

## **County Facilities located in Fairmont**

Court House/

Security Building 201 Lake Ave

Human Services 115 W 1<sup>st</sup> St

Library 110 N Park St

Highway Department 1200 Marcus St

## **County Departments and Services**

(Department Heads Listed in Parenthesis)

**County Coordinator** (Scott Higgins)

507-238-3124 [scott.higgins@co.martin.mn.us](mailto:scott.higgins@co.martin.mn.us)

The County Coordinator is an appointed position by the County Board and under the Board's direction manages the affairs of the county under which the County Board has authority. Serves as the Clerk to the Board and implements all Board actions and decisions. Prepares the annual county budget for presentation to the Board, monitors expenditures. The Coordinator assists in preparing and monitoring State and Federal grant programs with other county departments as necessary. Responsible for the county personnel dept.

**Martin County Economic Development Authority (MCEDA)-IGNITE** (*Inspire Growth and Nurture Innovative Talent through Empowerment*).

507-238-3124 [scott.higgins@co.martin.mn.us](mailto:scott.higgins@co.martin.mn.us)

IGNITE provides business consulting services in business planning, feasibility assessments, start-up and expansion assistance, sales and marketing, market research, financial analysis, and strategic planning services. All the IGNITE services are confidential and of no cost to the client.

**Assessor's Office** (Mike Sheplee)

507-238-3210 [mike.sheplee@co.martin.mn.us](mailto:mike.sheplee@co.martin.mn.us)

This department provides the estimate of market value of all property in the county for use in property taxation. This is done through the appraisals of the staff and analysis of current sales of Real Estate within the county. The technical staff deals with application of Minnesota property tax laws.

**County Attorney** (Terry Viesselman)

507-238-4377

This department appears in all legal cases in which the county is a party. It gives legal advice

to the County Board and any county department as needed. It prosecutes all crimes and assists the Grand Jury in its investigations.

**Auditor/Treasurer** (James Forshee)

507-238-3266 [james.forshee@co.martin.mn.us](mailto:james.forshee@co.martin.mn.us)

This is the central accounting office and is responsible for calculating, collecting, maintaining, and distributing taxes for the County, Cities, Townships, and School Districts. The Office receipts incoming money and bills for all services provided by the County; calculates the county payroll and employee benefits; administers and maintains the election system for the 37 precincts in the county; maintains records involving land transfers, sales, splits, mortgages, etc.; manages and invests county funds in compliance with Minnesota State Statutes; issues transient merchant, auctioneer, tobacco, and 3.2 liquor licenses; assists in establishing the county budget.

**Judge of District Court**

507-238-3249 (Honorable Michael Trushenski)

Chambers for Robert Walker, District Court Judge, and the Courthouse Courtroom are located on the 3rd floor of the Martin County Courthouse, 201 Lake Ave., Fairmont, MN. Chambers for visiting judges and the LEC Courtroom are located on the 2nd floor of the Security Building, 201 Lake Ave., Fairmont.

**Court Administrator** (Connie Belgard)

507-238-3205 [connie.belgard@courts.state.mn.us](mailto:connie.belgard@courts.state.mn.us)

The Court Administrator's office is located on the 2nd floor of the Law Enforcement Center, 201 Lake Ave., Fairmont, MN. All court cases are filed here. When attending a court hearing, please check in at the Court Administrator's office. All fines are paid at this office. For traffic fine amounts, please call the traffic fine information line at 507-238-3214.

**Drainage Administration** (Michael Forstner)

507-238-3130 [michael.forstner@co.martin.mn.us](mailto:michael.forstner@co.martin.mn.us)

There are 188.9 miles of open ditches and thousands of miles of underground tile in Martin County, consisting of over 200 drainage systems. The total number of benefited acres is over 113,200 acres. The benefited acre dollar amount exceeds \$11,526,000. Martin County is currently digitizing the original ditch maps and burning them on compact disks in order to

preserve the original county tile maps. The Auditor's Tabular Lien Statements are kept up to date with current landowners of the county. All fund balances of each ditch are balanced and monitored monthly. All bills for each ditch are paid and accounted for in the drainage administrator's office.

**Extension Services** 235-3341

[gaals001@umn.edu](mailto:gaals001@umn.edu) (Kristie Gaalswyk-Pomerence)

This office is the outreach arm of the University of Minnesota and serves people of all ages. The 4-H Youth Development Program is housed here and provides educational programming and opportunities for ages: Kindergarten through one year past high school. It is also the connection point for other resources and staff such as Agriculture & Food Safety, Community Vitality, Family Development, Natural Resources.

