



Brian J. Anderson  
Director of Finance and Taxpayer Services  
Goodhue County Finance & Taxpayer Services

---

*Brian.anderson@co.goodhue.mn.us*  
509 W. Fifth St.  
Red Wing, MN 55066  
Phone (651) 385-3032

TO: County Board of Commissioners  
FROM: Brian J. Anderson, Finance Director  
SUBJECT: Setting a Special Election  
DATE: September 6, 2022

---

**Background:**

Commissioner Paul Drotos was sworn into the Office of Goodhue County Commissioner in January 2017. He was then re-elected to serve an additional term in January 2021. Due to the recent death of Commissioner Drotos on August 4, 2022, a vacancy serving out this term has been created which expires January 2025. Being the length of this unexpired term is more than one year, the Goodhue County Board is requested to set a Special Election to fill the vacancy in the office of the Goodhue County Commissioner for the 5<sup>th</sup> District.

**Discussion:**

Statute limits the dates upon which special elections may be held (See Minn. Stat. § 205.11 subd.3a). Given these limitations, in the event that more than two candidates file for the open seat, it is proposed that the special election dates be set as follows:

- Special Primary Election – February 14, 2023
- Special General Election – April 11, 2023

This schedule assumes that a special primary election is required. In the event that a special primary is not required because two or fewer candidates file for the open seat, the general election could be set for February 14, 2023.

Once elected, the successful candidate shall take office immediately after receipt of the certificate of election and upon filing the bond and taking the oath of office and shall serve the remainder of the unexpired term.

**Recommendation:**

It is recommended that the Goodhue County Board set a special election to fill the vacancy in the office of the Goodhue County Commissioner for the 5<sup>th</sup> District. In the event that three or more candidates file for the open seat, it is recommended that a special primary election be set for February 14, 2023 and a special general election be set for April 11, 2023. Alternatively, if two or fewer candidates file for the open seat, the special general election be set for February 14, 2023.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
GOODHUE COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

September 6, 2022

---

RESOLUTION FOR GOODHUE COUNTY TO SET A SPECIAL ELECTION TO FILL THE  
VACANCY IN OFFICE OF GOODHUE COUNTY COMMISSIONER FOR THE 5<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT

WHEREAS, Goodhue County has established five individual Commissioner Districts; and

WHEREAS, Paul Drotos was elected to the office of Goodhue County Commissioner for the 5<sup>th</sup> District for a term expiring January 6, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Commissioner Drotos has recently passed away on August 4, 2022; and

WHEREAS, Minn. Stat. § 375.111, Subd. 1 requires that, if one year or more remains in the unexpired term, a special election must be held to fill a vacancy in the office of a county commissioner; and

WHEREAS, Under Minn. Stat. § 205.11, Subd. 3a, a special election must be held on the second Tuesday of February, April, May or August, or on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Goodhue County Board hereby calls for a special election to fill the vacancy in the office of the Goodhue County Commissioner for the 5<sup>th</sup> District.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That in the event three or more candidates file for the open seat, a special primary election shall be held in the 5<sup>th</sup> District on February 14, 2023, and a special general election shall be held in the 5<sup>th</sup> District on April 11, 2023.

FURTHER RESOLVED, Alternatively, that in the event two or fewer candidates file for the open seat, a special general election shall be held in the 5<sup>th</sup> District on February 14, 2023.

FURTHER RESOLVED, That any proper notices of these special elections shall be given, that the nomination and election of candidates be conducted and all things pertaining thereto be done as provided by relevant Minnesota law.

---

State of Minnesota  
County of Goodhue

Flanders	Yes	_____	No	_____
Anderson	Yes	_____	No	_____
Greseth	Yes	_____	No	_____
Majerus	Yes	_____	No	_____
Vacant				

I, Scott Arneson, duly appointed, qualified and County Administrator of the County of Goodhue, State of Minnesota, do hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy of a resolution with the original minutes of the proceedings of the Board of County commissioners, Goodhue County, Minnesota at their session held on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2022, now on file in my office, and have found the same to be a true and correct copy thereof.

Witness my hand and official seal at Red Wing, Minnesota, this 6<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2022.

