

MEETING NOTICE
PARTNERSHIP ON WASTE AND ENERGY BOARD

Date: Thursday, June 25, 2026

Time: 1:30 – 3 p.m.

Commissioners, Key Staff, Presenters:

Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Center | 100 Red Rock Road | Tours Building | Newport, MN |
[Map](#)

Public: Members of the public are encouraged to participate remotely or may attend at the Newport address.

[Microsoft Teams](#) | Phone Conference ID: 342 689 448# | Call in (audio only) +1 323-792-6297

AGENDA

1. Call to Order, Introductions
2. Approval of Agenda Action Page 1
3. Approval of Minutes of January 8, 2026 Action Page 2
4. Business
- a. 2026 Budget Status Information Page 6
5. Updates and Reports Information Page 8
 - a. 2025 Partnership Annual Report
 - b. 2026 Legislative Session Update
 - c. 2027 Legislative Platform Brainstorm
6. Adjourn

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, September 10, 2026 | 1:30 – 3 p.m. | Ramsey County Environmental Center, Roseville

**PARTNERSHIP ON WASTE AND ENERGY BOARD
THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2026**

A meeting of the Partnership on Waste and Energy Board (Partnership) was held at 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, January 8, 2026. Commissioners and staff participants met at the Ramsey County Environmental Center, 1700 Kent St., Roseville, Minnesota. Other participants and the public joined remotely or in person at the Roseville address.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Commissioner Debbie Goettel – Hennepin County
Commissioner Mary Jo McGuire – Ramsey County
Commissioner Fran Miron – Washington County

ATTENDING AT THE RAMSEY COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL CENTER

Dave Brummel, Dan Donkers, Melissa Finnegan, Nancy Haas, Chandra Her, Courtney Jasper, Kathryn Jordan, Cassie Lefeber, Trista Martinson, Dave McNary, Deb Orth, John Ristad, Daniel Schmidt, John Springman, Angie Timmons

ATTENDING REMOTELY

Hannah Coyle, Max Dalton, Dan Donkers, Tutu Fatukasi, Graham Faulkner, Sam Ferguson, Jamie Giesen, Lianna Goldstein-Rancich, Sam Hanson, Sam Holl, Filsan Ibrahim, Kevin Johnson, Jennefer Klennert, Ben Knudson, Nicolette Linscott, Alissa Lopez, Andrea McKennan, Michelle Palm, Matt Philips, Ryan Tritz

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Goettel called the meeting to order at 2:31 p.m. Introductions of attendees in Roseville were made.

Daniel Schmidt reviewed the operations of the Ramsey County Environmental Center. There is a reuse room at the Environmental Center. Work is underway to start collecting microwaves. Mattresses are collected in partnership with Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy (R&E). Fix-it Clinic expansion is being planned. Community groups also make use of the facility.

AGENDA OF JANUARY 8, 2026 PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL

Motion by McGuire, seconded by Miron, to approve the agenda. Motion passed.

Ayes: Goettel, Miron, McGuire.

Nays: None.

MINUTES FROM DECEMBER 18, 2025 PRESENTED FOR APPROVAL

Motion by Miron, seconded by McGuire, to approve the minutes from December 18, 2025. Motion passed.

Ayes: Goettel, Miron, McGuire.

Nays: None.

BUSINESS

Governing Board Leadership for 2026

Presented by: Dave McNary, Hennepin County Environment and Energy Assistant Director

Commissioners serving on the 2026 Partnership Board are Hennepin County Commissioner Debbie Goettel, Ramsey County Commissioner Mary Jo McGuire and Washington County Commissioner Fran Miron. The

alternates are Hennepin County Commissioner Irene Fernando (amended from the published alternate Commissioner Heather Edelson), Ramsey County Commissioner Kelly Miller and Washington County Commissioner Karla Bigham. Commissioner Goettel will serve as 2026 board chair and Commissioner McGuire will serve as vice chair.

Motion by Miron, seconded by McGuire, to approve the Governing Board leadership for 2026, as amended. Motion passed.

Ayes: Goettel, Miron, McGuire.

Nays: None.

UPDATES AND REPORTS

2026 Legislative Preview

Presented by: Trista Martinson, R&E Executive Director

The 2026 Minnesota legislative session will begin on February 17, 2026, and conclude on May 18, 2026. Martinson introduced Nancy Haas, of Poul Haas, to review the session. The first and second deadlines for the policy bills are March 27, 2026. All policy bills must be heard by all committees of both bodies by that date. The finance deadline is April 17, 2026. Session breaks were also noted, as well as surplus numbers as of the November 2025 forecast. A supplemental budget is anticipated. There are currently several legislators scheduled to retire or run for other offices in 2026.

Battery legislation was noted. The current bill does not include vape pens. Washington County currently has a cannabis ordinance that requires sellers of vape pens to have a take-back program. A preliminary assessment deadline on packaging has been extended to February 2, 2026.

Poul Haas is holding introductory meetings with board members and holding weekly lobbyist meetings.

Chloride issues were discussed, and different levels of training and implementation throughout the Counties and municipalities was noted.

2026 Legislative Platforms

Hennepin County Platform Sharing

Presented by: Angie Timmons, Strategic Initiatives Manager and Chandra Her, Senior Policy Specialist

The Hennepin County Platform has one core priority: service delivery. The platform contains a section on climate and environment, working toward achieving a climate action goal of zero waste and accelerating the timeline for closure of the Hennepin Energy Recovery Center (HERC) between 2028 and 2040. Electronic waste and batteries are priorities for the 2026 Minnesota legislative session. Increased state funding for SCORE and funding a pre-processing facility are also priorities for the session. Work regarding natural resources was also noted.

Ramsey County Platform Sharing

Presented by: Daniel Schmidt, Division Manager-Planning, Programs and Operations

Ramsey County has a new process for developing a legislative platform. Advisory teams proposed legislative priorities and guided the platforms through the County's vision, mission and goals. There are 30 priorities,

with four themes: no new unfunded mandates on counties; protect counties from further cuts and cost shifts; counties must be at the table for any service delivery change; and reduce reliance on property tax. The County's role is split into three categories: pursue, leading advocate and support. Much of the legislative work related to waste, energy and the environment relies on partnerships, such as with the Association of Minnesota Counties, the Solid Waste Administrators Association, the Partnership on Waste and Energy and R&E.

Washington County Platform Sharing

Presented by: Dave Brummel, Director of Public Health and Environment

Washington County has adopted 10 legislative platforms, eight of which are tied to the capital improvement plan. The County's Wood Recovery and Utilization Project is a top priority due to the abundance of woody material in the system. Washington County accepts woody material and upcycles the material via biochar, as well as reuse. The aim is to set up an easily replicated model. Washington County is requesting a \$1.1 million appropriation to the Minnesota Department of Health to study per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in the east metro. Washington County public health interventions have been shown to help with lowering the amount of PFAS in blood.

R&E Platform Sharing

Presented by: Melissa Finnegan, Strategic Partnership Manager

R&E developed its first legislative platform, which will go to the R&E Board for approval on January 29, 2026. The platform has three priorities, including funding for an anaerobic digester, updated legislation relative to the creation of effective regional waste management programs and appropriate management of infectious waste.

The renewable development account was discussed. The 2025 funding did not get spent. There is currently \$60 million in the account. R&E asked for \$10 million, but this may increase to \$15 million due to tariffs. The facility is not eligible for bonding funds as it is a public/private entity. Broad policy goals were also noted.

The importance of timely sharing County priorities for the purpose of aligning efforts was noted. It was further noted that staff do coordinate efforts through weekly lobbyist meetings.

OTHER

No other business presented.

ADJOURN

Chair Goettel declared the meeting adjourned at 3:41 p.m.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Partnership on Waste and Energy Board will be held on Thursday, June 25, 2026, at 1:30 p.m., at the Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy Center, Newport.