**Kinship of Martin County**

507-238-4440 [fairmontkinship@gmail.com](mailto:fairmontkinship@gmail.com)

Martin County has an agreement with Kinship for countywide Mentoring Services

**Highway Department** (Kevin Peyman)

507-235-3347 [kevin.peyman@co.martin.mn.us](mailto:kevin.peyman@co.martin.mn.us)

This dept. oversees the design, construction, maintenance, and operation of all County and County State Aid Highways (CSAH) and bridges. In addition to the main shop/truck station in Fairmont, truck stations are also located in Dunnell, Trimont and Truman. There are 172 bridges and approximately 510 Miles of County and CSAH roads in Martin County, of which 270 miles are paved, and 240 miles are gravel.

**Human Services** (Kathy Werner)

115 W 1<sup>st</sup> St 507-238-4757

Website <http://www.fmchs.com>

This department endeavors to provide those necessary and beneficial human services that together with client effort and responsibility, family support, and efforts of the private sector, will offer residents the opportunity to maintain or recapture productive and meaningful lives. Our programs will be responsive to local people's needs with a priority

given to those who can least cope for themselves, or find no alternative to governmental intervention.

**Library System** (Jennifer Trushenski)

507-238-4207

Website [www.martincountylibrarysystem.org](http://www.martincountylibrarysystem.org)

The Library's mission is to be an educational, informational, and recreational resource for the residents of Martin County, promoting literacy and life-long learning. The following materials are available for checkout: Art Prints, Audiobooks, Books (Fiction, Non-Fiction, Large Print, etc.), Magazines, Music CD's, Newspapers, Pamphlets, Videos & DVD's. The following services are available at the library: Fax, Interlibrary Loan, Internet Access, Photocopier, Public Meeting Rooms, Word Processing.

**Bldg. Maintenance** (Doug Borchardt)

507-236-1492 [doug.borchardt@co.martin.mn.us](mailto:doug.borchardt@co.martin.mn.us)

This department is responsible for the maintenance of all County buildings and grounds. It aids in facility planning and coordinates a countywide safety program, works with outside contractors, and manages heating and cooling systems.

**Management Information Systems** (Steven McDonald)

507-238-3133 [steven.mcdonald@co.martin.mn.us](mailto:steven.mcdonald@co.martin.mn.us)

This department provides consulting, planning, purchasing, systems implementation, and technical support services for county departments. This includes all computer desktop systems, minicomputers, network servers and network infrastructure.

**Planning & Zoning** (Pam Flitter)

507-238-3242 [pam.flitter@co.martin.mn.us](mailto:pam.flitter@co.martin.mn.us)

This department coordinates the overall land use administration of the county and develops and maintains ISTS/Feedlot resource programs. The department plans, directs, coordinates, and evaluates planning and zoning activities and services and coordinates the activities of the planning commission.

**Probation Department**

507-238-3215

It is the mission of this department to promote public safety by holding offenders accountable, providing victim and community reparation, and by offering quality early intervention and probation services.

**Recorder's Office**

(Diane Sanders)

507-238-3213 [diane.sanders@co.martin.mn.us](mailto:diane.sanders@co.martin.mn.us)

The Martin County Recorder's Office records real estate documents and various other legal documents. The office files state and federal tax liens, notary commissions and plats. It serves as a Deputy State Registrar for the MN Department of Health and issues birth and death certificates. The office issues marriage licenses and certified copies of marriage certificates. It is a Passport Agent for the U.S. Department of State processing applications for passports. Internet services for real estate records are available upon request. Credit card service is available for online vital records requests.

**Sheriff's Office**

(Sheriff Jeff Markquart)

507-238-4481 [jeff.markquart@co.martin.mn.us](mailto:jeff.markquart@co.martin.mn.us)

This department's primary concern is the safety and wellbeing of all persons and property in Martin County. It operates 24 hours a day and 365 day per year and consists of several major divisions including Administration, Patrol, Corrections (jail), and Communications. Responsibilities include 911 and emergency dispatching, criminal investigations, water patrol and dive rescue, crime prevention, civil process, illegal drug investigations, patrol, detention and care of inmates.

