members of the county board who shall be elected for two-year terms and for four-year terms to provide staggered terms on the county board. Thereafter, all commissioners shall be elected for four years. When a county is redistricted, there shall be a new election of commissioners in all the districts at the next general election except that if the change made in the boundaries of a district is less than five percent of the average of all districts of the county, the commissioner in office at the time of the redistricting shall serve for the full period for which elected.

History: 1991 c 349 s 40,41

375.03 TERM OF COMMISSIONERS.

In each new county, and in each county that has an increase of the number of commissioners, a commissioner shall be elected from each odd-numbered district for a term of two years, and from each even-numbered district for a term of four years. Thereafter

all commissioners shall be elected for a term of four years, except that elections to fill vacancies shall be for the unexpired term only.

History: 1991 c 326 s 18

375.164 BROADCAST FACILITIES.

The county board may appropriate annually from the county general revenue fund an amount necessary to fund the construction, acquisition, improvement, operation, or maintenance of a translator station or a noncommercial television broadcast facility to receive and transmit television broadcasting signals that can be received by residents of the county.

History: 1991 c 155 s 1

375.192 REDUCTIONS OR ABATEMENTS OF VALUATION OR TAXES.

Subd. 2. Upon written application by the owner of the property, the county board may grant the reduction or abatement of estimated market valuation or taxes and of any costs, penalties, or interest on them as the board deems just and equitable and order the refund in whole or part of any taxes, costs, penalties, or interest which have been erroneously or unjustly paid. The county board may also grant the abatement of penalties for taxes paid within 30 days of the due date, regardless of the classification of the property. The application must include the social security number of the applicant. The social security number is private data on individuals as defined by section 13.02, subdivision 12. The application must be approved by the county assessor, or, if the property is located in a city of the first or second class having a city assessor, by the city assessor, and by the county auditor before consideration by the county board. If the application is for abatement of penalty or interest, the application must be approved by the county treasurer and county auditor. No reduction, abatement, or refund of any special assessments made or levied by any municipality for local improvements shall be made unless it is also approved by the board of review or similar taxing authority of the municipality. Before taking action on any reduction or abatement where the reduction of taxes, costs, penalties, and interest exceed \$10,000, the county board shall give 20 days' notice to the school board and the municipality in which the property is located. The notice must describe the property involved, the actual amount of the reduction being sought, and the reason for the reduction. If the school board or the municipality object to the granting of the reduction or abatement, the county board must refer the abatement or reduction to the commissioner of revenue with its recommendation. The commissioner shall consider the abatement or reduction under section 270.07, subdivision 1.

An appeal may not be taken to the tax court from any order of the county board made in the exercise of the discretionary authority granted in this section.

[For text of subd 3, see M.S.1990]

History: 1991 c 291 art 12 s 21