ATTEST:

Debbie Goettel, Chair
June 25, 2026

June 25, 2026

PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING DATE:	June 25, 2026	AGENDA ITEM:	4.a
SUBJECT:	2026 Budget Status		
TYPE OF ITEM:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION	<input type="checkbox"/> POLICY DISCUSSION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACTION
SUBMITTED BY:	Partnership Lead Staff		

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

For information only.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:



The Partnership on Waste and Energy (Partnership) Board approved the 2026 budget at its December 2025 meeting. Staff will provide 2026 projections for the Partnership.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. 2026 Budget - June Update

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None.

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES	DATE
Hennepin County 	6/12/26
Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy 	6/12/26

2026 Partnership on Waste and Energy Budget

	2026		
	Approved	2026 Current	2026 Budget
	Budget	Spending	Remaining
APPROPRIATIONS:			
Staffing and Administration			
Planner	\$ 10,500	\$ 1,108.35	\$ 9,392
Accounting Manager	\$ 7,800	\$ 434.35	\$ 7,366
Contract Manager	\$ 5,800	\$ 553.70	\$ 5,246
Communications Staff	\$ 5,600	\$ 241.30	\$ 5,359
Administrative Staff	\$ 2,192	\$ 777.43	\$ 1,415
Total Staffing and Administration	<u>\$ 31,892</u>	<u>\$ 3,115</u>	<u>\$ 28,777</u>
Contracts & Projects			
Insurance, MCIT	\$ 1,452	\$ 1,403	\$ 49
Communications & Graphic Design	\$ 16,000		\$ 16,000
Lobbying & PUC Monitoring Services	\$ 120,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 80,000
Bioeconomy Coalition of MN membership	\$ 2,500		\$ 2,500
Product Stewardship	\$ 9,000	\$ 9,000	\$ -
Haz. Waste Online Training	\$ 15,000		\$ 15,000
Zero Waste Challenge	\$ 28,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 16,000
Contingency Funds	\$ 1,861		\$ 1,861
Total Contracts	<u>\$ 193,813</u>	<u>\$ 62,403</u>	<u>\$ 131,410</u>
Total Appropriations	<u>\$ 225,705</u>	<u>\$ 65,518</u>	<u>\$ 160,187</u>
REVENUE:			
Carryover Funds	\$ 25,250		
Recycling and Energy Board	\$ 104,185		
Hennepin County	\$ 104,185		
Total Revenue	\$ 233,620		

PARTNERSHIP BOARD MEETING DATE:	June 25, 2026	AGENDA ITEM:	5.
SUBJECT:	Updates and Reports		
TYPE OF ITEM:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION	<input type="checkbox"/> POLICY DISCUSSION	<input type="checkbox"/> ACTION
SUBMITTED BY:	Partnership Lead Staff		

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

For information only.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

- a. 2025 Partnership Annual Report**
Staff will present an overview of the 2025 Partnership on Waste and Energy (Partnership) annual report.
- b. 2026 Legislative Session Update**
Partnership staff and lobbyists will provide a brief report to board members and answer questions.
- c. 2027 Legislative Platform Brainstorming**
Partnership staff will guide a discussion with the Partnership Board on possible items for the 2027 Partnership Legislative Platform.



ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. 2025 Partnership on Waste and Energy Annual Report
- 2. Partnership 2026 Session Summary Handout
- 3. Poul Haas 2026 Elections Guide
- 4. 2026 Partnership State Legislative Platform

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None.

SUBJECT: *Updates and Reports*

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURES		DATE
Hennepin County	 _____	6/12/26
Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy	 _____	6/12/26

Partnership on Waste and Energy 2025 Annual Report

Letter from the Chair

In 2025, the Partnership on Waste and Energy (Partnership) continued advancing policies that reduce waste, improve recycling and create a more sustainable future for our communities.

Building off the achievement of extended producer responsibility laws for packaging, paper products and boat wrap, the Partnership was an active participant to ensure these laws are implemented effectively to achieve waste diversion outcomes.

The Partnership also helped to successfully advocate for the Public Utilities Commission to allow a pathway for biomass to comply under Minnesota's 100% Carbon Free Standard.

The Partnership evaluated recycling data practices and reuse measurement methods to improve reporting and tracking of progress toward the metro area's 75% recycling rate by 2030 as set by statute. Beyond this, we expanded waste diversion programs and are leaders in the search for solutions to challenges like mattresses, batteries and electronics.

The Partnership also saw organizational changes over the year. We welcomed a new commissioner, Mary Jo McGuire, to represent Ramsey County on the Partnership Board. Closing out the year, we said goodbye to Caleb Johnson, former Senior Environmental Health Program Manager with Washington County, who served as lead staff for the Partnership. We thank Caleb for his service to the Partnership and hope he and his family are enjoying their new adventures.

As we look to the future, we're dedicated to shaping a waste system that is better for our communities and the environment.



Debbie Goettel

Debbie Goettel

Hennepin County Commissioner and 2026 Partnership Board Chair

Governance & Administration



The Partnership is governed by a board of three county commissioners, including the chair and vice chair of the Ramsey/Washington Recycling & Energy (R&E) Board and a Hennepin County Commissioner. In 2025, the three members of the Partnership Board were Washington County Commissioner Fran Miron, Ramsey County Commissioner Mary Jo McGuire and Hennepin County Commissioner Debbie Goettel. The chair of the Partnership Board rotates annually. In 2025, the chair was Commissioner Miron. R&E serves as the administrative agent for the Partnership, providing accounting, procurement, communication and planning services.

Legislative and Policy Highlights

Through its legislative and policy advocacy efforts, the Partnership seeks to end waste, promote renewable energy and enhance the health and resiliency of its communities while advancing equity and responding to the challenges of a changing climate. Each year, the Partnership Board adopts a legislative platform. In the 2025 legislative session, the Partnership worked to advance the following areas:

- Redirecting Solid Waste Management Tax receipts from the General Fund into SCORE grants to counties
- Establishing a product stewardship program for electronics and batteries
- Funding for waste prevention, reduction, recycling and recycling markets grants
- Allocating funding to address the ongoing issue of emerald ash borer and wood waste management
- Focusing resources on food waste reduction, food rescue and organics recovery
- Supporting organics management through anaerobic digestion
- Maintaining the waste management hierarchy, including the role of waste-to-energy
- Upholding all provisions of the Packaging Waste and Cost Reduction Act

Partnership Board members, staff and lobbyists engaged with policy makers on these and several other topics and continued to collaborate with partners toward common goals. In addition, the Partnership provided written and verbal testimony and created policy position statements to communicate its interests.

The Partnership joined others in successfully advocating for the Public Utility Commission to allow a pathway for biomass waste—including wood waste and mixed municipal solid waste—to comply under the 100% Carbon Free Standard adopted by the legislature in 2023.

Finally, the Partnership responded to public comment opportunities with letters to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) advising improvements to the Preliminary Assessment report that will inform the Stewardship Plan required under the Packaging Waste and Cost Reduction Act, as well as recommending changes to the proposed plan for the first-in-the-nation boat wrap product stewardship program. The Partnership also submitted comments to the Metropolitan Council focused on waste-related elements in its Draft Comprehensive Climate Action Plan.



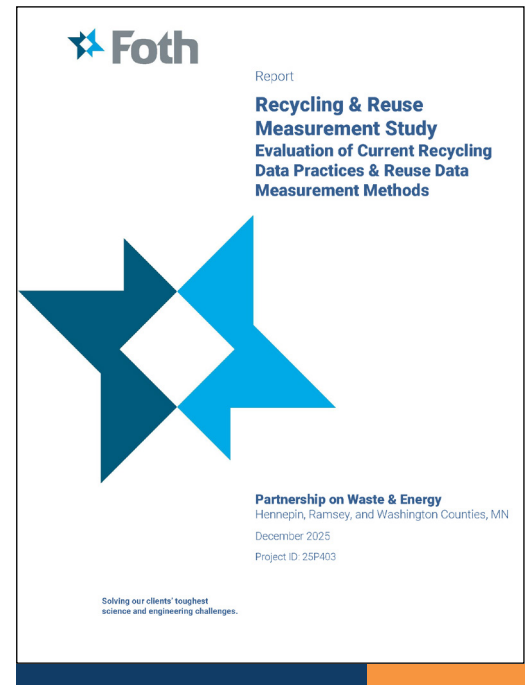
Fran Miron, Washington County commissioner and 2025 chair of the Partnership on Waste and Energy, testifies in support of HF1359 to increase the percentage of the revenues dedicated to the environmental fund. Rep. Wayne Johnson, left, sponsors the bill. (Photo by Michele Jokinen)

Measurement Study

In 2025, the Partnership contracted Foth to evaluate recycling data practices and reuse measurement methods across the seven metro counties. This work supports efforts to improve reporting and better tracking of progress toward the metro area’s 75% recycling rate by 2030 as set by statute.