---

Scott Arneson  
County Administrator

**2022-23 Special Election Dates - Primary**

Action	Requirement	Date
1	Last day for auditor to designate location for Primary Absentee Ballot voting	14 weeks before election 11/8/2022
2	<b>Posting of Notice of Filing</b>	<b>At least 10 days before the first day to file affidavits for election</b> 11/12/2022
3	Publication of Notice of Filing	At least 1 week before the first day to file 11/15/2022
4	<b>Candidate Filing Open</b>	<b>84 Days before the Primary *Verified w/ Lisa @ Secretary of State's Office</b> 11/22/2022
5	Last day to provide written notice of election	74 Days before the Primary 12/2/2022
6	<b>Candidate Filing Closes</b>	<b>70 Days before the Primary</b> 12/6/2022
7	Last day for candidates who filed a ballot for office to withdraw	2 days after the last day for filing for office 12/8/2022
8	Ballot Layout Begins	After the close of withdrawal 12/8/2022
9	Last Day to send a Absentee Ballot application to each person on the list	At least 60 days before the election 12/16/2022
10	Period of election judge training	Not more than 60 days before Primary not fewer than 3 days before general N/A
11	Must appoint absentee/UOCAVA ballot board members	47 days before Primary 12/29/2022
12	Last day for county to prepare a sample ballot and post	At least 46 days before the primary 12/30/2022
13	All UOCAVA ballots must be sent. Absentee Voting begins.	At least 46 days before the primary 12/30/2022
14	Master Lists available for Absentee Voting	At least 46 days before the primary 12/30/2022
15	Last day to appoint election judges	25 days before the election 1/20/2023
16	Last day to notify affected voters of a polling place change	At least 25 days before the election 1/20/2023
17	Last day to pre-register for Primary *Open till 5 pm	21 days before the election 1/24/2023
18	Last day for residential facility to provide a certified list of employees for vouching	no less than 20 days before election 1/25/2023
19	Health care facility voting starts	20 days before election 1/25/2023
20	Post PAT	2 days prior to test 1/29/2023
21	Publish Notice of Election 1st publication (optional per guide page 61)	At least 2 weeks before Special Election
22	Publish PAT	2 days prior to test 1/29/2023
23	Post notice of election (Date, offices, questions, hours, location of polling place)	15 days before primary 1/30/2023
24	PAT	Within 14 days of the election 1/31/2023
25	Publish Notice of Election 2nd Publication (optional per guide)	At least 1 week before Special Election
26	Last day for county to publish sample ballot	1 week before primary 2/7/2023
27	Final Master List available	7 days before the election 2/7/2023
28	Absentee/UOCAVAs ballots can be opened and scanned	After the close of business on the 7th day before election 2/7/2023
29	Agent Delivery of Absentee Ballots	During the 7 days preceding an election 2/7/2023
30	Absentee/UOCAVAs Rejected Ballots Called	Within 5 days of the election 2/9/2023
31	Absentee Saturday	Saturday before the election 2/11/2023
32	Absentee Monday open till 5pm	Monday before the election 2/13/2023
33	City/Township pick up election day materials	Monday before the election 2/13/2023
34	<b>Special Primary Election</b>	<b>2/14/2023</b>
35	Special Election Canvassing Board	2/15/2023

**2022-23 Special Election Dates - General**

Action	Requirement	Date
1	Last day for county to prepare a sample ballot and post	At least 46 days before the election 2/24/2023
2	All UOCAVA ballots must be sent. Absentee Voting begins.	At least 46 days before the election 2/24/2023
3	Master Lists available for Absentee Voting	At least 46 days before the election 2/24/2023
4	Last day to pre-register for Primary *Open till 5 pm	21 days before the election 3/21/2023
5	Last day for residential facility to provide a certified list of employees for vouching	no less than 20 days before election 3/22/2023
6	Health care facility voting starts	20 days before election 3/22/2023
7	Post PAT	2 days prior to test 3/26/2023
8	Publish Notice of Election 1st publication (optional per guide page 61)	At least 2 weeks before Special Election
9	Publish PAT	2 days prior to test 3/26/2023
10	Post notice of election (Date, offices, questions, hours, location of polling place)	15 days before general 3/27/2023
11	PAT	Within 14 days of the election 3/28/2023
12	Publish Notice of Election 2nd Publication (optional per guide)	At least 1 week before Special Election
13	Last day for county to publish sample ballot	No earlier than 15 days and no later than 2 days 4/4/2023
14	Final Master List available	7 days before the election 4/4/2023
15	Absentee/UOCAVAs ballots can be opened and scanned	After the close of business on the 7th day before election 4/4/2023
16	Agent Delivery of Absentee Ballots	During the 7 days preceding an election 4/4/2023
17	Absentee/UOCAVAs Rejected Ballots Called	Within 5 days of the election 4/6/2023
18	Absentee Saturday	Saturday before the election 4/8/2023
19	Absentee Monday open till 5pm	Monday before the election 4/10/2023
20	City/Township pick up election day materials	Monday before the election 4/10/2023
21	<b>Special General Election</b>	<b>4/11/2023</b>
22	Special Election Canvassing Board	4/12/2023