

CHAPTER LXXXVII.

[S. B. No. 223.]

PROVIDING FOR THE LEASING OF COUNTY PROPERTY.

AN ACT entitled an act for the leasing of county property, and declaring an emergency.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington :

SECTION 1. That the board of county commissioners of any county in this state, wherever it shall appear that it is for the best interests of such county and the people thereof, that any part, parcel or portion of the real property and its appurtenances to said county belonging, should be leased for a year or term of years, are hereby authorized and empowered to lease such property under the limitations and restrictions and in the manner hereinafter provided.

Authority to lease.

SEC. 2. Any person or persons desiring to lease any of such lands shall make application in writing to the board of county commissioners of such county; each application shall be accompanied with a deposit of not less than ten dollars or such other sum as the county commissioners may require, not to exceed twenty-five dollars; such deposit shall be in the form of a certified check or certificate of deposit on some bank in said county, or may be paid in cash. In case the lands so applied for shall be leased at the time they are offered, then such deposit shall be returned to such applicant by the board of county commissioners, but if the party making such application shall fail or refuse to comply with the terms of his application and to execute such lease, then such deposit shall be forfeited to the county, and the board of county commissioners shall pay the said deposit over to the county treasurer, who shall place the same to the credit of the current expense fund of the county.

Application in writing.

Deposit of certified check.

Return of deposit.

Failure to comply forfeits deposit.

SEC. 3. When, in the judgment of the board of county commissioners, it is found desirable to lease the land applied for, they shall first give notice of their intention to make such lease by publishing a notice in a

Notice of intention to lease.

newspaper of general circulation within the county where such property is situated, for at least once a week for the term of three weeks, and shall also post a notice of such intention in a conspicuous place in the court house in said county for the same length of time; such notice so published and posted shall designate and describe the property which is proposed to be leased, together with the improvements thereon and appurtenances thereto, and shall contain a notice that the board of county commissioners will meet at the county court house on a day and at an hour, in such notice designated, for the purpose of leasing said property, which day and hour for such leasing shall be at a time not more than a week after the expiration of the time required by this act for the publication of the notice of such meeting.

What notice shall contain.

SEC. 4. At the day and hour designated in such notice or at any subsequent time to which such meeting may be adjourned by said board of county commissioners, but not more than thirty days after the day and hour of the meeting designated in said published notice, the board of county commissioners may, at their discretion, lease the property in such notice described, for a term of years and upon such terms and conditions as to the said board of county commissioners shall seem just and right in the premises; but for no longer term in any one instance, than ten years, and no renewal of a lease once executed and delivered shall be had, except by a releasing and re-letting of said property, according to the terms and conditions of this act.

Lease of land by county commissioners.

For not more than ten years.

SEC. 5 Any person may appear at such meeting of the county commissioners, designated in said notice, or any adjourned meeting thereof, and make objection to the leasing of such property, which objection shall be stated in writing, and in passing upon such objection the board of county commissioners shall, in writing, briefly give their reasons for accepting or rejecting the same, and such objections, and the reasons for accepting or refusing the same shall, by said board of county commissioners, be published in the next subsequent

Objections

Objections must be in writing.

weekly issue of the newspaper in which said notice of Publication thereof. hearing was published.

SEC. 6. The provisions of this act shall be held to apply to all property now owned by any county in this state Applicable to all property. and to all property hereafter acquired by any county in this state, and any lease executed under this act, shall be considered as a vested and binding contract between the county owning such property and the lessee in said lease named, and no lease shall be made except to the highest reponsible bidder for the rental Lease to run to highest bidder. of such county property at the time of hearing set forth in the notice of intention to lease.

SEC. 7. Upon the decision of the board of county commissioners to lease the lands applied for, a lease Lease to be in duplicate. shall be executed in duplicate to the lessee by the chairman of the board of county commissioners and the county auditor attested by his seal of office which lease shall also be signed by the lessee; such lease shall refer to the order of the board directing such lease, Reference to order. with a description of the lands conveyed, the periods of payment, and the amounts to be paid for each period.

SEC. 8. An emergency is hereby declared to exist and Emergency. this act shall take effect immediately.

Passed the Senate March 4, 1901.

Passed the House March 14, 1901.

Approved by the Governor March 16, 1901.