The measurement study was completed in three phases. Phase 1 included engagement with all seven metro counties and the MPCA to understand current recycling and reuse data practices. In Phase 2, Foth analyzed available data to identify gaps, inconsistencies and differences in how counties collect and report information. Phase 3 focused on reuse, including an audit of regional reuse entities and a survey of their measurement practices.

The report identifies key challenges, including inconsistent data collection, gaps in available data and limited methods for measuring reuse. It recommends standardizing recycling data practices, improving data sharing and reporting and advancing a reuse measurement framework. These actions provide a clear path forward for strengthening data systems and supporting progress toward regional goals.

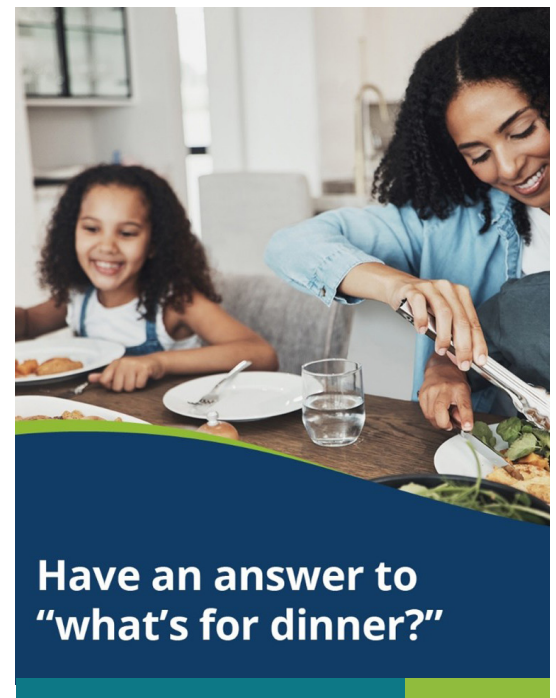


Zero Waste Challenges

In 2025, the Partnership continued efforts to engage residents in food waste and plastics reduction through its second year of online behavior-change challenges.

In February, the **Plastic-Free Challenge** educated residents on plastic recycling and reduction. A total of 46 local organizations such as workplaces, cities, watershed districts and low-waste stores partnered to connect with their audiences, spreading the word, leading teams and hosting seven educational events. Nearly 1,700 participants completed 21,494 actions, which resulted in the estimated avoidance of 13,000 pounds of CO2 emissions and over 9,900 single-use plastic items. Participants also shared their opinions and asked for change: they contacted 27 public officials or leaders and took 243 advocacy actions.

The **Stop Food Waste Challenge** took place in August and helped residents plan, prep, cook and store their food. It featured 15 events hosted by some of its 38 partner organizations. About 350 participants completed 2,066 actions, resulting in an estimated avoidance of over 967 pounds of wasted food and 1,900 pounds of CO2 emissions. These engaged residents made their stance on wasting food heard by taking 226 advocacy actions.



Financials

Each year, the Partnership Board approves a budget for the following fiscal year, which aligns with the calendar year. In 2025, the Partnership budget expenditures were as follows:

Personnel	R&E staffing support for planning, accounting and contract management	\$29,700
Communications	Updated designs and publication of the legislative platform and policy position statements	\$300
Lobbying Services	Contracts with lobbying firms Capitol Hill Associates, Fryberger Law Firm and Larkin Hoffman	\$124,540
Product Stewardship	Product Stewardship Institute membership for all three counties and R&E	\$9,000
Commercial Recycling Measurement Study	Contract with Foth focused on evaluating and improving the accuracy and completeness of recycling and reuse data collection and reporting across the Twin Cities Metropolitan Area	\$25,000
Hazardous Waste Online Training	Contract with Fredrickson Learning for translation file preparation	\$750
Zero Waste Challenges	Contract with EcoChallenge.org for online platform to host Plastic-Free Challenge and Stop Food Waste Challenge	\$24,410
Insurance	Organizational insurance	\$1,452
Total		\$215,152



PWE 2026 Session Summary

I. PWE Bills of Interest that Passed

Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund Bill

What Happened: The bill passed the House and Senate and has received the Governor's signature. Chapter 104.

Summary: Projects of interest include \$2.6 million for EAB and community forest resiliency, \$300,000 for solar dehydration and produce-curing methods that reduce food loss and waste, \$1.17 million for recycling incinerator ash, \$358,000 to study the use of waste wood and biochar for mine land reclamation, and an extension of the 2023 allocation for the furniture and mattress diversion pilot.

PWE Relevance: Supports overarching PWE goals to end waste and promote renewable energy.

Egg Donation Bill

What Happened? The bill passed the House and Senate and has received the Governor's signature. Chapter 110.

Summary: Allows eggs to be donated past their originally intended quality assurance date.

PWE Relevance: Keeps eggs out of the waste stream by expanding options for donation instead of disposal.

Infectious Waste Study

What Happened: The infectious waste study was included in the cash bonding bill. The bill passed the House and Senate and is awaiting the governor's signature. Chapter 129.

Summary: Requires the PCA to study the unlawful shipment of infectious waste including how improper transfer occurs, current waste segregation practices, and potential legislative or policy solutions to address noncompliance. The study must also evaluate enforcement options.

PWE Relevance: Supports efforts to prevent infectious waste from entering the solid waste stream and waste management facilities through better oversight, compliance, and enforcement mechanisms.

Community Tree Planting Grants

What happened: Funding for community tree planting grants was included in the bonding bill. The bill passed the House and Senate and is awaiting signature by the Governor. Chapter 130.

Summary: \$5 million to the Metropolitan Council for community tree planting grants. Priority status is given for projects that remove and replace ash trees that post significant public safety concerns.

PWE Relevance: The grants help address wood waste.

Solid Waste Capital Assistance Grant Program

What happened? Funding for solid waste capital assistance grants was included in the bonding bill which passed the House and Senate and is awaiting the Governor's signature. Chapter 130.

Summary: \$10.514 million for funding the three highest ranked projects in the MPCA solid waste capital assistance grant program. Funded projects include the Prairie Lakes Municipal Solid Waste Authority to construct an ash recovery and recycling waste processing plant to divert ash from landfills into road construction materials and recover ferrous and nonferrous metals to construct a waste transfer station to receive municipal solid waste, demolition waste for transfer to regional facilities, funding for the City of St. Paul to improve an existing solid waste facility to accommodate a furniture recycling center and reuse room for residents, and funding to rebuild 20-year old flail mills at the Ramsey/Washington Recycling and Energy Center.

PWE relevance: Reflects legislative interest in supporting solid waste management facilities and moving away from landfills.

II. PWE Bills of Interest that did not Pass

Battery Stewardship Program

What Happened: The bill was heard in the House Environment committee and laid over. The bill was included in the Senate Environment Omnibus bill and then later included in the larger Senate Supplemental Finance bill. Due to concerns from Republicans, the bill was not included in the end of session negotiations despite efforts from advocates.

Summary: Creates a covered battery stewardship program that primarily covers loose and easy to remove batteries. Requires battery producers to participate in the program and submit a plan to the MPCA. Establishes duties and responsibilities for covered entities for covered battery stewardship organizations and covered battery collectors. Prohibits disposal of covered batteries, requires battery labeling, and restricts sale of batteries unless producers participate in an approved stewardship program.

