Association of Minnesota Counties

Introduction to the Association of Minnesota Counties

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What is AMC?

- A Voluntary Association of Minnesota’s 87 Counties Since 1909.
- The Voice of County Government in Minnesota.
- An Education, Training & Communication Resource for Counties and County Officials.
AMC’s mission is to assist in the provision of effective county governance for the people of Minnesota.
AMC's Governance Structure

- AMC is a 501c4 non-profit association governed by a board of directors.
- AMC also has a 501c3 foundation called the Minnesota Counties Research Foundation.
Board of Directors

• 5 Executive Committee Members
• 16 District Directors Representing 10 Geographic Districts
• 3 National Association of Counties (NACo) Representatives
• 5 Policy Committee Chairs
• 3 Member Services Committee Chairs
• Affiliate Non-Voting Members
2017 Executive Committee

(From left to right)

Past President Roseau County Commissioner Jack Swanson
First Vice-President Isanti County Commissioner Susan Morris
President Swift County Commissioner Gary Hendrickx
Second Vice-President Anoka County Commissioner Scott Schulte
Secretary-Treasurer Ramsey County Commissioner Mary Jo McGuire
Member Services Committees

• Business & Partnership Development
• Education & Training
• Research
Advisory Committees & Task Forces

- Agriculture and Rural Development
- Broadband
- Extension
- FUTURES
- Indian Affairs
- Legislative
Policy Committees

- Environment & Natural Resources
- General Government & Taxes
- Health & Human Services
- Public Safety & Corrections
- Transportation & Infrastructure
Affiliates

Full Time AMC Staff
• Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative
• Local Public Health Association (LPHA)
• MN Association of Corrections Act Counties (MACCAC)
• MN Association of County Social Services Administrators (MACSSA)
• MN Workforce Council Association

Part Time AMC Staff
• MN Assn of County Feedlot Officers
• MN County Engineers Association
• Metropolitan Energy Coalition
• MN Assn of County Administrators
• MN Assn County Planning & Zoning Admins
• MN County Human Resource Mgmt Assn
• MN Rural Counties
• Solid Waste Administrators Association
Affiliates

Independent
• MN Association of County Health Plans
• MN Association of County Officials
• MN County Attorneys Association
• MN County Computer Cooperative
• MN Sheriffs Association

No Staff
• Association of MN Emergency Managers
• MN Assn of County Land Commissioners
• MN Assn of County Surveyors
• MN Assn County Veterans' Services Officers
• MN County Information Technology Leadership Association
• MN County GIS Association
Organizational Functions

• Communications
• Training and Education
• Research
• County Solutions
• Intergovernmental Services
Communications

• AMC Newspaper
• AMC Extra!
• AMC Update
• AMC Website
• Twitter (@mncounties)
www.mncounties.org

• Association News & Events
• Legislative Information
• Links to Other Governmental Websites
• Links to County Websites
• Information about County Government
Minnesota’s 87 county governments provide the essential services to create healthy, vibrant, and safe communities.

Counties support and maintain public infrastructure, transportation and economic development assets; keep residents healthy; ensure public safety to protect our citizens; maintain public information and coordinate elections; and implement a broad array of programs in a cost-effective and efficient manner.

Minnesotans depend on counties to provide services that build, maintain, and protect their homes, schools and neighborhoods. Counties are also an instrumental player in America’s intergovernmental system of federal, state, and local governments.
Training & Education

• LEAN
• DISC
• Facilitation Services
• Futures Task Force
• Webinars
• Education Blog
Conferences & Events

• County Government 101: A Conference for Newly Elected Officials
• AMC Legislative Conference
• Leadership Summit
• Spring/Fall District Meetings
• Policy Committee Meetings
• AMC Annual Conference
Research Services

- County Library & Information Center (CLIC)
- Fact sheets
- Salary Survey
- Special research projects
County Solutions

- Deferred Compensation
- Investments
- Office Supplies
- Office Furniture
- Building Supplies
- ...and more!
More than 50 companies, firms and organizations interested in doing business with counties are part of the AMCAM (AMC Associate Membership) program.
Intergovernmental Services

- State Legislative and Administrative Lobbying
- Federal Lobbying
- Local Government Liaison with Cities, Schools, and Townships
- Member Inquiries and Research
• AMC strives to preserve local control so that counties have the flexibility to address the most pressing needs of their communities.

• AMC supports state budget solutions that avoid adding or shifting a disproportionate burden to counties through cost shifts, cost shares and unfunded mandates.

• AMC believes that funding for county-administered services should be commensurate with the level of service or results deemed acceptable.
The AMC Legislative Platform is a 26 page document that does not change much from year to year.
AMC DISTRICTS vote on the issues most critical to their region of the state.

AMC BOARD selects a short list of items that are critical and timely for each legislative session.

POLICY COMMITTEES select priority issues.

AMC focuses on 5-8 legislative priorities each year.
Despite the wide range of differences in county demographics, geography, industry and tax capacity, there are more similarities than differences in county legislative priorities.
2017 Legislative Priorities

• Comprehensive Transportation Funding
• Stabilizing County Program Aid
• Mental Health in Jails and the Community
• Buffer Aid
• Determining Fiscal Impact of HHS Programs on Counties
• Minnesota Eligibility Technology System Funding
• Local Road Wetland Replacement
• Broadband Development Funding
Providing Unmatched Solutions for Your County

Stronger Counties. Stronger America.
Building Relations with All Levels of Government

- Good governance requires relationships
  - Local level – with all your fellow community and elected leaders
  - State level – with your legislators and statewide elected leaders
  - Federal level – with the White House, federal agencies and departments, House and Senate elected leaders and their staff and Supreme Court
Minnesota is a 100% Membership State!
As your membership association, we are here to serve you!
Thank You!

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