**Emergency Management**

(Abigail Nesbit)

[Abigail.nesbit@co.martin.mn.us](mailto:Abigail.nesbit@co.martin.mn.us) 507-238-3193

Emergency Management is the creation of plans through which communities reduce vulnerability to hazards and cope with disasters. Disaster management does not avert or eliminate the threats, instead it focuses on creating plans to decrease the impact of disasters. Failure to create a plan could lead to damage to assets, human mortality, and lost revenue.

**Prairie/Solid Waste**

(Billeye Rabbe)

507-776-3232 [billeye@prlandswm.com](mailto:billeye@prlandswm.com)

Plans and directs the implementation of various programs related to waste education, household hazardous waste management, recycling, very small quantity generator waste and resource recovery projects within the Martin County Area.

**Surveyor**

(Ben Madsen)

507-235-3780

The professional duties of a County Surveyor include all of the duties involved in the practice of land surveying provided in Chapter 326.

**Veteran Services**

2423 Albion Ave, Suite 11 (Douglas Landsteiner)

507-238-3220 [doug.landsteiner@co.martin.mn.us](mailto:doug.landsteiner@co.martin.mn.us)

It is this departments mission to provide assistance and support to veterans and their dependents in obtaining veteran benefits through county, state, and federal programs and to act as an advocate on their behalf or direct them to other authorized agencies or providers as their needs dictate. Some of the benefits include: Assisting veterans in obtaining their military discharge documents (DD Form 214), Assisting veterans enrolling in the VA Healthcare system, scheduling transportation for veterans to the Minneapolis or Sioux Falls, SD, VA Medical Centers, filing claims for VA disability benefits, filing claims for State disability benefits. **If you believe you are eligible for any of these benefits and you live in Martin County, please contact our office at the number listed above.**

**Victim Services Program**

(Rebecca Bentele)

**General Crime Victim Program**

507-238-3209 [rebecca.bentele@co.martin.mn.us](mailto:rebecca.bentele@co.martin.mn.us)

The Victim Services Program provides criminal justice support (notice of charges filed, status of offender, victims' rights, court dates, financial recovery, etc.), advocacy, assistance in filing protection orders, explores other necessary protective measures, secures services with other agencies and provides information on resources available to meet other needs. There does not need to be criminal charges

or contact made with Law Enforcement to utilize this program and there is no fee for services provided.

**Faribault-Martin County Transit Board**

507-238-3128

(Jeremy Monahan)

[jeremy.monahan@co.martin.mn.us](mailto:jeremy.monahan@co.martin.mn.us)

The Transit Director is responsible for the direction and management of the Faribault-Martin County Transit System including planning, developing and implementing all functions of the joint transit system while providing safe and efficient services to all residents.

**County Board of Commissioners**

(See list on cover)

507-238-3124

The Martin County Board of Commissioners is the body charged by law with the management of the affairs of Martin County. The County Board operates as a deliberative and legislative assembly, meeting to discuss and determine the direction and policies of the County within the confines of state and federal law. The County Board functions within the statutory framework of Minnesota law. General duties, powers and responsibilities are found in Minnesota Statutes, especially but not exclusively Chapters 370, 373, 375 and 383D.

**Historical Martin County**

Was founded in 1857 and was named after Henry Martin, one of the areas earliest settlers. Of the 87 counties in Minnesota Martin County's population of 20,220 ranks 49<sup>th</sup> in the state. Fairmont is the County Seat. The Court House is built of Marquette Rain-Drop Sandstone from Michigan, and Buff-Bedford Limestone from Indiana. The foundation of the building is made of solid concrete about 5 feet deep. It was constructed from April 9<sup>th</sup>, 1906 - November 1<sup>st</sup>, 1907. It is 79 feet wide by 116 feet long and 50 feet to the top of roof. The dome extends 58 feet above the roof making it 108 feet from ground to ball on the dome. The total cost of the building was a little less than \$125,000 and is located on the site of Old Fort Fairmount, built in 1862 at the time of the Dakota (Sioux) Uprising.

*The Vision for Martin County Government is to provide efficient service in a cooperative, friendly and progressive manner.*



# MARTIN COUNTY SERVICE DIRECTORY

**County Commissioners**

- 1<sup>st</sup> District-Elliot Belgard 236-1173
- 2<sup>nd</sup> District-Tom Mahoney 236-5375
- 3<sup>rd</sup> District-Kathy Smith 236-3489
- 4<sup>th</sup> District-Richard Koons 236-2902
- 5<sup>th</sup> District-Steve Flohrs 236-5995

On the web at <http://www.co.martin.mn.us>