PWE Relevance: The proposal helps keep batteries out of the waste stream and reduces fire risks at waste and recycling facilities.

RDA Provisions—Energy Finance Omnibus bill

What happened? The Senate Energy Finance bill containing RDA funding proposals passed the Senate and was included in the larger Senate Supplemental Finance bill. The House did not pass an Energy Omnibus bill.

Summary: The Senate bill included two RDA projects of interest to PWE: \$5 million for R&E to construct an anaerobic digester energy system and \$3 million for a grant to a biomass energy generation plant in Shakopee to purchase equipment to facilitate the disposal of wood waste that is infested by emerald ash borer.

PWE Relevance: The proposed funding supports waste-to-energy projects which is a better alternative to landfilling.

Residential Generator Definition Modified

What happened: Despite bipartisan support in the House and Senate tax committees, the bill was not included in the final tax agreement.

Summary: Expands the definition of residential generator to include nonprofit resale organizations and allows the resale organizations who receive donated goods to qualify for a lower waste management state tax rate instead of being taxed at the commercial rate.

PWE relevance: More accurately classifies type of waste for non-profit entities that recycle donations and who have sought individual local county classification to residential versus commercial waste.

Mattress Assessment/Recycling Program

What happened? The bill was heard in the Senate Environment Committee but did not receive a hearing in the House.

Summary: Imposes a \$5 recycling fee on every mattress and box spring sold in Minnesota. Requires fee revenue to be used for grants to local governments to expand and support recycling programs.

PWE relevance: Expanding recycling programs keeps products out of the waste stream and improves recovery of reusable materials.

Critical Mass in Waste Stream

What happened? The bill was heard in the House Environment Committee but did not receive a hearing in the Senate Environment Committee.

Summary: Appropriates money to study critical materials in the waste stream.

PWE relevance: The study would provide information on the volume of products containing critical materials in the waste stream that could be recovered through recycling or other processes to reuse them which aligns with PWE's interest in advancing the waste hierarchy and supporting a circular economy.

Canyon Integrated Solid Waste Management Campus Funding

What happened? The bill was heard in House Capital Investment Committee but did not receive a hearing in the Senate.

Summary: \$6 million bonding proposal to St. Louis County to construct a new municipal integrated solid waste management campus that will accept new waste and previously disposed waste from all dumps and landfills in the closed landfill programs and prevent PFAs from entering Lake Superior.

PWE relevance: Reflects legislative interest in supporting solid waste management facilities and moving away from landfills.

Incinerator Standards Bill

What happened? The bill did not receive a hearing in the House or Senate.

Summary: The bill establishes new emission limits, monitoring requirements, and public reporting requirements for municipal solid waste incinerators.

PWE relevance: The bill significantly impacts the ability for waste-to-energy facilities, including the HERC, to operate.

Vape Battery Provision in Cannabis bill:

What happened? The provision was included in the Senate Cannabis Omnibus bill but did not make it into the final Cannabis Omnibus agreement.

SUBJECT: *Updates and Reports*

Summary: Prohibits cannabis businesses from manufacturing, importing, exporting, or selling a cannabinoid product with a battery that is not easily removable.

PWE relevance: The provision would reduce the number of disposable vape products with imbedded batteries from entering the waste stream.



2026 Primary Election Guide

This year is a significant election year in Minnesota. All state constitutional offices are up for election which includes the Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, and State Auditor. At the federal level all eight congressional seats are on the ballot as is the US Senate seat currently held by Senator Tina Smith who is not seeking reelection. All 201 seats in the House and Senate are on the ballot and with the tightest majority margin currently in the country at a tied House and one seat in the Senate therefore the legislative races will be closely followed. This election year a round of judicial offices are also on the ballot with two supreme court and five court of appeals seats and 116 district court seats up for election this fall.

Senator Tina Smith is not running for reelection. There is a crowded field of candidates running to replace her. The DFL-endorsed candidate is Lieutenant Governor Peggy Flanagan. Flanagan will face five other DFL candidates in the primary including Congresswoman Angie Craig. The Republican-endorsed candidate is Adam Schwarze. Schwarze is also facing a crowded primary that includes former television personality Michele Tafoya and the 2024 Republican-endorsed candidate for Senate Royce White. Marisa Simonetti is running as an independent candidate, she previously ran for Hennepin County Commissioner.

Each of Minnesota's eight congressional seats are on the ballot this fall. Seven of Minnesota's United States Representatives are running for reelection. Congresswoman Angie Craig is the only incumbent not running for reelection; she represents the Second Congressional District and is challenging DFL endorsed Lieutenant Governor Flanagan for the open Senate seat. There are six Democrats facing off in a primary to fill the congressional seat and the winner will face the Republican candidate, and current Minnesota State Senator, Eric Pratt. U.S. Representatives Brad Finstad, Betty McCollum, Ilhan Omar, Tom Emmer, and Pete Stauber all are facing primary challengers. Congresswomen Kelly Morrison and Michelle Fischbach do not have a primary challengers.

Governor Tim Walz chose not to run for reelection this year. US Senator Amy Klobuchar is the DFL-endorsed candidate for Governor and her Lieutenant Governor is former Fergus Falls Mayor Ben Schierer. There are six other DFL-tickets running for Governor so there will be a primary. The Republican-endorsed ticket for Governor is Kendall Qualls and Brian Nicholson. They are facing six other Republican-tickets running for Governor including Speaker Lisa Demuth and My Pillow CEO Mike Lindell.

Secretary of State Steve Simon is running for reelection. Republican-endorsed candidate Tad Jude will face Wendy Phillips in the primary election. Jude has previously run for a number of offices including Minnesota's 2nd Congressional District in 2024, Hennepin County Attorney in 2022, a crowded district court judge race in 2011 which he won, in addition to his service in the Minnesota Senate from 1983 to 1989. Wendy Phillips has also run for office before. She ran for State Representative in Minnesota House District 25A in 2022 and was defeated by Representative Hicks.

Attorney General Keith Ellison is running for reelection and is the DFL-endorsed candidate for Attorney General. Ellison is facing political newcomer David Madgett in the primary. The winner of the DFL-primary will face Republican-endorsed candidate Ron Schutz. Schutz works in private

practice and serves on the Board of Center of the American Experiment and has not run for office before.

Minnesota's State Auditor Julie Blaha is not running for reelection. The DFL-endorsed candidate is Zack Flipovich. Who holds an MBA and a former Duluth City Councilmember. There are three Republicans running for State Auditor. Nate George is the Republican-endorsed candidate. George is the Director of Licensing & Investigations for the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, Tribal Gaming Regulatory Authority. Scott Jensen was the Republican candidate for Governor in 2022 and has filed for State Auditor this year. Will Finn is the third candidate running in the Republican-primary, he was the 2022 Grassroots-Legalize Cannabis Party of Minnesota State Auditor candidate.

All 201 seats in the Minnesota legislature are on the ballot this fall. There are twenty-six members from the House and Senate who have announced their plan to retire or run for other offices leaving big shoes, and seats, to be filled.

According to House and Senate DFL leaders this is the first time there is a Democratic candidate running in every single legislative seat. There are twenty seats where a Republican candidate has not filed to run and challenge the DFL candidate. Fourteen DFL House members will return to the Minnesota House of Representatives without facing an opponent this fall, they include:

- Representative Ginny Klevorn (DFL – Plymouth)
- Representative Leon Lillie (DFL – Oakdale)
- Representative Shelley Buck (DFL – Woodbury)
- Representative Steve Elkins (DFL – Bloomington)
- Representative Fue Lee (DFL – Minneapolis)
- Representative Katie Jones (DFL – Minneapolis)
- Representative Jamie Long (DFL - Minneapolis)
- Representative Aisha Gomez (DFL – Minneapolis)
- Representative Meg Luger-Nikolai (DFL – Saint Paul)
- Representative Dave Pinto (DFL – Saint Paul)
- Representative Samakab Hussein (DFL – Saint Paul)
- Representative Jay Xiong (DFL – Saint Paul)

Jess Lewis will join the list of individuals without opponents in the November election. She is a first-time candidate who received the DFL-endorsement for House District 43B in Golden Valley. Representative Freiberg currently holds that seat and is running for Senate.

Five incumbent House of Representative members are facing primaries, three republicans and two democrats, they include:

- Representative Josh Heintzeman (R – Nisswa)
- Representative Tom Murphy (R – Underwood)
- Representative Dawn Gillman (R – Hutchinson)
- Representative Huldah Momanyi-Hiltsley (DFL – Brooklyn Park)
- Representative Mohamud Noor (DFL – Minneapolis)

Two Minnesota Senate members will return to the Minnesota Senate without facing an opponent this fall, they include:

- Senator Bobby Joe Champion (DFL – Minneapolis)
- Senator Scott Dibble (DFL – Minneapolis)

Representative Mike Freiberg is also running for Senate District 43 unopposed. Senator Ann Rest who currently serves in that seat is retiring from the legislature. Senate District 43 includes the communities of Golden Valley, Crystal, New Hope, and Plymouth.

Six incumbent Senate members are facing primaries, three republicans and three democrats, they include:

- Senator Paul Utke (R – Park Rapids)
- Senator Nathan Wesenberg (R – Little Falls)
- Senator John Jasinski (R – Faribault)
- Senator Susan Pha (DFL – Brooklyn Park)
- Senator Ron Latz (DFL – Saint Louis Park)
- Senator Omar Fateh (DFL – Minneapolis)

There are five independent candidates running in this year's election. Marisa Simonetti is running for the United States Senate seat. Calvin Larson Jr, Ngone Saliou Niang, and Kris Babler are running for Minnesota Senate. Kim Wilson is running for the Minnesota House.

DATES TO REMEMBER

- June 26, 2026
 - Voters begin casting ballots early by mail or in person ahead of the August Primary Election.
- August 11, 2026
 - Minnesota Primary Election Day.
- September 18, 2026
 - Voters can start casting their ballots early by mail or in person ahead of the State's General Election Day.
- November 3, 2026
 - General Election Day.
- January 12, 2027
 - First day of the 2027 legislative session.

US Senate

Democratic-Farmer-Labor Primary	Republican Primary	Third Party Candidate	Notes
Peggy Flanagan Angie Craig George H Kalberer Billy Nord Peter Murgic Kurt Michael Anderson	Bob Carney Jr Cynthia Gail Ahmad R. Hassan Joyce Lacey Patrick Munro Adam Schwarze Michele Tafoya Royce White Tom Weiler Mohamed Muse	Marisa Simonetti (Independent Party)	Peggy Flanagan is the DFL endorsed candidate. Adam Schwarze is the Republican endorsed candidate. Peggy Flanagan is Lieutenant Governor. Angie Craig represents Minnesota's 2 nd Congressional district.

US Congress

District	Democratic-Farmer-Labor Candidate	Republican Candidate	Democratic-Farmer-Labor Primary	Republican Primary	Notes
1			Alex Eaton v. Jake Johnson	Brad Finstad v. Oliver R. Morlan v. Gregory Goetzman	
2		Eric Pratt	Abdi Abdulle v. Kaela Berg v. Matthew Klein v. Matt Little v. Hugh McTavish v. Christopher Mosel		Angie Craig (DFL) is running for Senate. Berg is a Minnesota House member. Klein is a Minnesota Senator. Little is a former Mayor and Minnesota Senator. Little is the DFL endorsed candidate.
3	Kelly Morrison			Tyler Bass v. Quentin Wittrock	
4			Betty McCollum v. Aswar Rahman	Paul Wikstrom v. Paul Xiong v. Gene Rehtzigel	
5			Julie Tang Le v. Ilhan Omar v. Nate Schluter v. Abena McKenzie v. Latonya Reeves	Dalia Al-Aqidi v. John Nagel v. Angie Windhauser v. Abbey Zieska	

Bold = Incumbent

June 10, 2026

SUBJECT: *Updates and Reports*

6	Doug Chapin			Tom Emmer v. Mike Foley v. Chris Corey	
7	Michelle Fischbach		Erik Osberg v. Steve Carlson		
8			Luke Gulbranson v. John Munter v. Trina Swanson	Pete Stauber v. Anthony Hamilton	

Governor & Lt Governor

Democratic-Farmer-Labor Primary	Republican Primary	Notes
Bill Gates and Leah Harris; Thomas Evenstad and Jason Haarsager; Amy Klobuchar and Ben Scheirer; Kobey J Layne and Paul Ference; Ole “Viking” Savior and Ashley “Skol” Johnson; Po Vang and Mark Frascone; Mohammed Wazwaz and Murad Alshool;	Loner Blue and Andrew Maass; Lisa Demuth and Ryan Wilson; Raul Estrada and Joe Kincaid; John Krhin and Dennis Conn; Mike Lindell and Phill Parrish; Ross Nova and Kerry Busby; Kendall Qualls and Brian Nicholson	Amy Klobuchar and Ben Scheirer are the DFL endorsed ticket. Kendall Qualls and Brian Nicholson are the GOP endorsed ticket.

Secretary of State

Democratic-Farmer-Labor	Republican	Notes
Steve Simon	Tad Jude v. Wendy Phillips	Tad June is the Republican endorsed candidate.

State Auditor

Democratic-Farmer-Labor	Republican Primary	Notes
Zack Flipovich	Scott Jensen Nate George Will Finn	Julie Blaha (DFL) is retiring. Nate George is the Republican endorsed candidate.

Attorney General

Democratic-Farmer-Labor Primary	Republican	Notes
Keith Ellison v. David J.S. Madgett	Ronald Schutz	

State Senate Races

SUBJECT: Updates and Reports

District	Democratic-Farmer-Labor Candidate	Republican Candidate	3 rd Party Candidate	Democratic-Farmer-Labor Primary	Republican Primary	Notes
1	Bjorn Solberg	Mark Johnson				
2	Dan R. Rogers	Steve Green	Calvin Larson Jr (Independent Party)			
3	Grant Hauschild	Andrea Zupancich				Rematch from 2022.
4	Robert Kupec	Austin Peterson				
5	Skylar Fynboh				Paul Utke v. Mike Wiener	Wiener is a House member.
6	Denise Slipy	Keri Heintzeman				Rematch from 2025 special election.
7	Kim McLaughlin	Robert Farnsworth				
8	Jennifer McEwen	Darrick Law				
9	Krystyne Kuntson	Jordan Rasmusson				
10	Tara Killen				Nathan Wesenberg v. Deb Holthaus	
11	Mary Carlson	Jason Rarick				Carlson is the Willow River School Board Chair.
12	Kari Dorry	Torrey Westrom				
13	Trent C Dilks				Aaron Brutger v. Jared Gapinski	Jeff Howe (R) is retiring.
14	Aric Putnam	Bernie Perryman				Perryman is a House member.
15	Andrea Boettger	Braxton Seifert				Gary Dahms (R) is retiring. Seifert is the son of former Rep. Marty Seifert.

Bold = Incumbent

June 10, 2026

SUBJECT: Updates and Reports

16	Kathy Jorgenson	Andrew Lang				
17	Julie Kelzer	Glenn Gruenhagen				
18	Nick Frenz	Jackie Henry				
19				Sam Powell v. Adama Youhn Doumbouya	John Jasinski v. Crystal Alan	
20	Jason Lohmann				Steven E Jacob v. Theodore Kimble	Steve Drazkowski (R) is retiring. Jacob is a House member.
21	Caitlyn Sanow-Minett	Chris Knoll				Bill Weber (R) is retiring.
22	Marisa Ulmen	Jeremy Munson				Rich Draheim (R) is retiring. Munson is a former House member.
23		Gene Dornink		Angie Hanson v. Jennifer Ney		
24	Simon Glaser	Nels T. Pierson				Carla Nelson (R) is retiring. Pierson is a former House member.
25	Liz Boldon	John Howie				
26	Jack Hedin	Cherie Johnson				Jeremy Miller (R) is retiring.
27	Brandon Van Dover	Andrew Mathews				
28	Max Glenna	Mark Koran				
29		Michael Holmstrom Jr.		Dan Fiskum v. Louis McNutt		McNutt ran against Holmstrom in the 2025 special election.
30	Leah Temple	Eric Lucero				
31	Gadisa Berkessa	Calvin Bahr				
32	Chris Ford	Michael Kreun				

Bold = Incumbent

June 10, 2026

SUBJECT: Updates and Reports

33	Nat Smith	Karin Housley				
34	John Hoffman	Karen Attia				Rematch from 2022.
35	Angela Nelson	Jim Abeler				
36	Heather Gustafson	Heidi Heino				
37		Brady Hoag		Kristi Janigo v. Austin Chanen		Warren Limmer (R) is retiring. Janigo is on the Maple Grove City Council.
38		Brad Olson		Susan Pha v. Nehemiah Garley		
39	Mary Kunesh	Pam Wolf	Ngone Saliou Niang (Green)			
40	John Marty	Rachel Japuntich				
41	Judy Seeberger	Tom Dippel				Rematch from 2022. Dippel is a member of the Minnesota House.
42	Bonnie Westlin	Kevin Peterson				
43	Mike Freiberg					Ann Rest (DFL) is retiring. Freiberg is a member of the Minnesota House.
44		James Tachney		Sam Rosemark v. Teresa Miller		Tou Xiong (DFL) is retiring.
45	Ann Johnson Stewart	Shannon Bruce				
46		Kayla Wright		Ron Latz v. Lynette Lungay Dumalag		

SUBJECT: Updates and Reports

47	Amanda Hemmingsen-Jaeger	Brian Stalboerger				
48	Dan Kessler	Julia Coleman				
49	Krish Subrahmanian	Dustin R. DuFault	Kris Babler (Independent Party)			Steve Cwodzinski (DFL) is retiring.
50		Owen Michaelson		Karla Hult v. Nelly Korman v. John McCellan v. Amal Ibrahim		Alice Mann (DFL) is retiring. Hult is a Kare 11 journalist.
51	Simon Trautmann Cordoza	Juline Birgersson				Melissa Wiklund (DFL) is retiring.
52	Liz Reyer	Brady O'Neil				Jim Carlson (DFL) is retiring. Reyer is a member of the Minnesota House.
53	Paul Cumings	Todd Podgorski				Matt Klein (DFL) is running for CD2. Cumings is the Executive Assistant of the DFL Floor Leader.
54	Rick Olson	Ben Bakeberg				Eric Pratt (R) is running for CD2. Bakeberg is a member of the Minnesota House.
55	Lindsey Port	Van Holston				
56	Erin Maye Quade				Julida Alter v. Raymond David Peterson	
57	Steven Schroer	Zach Duckworth				
58	Mark Legvold	Bill Lieske				
59	Bobby Joe Champion					

Bold = Incumbent

June 10, 2026

SUBJECT: Updates and Reports

60	Doron Clark	Abigail Wolters				This is a rematch from the 2025 special election.
61	Scott Dibble					
62				Omar Fateh v. Brenda Short v. Janelle Austin		
63	Zaynab Mohamed	Diane Napper				
64	Erin Murphy	Robert Bushard				
65		Rocco (No Last Name)		Robyn Gulley v. Natasha Bennett		Sandy Pappas (DFL) is retiring.
66	Clare Oumou Verbeten	Kathleen Bart				
67	Foung Hawj	Toby Hesselgrave				

State House Races

District	Democratic-Farmer-Labor Candidate	Republican Candidate	Third Party Candidate	Democratic-Farmer-Labor Primary	Republican Primary	Notes
01A	Leanna Sandahl	John Burkel				
01B	Jennifer Compeau	Steve Gander				
02A	Reed J. Olson	Bidal Duran Jr				Rematch from 2024.
02B	Emily Thabes	Matt Bliss				
03A	Aaron Kania	Roger Skraba				
03B	Aaron Schweiger	Natalie Zeleznikar				
04A		Andrew Rockhold		Shelly Carlson v. Erika Yoney		Carlson is the Mayor of Moorhead
04B	Thaddeus Laugisch	Jim Joy				
05A	Dan S. Mitchell	Krista Knudsen				

Bold = Incumbent

June 10, 2026

SUBJECT: Updates and Reports

05B	Meggie Evers	Jonathan Claussen				Mike Weiner (R) is running for Senate.
06A	Samuel Grigsby	Ben Davis				
06B	Nicky Hardy				Josh Heintzeman v. Matthew Eric Zinda	Primary rematch from 2024.
07A	Erin McCabe Nigen	Spencer Igo				
07B	Dan Horoshak	Cal Warwas				
08A	Peter Johnson	Allan Kehr II				
08B	Liish Kozlowski	Shawn Savela				
09A	Nicholas Hanson	Jeff Backer				
09B	Owen Werner				Tom Murphy v. Craig Horlocker	
10A	Melissa Maertens				Mark Striemer v. Brian Lindquist	Ron Kresha (R) is retiring.
10B	Jeff Larson	Isaac Schultz				
11A	Chris Swanson	Jeff Dotseth				
11B	Jack L'Heureux	Nathan Nelson				
12A	Talitha Anderson	Paul Anderson				
12B	Michael Gardner	Mary Franson				
13A	Arlis Saylor	Tanja Goering				Lisa Demuth (R) is running for Governor.
13B	Justin Doyle	Dawn Loberg				Tim O'Driscoll (R) is retiring.
14A				Abdi Daisane v. Paul Schumacher	Mike Conway v. John Jose	Bernie Perrryman is running for Senate. Daisane ran against Perryman in 2024.
14B	Zachary Dorholt	Sue Ek				Dan Wolgamott

Bold = Incumbent

June 10, 2026

SUBJECT: Updates and Reports

						(DFL) is running for State Auditor. Dorholt previously was a member of the House.
15A	Nathan Schmig	Bradley L Hennen				
15B		Geri Theis		Keith R. Klawitter v. Lydell Sik		
16A	David J Torgelson	Scott Van Binsbergen				
16B	Julie Henslin	Dave Baker				
17A	Mali Anderson				Dawn Gillman v. Wayne Olson	Primary election rematch from 2024.
17B	Ben Wieman	Bobbie Harder				
18A	Leah Hanson	Erica Schwartz				
18B	Luke Frederick					
19A	Martha Brown	Keith Allen				
19B	Zack Meyman	Thomas Sexton				
20A	Heather Arndt	Pam Altendorf				
20B				Steve Holm v. Mark Alvin Toreson	Sara Bertschinger v. Brady Rouhoff	Steven Jacob (R) is running for Senate.
21A	LS Rusty Nelson	Krist Wollum				
21B	Jon Wilson	Marj Fogelman				
22A	Sonja L. Denn	Bjorn Olson				
22B	Mary Nesgoda	Terry M. Stier				
23A		Nick Ronnenberg		Colin J. Minehart v. Joe Staloch		
23B	Christoph Dundas	Patricia Mueller				
24A	Heather Holmes	Duane Quam				

Bold = Incumbent

June 10, 2026

SUBJECT: Updates and Reports

24B	Tina Liebling	John Micheal Ajouri				
25A	Kim Hicks	Brad Trahan				
25B	Andy Smith	Wes Lund				Rematch from 2024.
26A	Dan Wilson	Aaron Repinski				
26B	Allie Wolf	Greg Davids				
27A	Vanessa Davenport	Shane Mekeland				
27B	Charles A. McConaughay	Bryan Lawrence				
28A	Tim Dummer	James "Jimmy" Gordon				
28B	Daniel Colten Schmidt	Max Rymer				
29A	Emily Dahlgren	Joe McDonald				
29B		Marion (O'Neill) Rarick		Marcus D. Claxton v. Colton Kratky		
30A	Joey Smyth	Walter Hudson				
30B	Keenan Gentry	Chad Westberg				Paul Novotny (R) is retiring.
31A	Brian Walker	Harry Niska				
31B	Jen Bloomquist	Peggy Scott				
32A	Amanda Matchett	Nolan West				
32B	Matt Norris	Leslie Larson				Larson is Blaine City Councilmember.
33A	Angela Thompson	Stacey Stout				
33B	Josiah Hill	Jessica L. Johnson				Johnson is Sen. Abeler's Legislative Assistant.
34A	Jason Heaser	Danny Nadeau				

Bold = Incumbent

June 10, 2026

SUBJECT: Updates and Reports

34B	XP Lee	Ruth Bittner				Rematch from 2025 special election.
35A	Zack Stephenson	Josh Jungling				Rematch from 2024.
35B	Kari Rehrauer	Steve Pape				Rematch from 2024.
36A	Sebastian Stoss	Jim DeMay				Elliot Engen has withdrawn. Stoss is the Republican endorsed candidate.
36B	Brion Curran	Patty Bradway				Rematch from 2024.
37A	Darci Smith	Tom McKee				Kristin Robbins (R) is retiring.
37B	Kristin Bahner	Luke Doerer				
38A				Huldah Momanyi-Hiltsley v. Richard Klatte v. Wynfred Russell	Charlie Kistler v. Yelena S. Kurdyumova	
38B	Samantha Vang	Robert Marvin				
39A	Aaron Klemz	Andy Macko				Erin Koegel (DFL) is retiring.
39B		KT Jacobs		Amada Marquez Simula v. Justice Spriggs		Sandra Feist (DFL) is retiring.
40A		Luis Withrow		Aisha Elmquist v. Murwo Mohamed		Kelly Moller (DFL) is retiring.
40B	David Gottfried	Allen Shen				
41A	Cole Birkeland	Wayne Johnson				
41B	Jen Fox	William Beck				Tom Dippel (R) is running for Senate. Jen

Bold = Incumbent

June 10, 2026

SUBJECT: *Updates and Reports*

						Fox ran in 2024 for this seat.
42A	Ned Carroll	Kathy Burkett				
42B	Ginny Klevorn					
43A	Krystin Schuette	Todd Hesemann				Cedrick Frazier (DFL) running for Hennepin County Attorney.
43B	Jess Lewis					Mike Freiberg (DFL) is running for Senate.
44A	Peter Fischer	Justin Middaugh				
44B	Leon Lillie					
45A	Tracey Breazeale	Andrew Myers				Rematch from 2024.
45B	Patty Acomb	Thomas Bergerson				
46A	Larry Kraft	Karl Olson				
46B	Cheryl Youakim	Kim Rich				
47A	Shelley Buck					
47B	Ethan Cha		Kim Wilson Independent			
48A	Joe Brothers	Jim Nash				
48B	Lucy Rehm	Caleb Steffenhagen				Rematch from 2024.
49A	Alex Falconer	Jeff Houdek				
49B	Carlie Kotyza-Witthuhn	Wendy Cregg				
50A	Julie Greene	Chris Wedum				
50B	Steve Elkins					
51A	Michael Howard	Frank Pafko				
51B	Nathan Coulter	Jim Lund				
52A	Christos Jensen	George Gilmour				Liz Reyer (DFL) is

Bold = Incumbent

June 10, 2026

SUBJECT: Updates and Reports

						running for Senate.
52B	Bianca Virnig	Tom Lopac				
53A	Mary Frances Clardy	AJ Gubash				
53B	Rick Hansen	Patti Mikulski				
54A	Brad Tabke	Aaron Paul				Rematch from 2024.
54B	Chrisopher Kartschoke				Natalie Barnes v. Chris Steward	Ben Bakeberg (R) is running for Senate. Barnes ran for Senate in 2024.
55A	Jessica Hanson	Pam Myhra				Myhra was a House Rep from 2011-2014.
55B		Todd Buschwald		Hunter Cantrell v. Kriystauhl Fichett v. Adam Silkey v. Yusuf Haji		Kaela Berg (DFL) is running for CD2. Cantrell is a former legislator.
56A	Robert Bierman	A.J. Prospect				
56B	John Huot	Andrew Hattaway				
57A	JD Delgado	Jon Koznick				
57B	Brian Cohn	Jeff Witte				Rematch from 2022.
58A	Kristi Pursell	Steven E. Cherney				
58B	Ed Fellows	Drew Roach				
59A	Fue Lee					
59B	Esther Agbaje	Kenneth Smoron				
60A	Sydney Jordan	John Holmberg				
60B				Mohamud Noor v. Abdurrahman Mahmud		
61A	Katie Jones					
61B	Jamie Long					
62A	Aisha Gomez					

Bold = Incumbent

June 10, 2026

SUBJECT: Updates and Reports

62B	Anquam Mahamoud	Bob Sullentrop				
63A	Samantha Sencer-Mura	Kyle Bragg				
63B	Emma Greenman	Nicholas Peters				
64A	Meg Luger-Nikolai					
64B	Dave Pinto					
65A	Samakab Hussein					
65B				Sebastian Ellefson v. Elena Mena		Maria Isa Perez Vega is running for Ramsey County Commissioner.
66A	Leigh Finke	Mark Born				
66B	Athena Hollins	Mary O'Neal				
67A	Liz Lee	Jennifer McPherson				
67B	Jay Xiong					

Legislators Retiring

District	Body	Party	Name	Note
4A	House	DFL	Heather Keeler	
10A	House	R	Ron Kresha	Co-Chair of Education Finance
13B	House	R	Tim O’Driscoll	Co-Chair of Commerce Committee
15A	House	R	Chris Swedzinski	Co-Chair Energy Finance and Policy
15B	House	R	Paul Torkelson	Co-Chair of Ways and Means
21A	House	R	Joe Schomacker	Co-Chair Human Services Finance and Policy
30B	House	R	Paul Novotny	Co-Chair of Public Safety Finance and Policy
33A	House	R	Patti Anderson	Vice Chair of Fraud Prevention and State Agency Oversight Policy
36A	House	R	Elliott Engen	
37A	House	R	Kristin Robbins	Chair of Fraud Prevention and State Agency Oversight Policy
39A	House	DFL	Erin Koegel	Co-Chair of Commerce Committee
39B	House	DFL	Sandra Feist	Co-Vice Chair of Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee
40A	House	DFL	Kelly Moller	Co-Chair of Public Safety Finance and Policy Committee, Co-Chair of Ethics Committee
13	Senate	R	Jeff Howe	
15	Senate	R	Gary Dahms	Ranking Minority Member on Commerce and Consumer Protection
20	Senate	R	Steve Drazkowski	
21	Senate	R	Bill Weber	Ranking Minority Member on Taxes
22	Senate	R	Richard Draheim	Ranking Member on Jobs and Workforce Committee
24	Senate	DFL	Carla Nelson	Former Senate Tax Chair
26	Senate	R	Jeremy Miller	Former Senate Majority Leader
37	Senate	R	Warren Limmer	Ranking Minority Member on Judiciary and Public Safety
43	Senate	DFL	Ann Rest	Chair of the Taxes Committee, Vice Chair of the Rules and Administration Committee
44	Senate	DFL	Tou Xiong	Chair of the State and Local Government Committee
49	Senate	DFL	Steve Cwodzinski	Chair of the Education Policy Committee
50	Senate	DFL	Alice Mann	Vice Chair of the Health and Human Services Committee
51	Senate	DFL	Melissa Wiklund	Chair of the Health and Human Services Committee
52	Senate	DFL	Jim Carlson	Chair of the Elections Committee
65	Senate	DFL	Sandy Pappas	Chair of Capital Investment Committee

Legislators Running for Other Offices

District	Body	Party	Name	Note
5B	House	R	Mike Wiener	Senate District 5
13A	House	R	Lisa Demuth	Governor
14A	House	R	Bernie Perryman	Senate District 14
14B	House	DFL	Dan Wolgamott	State Auditor
20B	House	R	Steve Jacob	Senate District 20
23A	House	R	Peggy Bennett	Governor
41B	House	R	Tom Dippel	Senate District 41
43A	House	DFL	Cedrick Frazier	Hennepin County Attorney
43B	House	DFL	Mike Freiberg	Senate District 43
52A	House	DFL	Liz Reyer	Senate District 52
54B	House	R	Ben Bakeberg	Senate District 54
55B	House	DFL	Kaela Berg	2 nd Congressional District
65B	House	DFL	Maria Isa Perez-Vega	Ramsey County Commissioner District 5
53	Senate	DFL	Matt Klein	2 nd Congressional District
54	Senate	R	Eric Pratt	2 nd Congressional District

Legislators Who Did Not Finish Their Term

District	Body	Party	Name	Note
34B	House	DFL	Melissa Hortman	Melissa Hortman was assassinated on June 14, 2025. On August 12, XP Lee was elected to complete her term.
47B	House	DFL	Amanda Hemmingsen-Jaeger	Amanda Hemmingsen-Jaeger was elected to the Minnesota Senate during a special election in November 2025.
64A	House	DFL	Kaohly Her	Kaohly Her was elected to be the Mayor of Saint Paul in November of 2025.
6	Senate	R	Justin Eichorn	Justin Eichorn resigned following felony charges being brought against him. On April 29, Keri Heintzeman was elected to complete his term.
29	Senate	R	Bruce Anderson	Bruce Anderson passed away on July 21, 2025. A special election to fill his seat will take place on November 4.
47	Senate	DFL	Nicole Mitchell	Nicole Mitchell resigned July 25 following a felony conviction. A special election to fill her seat will take place on November 4.

Former Legislators Running for Office

District	Body	Party	Name	Note
14B	House	DFL	Zachary Dorholt	Dorholt served in the Minnesota House.
56A	House	R	Pam Myhra	Former House member running for the house
22	Senate	R	Jeremy Munson	Jeremy Munson served in the Minnesota House of Representatives and was a founding member of the New House Republican Caucus.

Judicial Officers

This year there are 123 judicial offices on the ballot, including 2 supreme court, 5 court of appeals, and 116 district court seats up for election. There are two contested district court races in the fifth and ninth judicial districts and one open seat in the tenth district following the decision by Judge Gregory Galler to let his seat go by election.

Supreme Court (2)

Sarah E. Hennesy
Paul C. Thissen

Court of Appeals (5)

Elizabeth G. Bentley
Rachel F. Bond
Jeanne M. Cochran
JaPaul J. Harris
Kevin G. Ross

First Judicial District (14)

Christopher D. Bates
Dannia L. Edwards
Patrick H. Goggins
Adam Johnson
Lauren M. Johnson
Krista M. Marks
Tanya O. O'Brien
Ann M. Offermann
Tracy L. Perzel
Luis E. Rangel Morales
Matthew T. Schmidt
Kelly A. Staples
Michael D. Wentzell
Christian S. Wilton

Second Judicial District (9)

Jessica A. Bierwerth
Leonardo Castro
Stacy Deery Stennes
Victoria A. Gardner
Veena A. Iyer
Kelly L. Olmstead
Jennifer L. Verdeja
Sophia Y. Vuelo
Der Yang

Third Judicial District (6)

Jacob C. Allen
Karen R. Duncan
Jeffrey M. Johnson
Erin Lindhart Felten
Dwight D. Luhmann
Christopher A. Neisen

Fourth Judicial District (21)

Luis A. Bartolomei
Gina M. Brandt
Dean C. Eyler
Todd M. Fellman
Emily J. Froehle
Michelle A. Hatcher
William H. Koch
Kristen G. Marttila
Jane E. Maschka
Dominick D. Mathews
Kerry W. Meyer
Mariam P. Mokri
Daniel C. Moreno
Jennifer L. Olson
Jeannice M. Reding
Carrie Ryan Gallia
Bridget A. Sullivan
Andrew H. Tweeten
Sarah S. West
Matthew M. Wilcox
Angela J. Willms

Fifth Judicial District (8)

Robert A. Docherty
Stephen J. Ferrazzano II
Paul J. Gunderson
Kayla M. Johnson
Patrick R. Rohland

Troy G. Timmerman

Christina M. Wietzema

- *Christopher Cain (challenger)*

Tricia B. Zimmer

Sixth Judicial District (6)

Jessica J. Fralich

Robert C. Friday

Steven B. Hanke

Rebekka L. Stumme

Rachel C. Sullivan

Steven Bradley Hanke

Seventh Judicial District (15)

Douglas B. Clark

Michelle L. Clark

Matthew E. Engelking

Mark J. Herzing

Michelle W. Lawson

Michael D. Leeser

Meriel B. Lester

Tammy L. Merkins

Kevin M. Miller

Andrew R. Pearson

Robert J. Raupp

Jade M. Rosenfeldt

Karl L. Schmidt

Ole Tvedten

Antionette C. Wetzel

Eighth Judicial District (5)

Stephanie L. Beckman

Melissa J. Listug

Benjamin C. Pieh

Laurence J. Stratton

Allison T. Whalen

Ninth Judicial District (12)

Patricia A. Aanes

Matti R. Adam

Jana M. Austad

Seamus P. Duffy

Michael P. Grover

Charles D. Halverson

Daniel Hawley

Kathryn Lorsbach

Matthew R. Mallie

- *Henry C. Ambelang (Challenger)*

Sarah L. McBroom

Kimberly A. Wimmer

Tamara L. Yon

Tenth Judicial District (20)

Suzanne Brown

Justin M. Collins

Carrie A. Doom

Jacob Fischmann

Patrick W. Flanagan

Juanita C. Freeman

Open Seat - Gregory Galler did not file for re-election

- *Mack Guptil*

- *Ben Lacy*

- *Rebecca Waxse*

Sheridan K. Hawley

Stoney L. Hiljus

Thomas R. Lehmann

Tricia Loehr

Karin L. McCarthy

Catherine M. McPherson

Jennifer D. Peterson

Laura A. Pietan

Heather Pipenhagen

Melissa M. Saterbak

Karen B. Schommer

Elizabeth H. Strand

Viet-Hanh Winchell

2026 State Legislative Platform

Build on Waste Management Act goals

The Partnership on Waste and Energy (Partnership) supports policy and regulatory approaches that encourage emerging technologies, promote new markets for waste and align energy and sustainable materials management strategies.

The Partnership supports maintaining Minnesota’s hierarchy of waste management practices.

Invest to keep waste out of landfills

The Partnership supports increased state funding at levels that allow local governments to carry out statutory responsibilities.

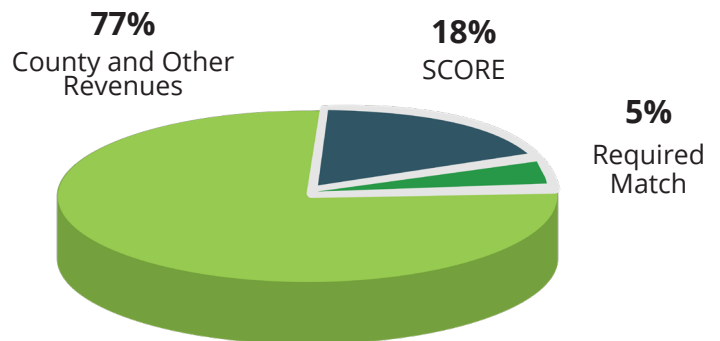
The Partnership supports policies that create effective incentives and prioritize resources to achieve climate, public health, environmental protection, waste reduction and diversion goals.

Create a more sustainable economy

The Partnership supports measures to design waste, toxicity and pollution out of the marketplace and keep products and resources in use for a robust circular economy.

The Partnership supports strong, innovative partnerships between the state, local governments and private entities to maximize the benefits of recovering resources and collaborating on energy and climate initiatives.

County Recycling Spending and SCORE Grants, 2023



State grants cover only 1/5 of county spending for recycling.

Need more information?

Nancy Haas | Poul Haas Government Relations

651-274-5166 | nancy.haas@poulhaas.com



The Partnership on Waste and Energy—a collaboration between Hennepin, Ramsey and Washington counties—seeks to end waste, promote renewable energy and enhance the health and resiliency of communities we serve while advancing equity and responding to the challenges of a changing climate.