

CHAPTER 216.

[S. B. 306.]

COMMISSIONERS OF WATER DISTRICTS.

AN ACT relating to the election of commissioners of water districts; providing for the ordering of work by water commissioners; amending section 6, chapter 114, Laws of 1929, as last amended by section 1, chapter 50, Laws of 1945 (sec. 11584, Rem. Rev. Stat.; sec. 994-11, PPC), and amending section 21, chapter 114, Laws of 1929 (sec. 11598, Rem. Rev. Stat.; sec. 994-43, PPC).

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

SECTION 1. Section 6, chapter 114, Laws of 1929, as last amended by section 1, chapter 50, Laws of 1945 (sec. 11584, Rem. Rev. Stat.; sec. 994-11, PPC) is amended to read as follows:

Section 6. Nominees for Water Commissioners shall be by petition of at least twenty-five of the qualified electors of such water district, who shall be qualified electors on the date of filing the petition, to be filed in the County Auditor's office of the county in which such district is located at least thirty days prior to such election: *Provided*, That in the event of a vacancy caused by death, resignation or otherwise, such vacancy shall be filled by appointment by a majority vote of the remaining Board of Water Commissioners until the next regular election for water commissioners. Said Board of Water Commissioners shall designate in their notice of election whether such election be a general or special election, the time of opening and closing of polls, and the place of voting, but in no event shall there be less than one voting place in each of the precincts of any city or town in such district and at least one voting place in any precinct in the water district outside of any town or city.

The polls shall be open at every election held by said water district at least from one o'clock P. M. to eight o'clock P. M., but said Board of Water Com-

Petition for nominees.

Filing.

Vacancies

Notice of election.

Polls.

missioners may keep the polls open for a longer period of time if they shall so order, but the time of opening and closing the polls must be stated in the notice of election and the polls shall be opened and closed in accordance with such notice. Any person residing in said water district who is at the time of holding of any election, a qualified voter under the laws of the State of Washington, shall be entitled to vote at any election held in such water district.

Voters.

Registration
of voters.

The officers of any city or town, or in any precinct in a water district where registration is required, having charge of the registration shall deliver the same to the Water Commissioners for the use of the election officers at any election held in a water district formed under and in accordance with the provisions of this act. And the registration of voters for election to be held in such water district shall be conducted by the city or town clerks and officers of registration of the city, town and territory embraced within said water district; and the notice prescribed to be given by section 5123 of Remington's Revised Statutes or any amendment thereto shall constitute sufficient notice to citizens residing within said water district for registration for any general or special election therein, without the necessity for such notice specially stating that it is for registration for an election to be held in a water district. And any elector who shall have registered in accordance with the laws of this state, entitling him to vote at a general or special election in the city, town or territory comprised within such water district, within time to constitute same a good registration for any general or special election of said water district, shall be entitled to vote thereat without further or other registration. The city or town clerk or registration officer required to perform the duties enumerated under this act shall receive no additional compensation therefor.

Notice for
registration.

The general laws of the State of Washington governing the registration of voters for a general or a special city or town municipal election, when not inconsistent with the foregoing provision, shall govern the registration of voters for elections held under this chapter, and the registration books of the city, town and territory comprising said water district shall be the books used by said water district, and no separate registration books shall be kept or maintained by it. The manner of holding any general or special election for said water district shall be in accordance with the laws of this state and the charter provisions of the cities or towns within said water district if any there be, and in so far as the same are not inconsistent with the provisions of this act. All expenses of elections for the formation of such water districts shall be paid by the county in which said election is held and such expenditure is hereby declared to be for a county purpose, and the money paid out for such purpose shall be repaid to such county by the water district if formed.

General laws for registration of voters to govern when not inconsistent.

Holding of election.

Expenses.

Except as in this section otherwise provided, the term of office of each Water District Commissioner shall be six (6) years, such term to be computed from the first day of December following his election, and one such Commissioner shall be elected at each biennial general election for the term of six (6) years and until his successor has been elected and has qualified. All candidates shall be voted upon by the entire water district.

Term of Commissioners.

In any water district hereafter formed, three (3) Water District Commissioners shall be elected at the same election at which the proposition is submitted to the voters as to whether such water district shall be formed. The Commissioner residing in commissioner district number one (1) shall hold office for the term of six (6) years; the Commissioner residing in commissioner district number two (2) shall hold office for the term of four (4) years;

and the Commissioner residing in commissioner district number three (3) shall hold office for the term of two (2) years. The terms of all Commissioners first to be elected as above provided shall include the time intervening between the date that the results of their election are declared in the canvass of returns thereof, and the date from which the length of their terms is computed as above specified.

Number of Commissioners to be elected at next general election and following elections.

No election of Commissioners in any water district, except to fill vacancies, shall be held until the biennial general election on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in November, 1946, at which time and thereafter such elections shall be held as herein provided. At said general election, there shall be elected two (2) Water District Commissioners in each water district, one (1) for a term of four (4) years commencing December 1, 1946, in such Commissioner district where the Water District Commissioner resides whose successor, but for this act, would be elected on the second Saturday in December, 1945, and one (1) for a term commencing on the second Monday in December, 1946, and expiring December 1, 1952, in such Commissioner district where the Water Commissioner resides whose successor, but for this act, would be elected on the second Saturday in December, 1946, and at the general election to be held on the first Tuesday following the first Monday in November, 1948, there shall be elected one (1) Water District Commissioner for a term of six (6) years commencing December 1, 1948, in such Commissioner district of each such water district where the Commissioner resides whose successor, but for this act, would be elected on the second Saturday in December, 1947.

All Commissioners shall hold office until their successors shall have been elected and have qualified.

SEC. 2. Section 21, chapter 114, Laws of 1929 (sec. 11598, Rem. Rev. Stat.; sec. 994-43, PPC) is amended to read as follows:

Section 21. The Board of Water Commissioners shall have authority to create and fill such positions and fix salaries and bonds thereof as it may by resolution provide. All materials purchased and work ordered, the estimated cost of which is in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) shall be let by contract; but before awarding any such contract the Board of Water Commissioners shall cause to be published in some newspaper in general circulation throughout the county where the district is located at least once ten (10) days before the letting of such contract, inviting sealed proposals for such work, plans and specifications which must at the time of publication of such notice be on file in the office of the Board of Water Commissioners subject to public inspection. Such notice shall state generally the work to be done and shall call for proposals for doing the same to be sealed and filed with the Board of Water Commissioners on or before the day and hour named therein. Each bid shall be accompanied by a certified check payable to the order of the County Treasurer for a sum not less than five per cent (5%) of the amount of the bid and no bid shall be considered unless accompanied by such check. At the time and place named such bids shall be publicly opened and read and the Board of Water Commissioners shall proceed to canvass the bids and may let such contract to the lowest responsible bidder upon plans and specifications on file or to the best bidder submitting his own plans and specifications: *Provided, however,* That no contract shall be let in excess of the cost of said materials or work, or if in the opinion of the Board of Water Commissioners all bids are unsatisfactory they may reject all of them and re-advertise and in such case all checks shall be returned to the bidders; but if

Powers of
Commiss-
ioners.

Contracts.

Advertis-
ement.

Bids.

Award.

Bond.

District may
do work.

such contract be let, then and in such case all checks shall be returned to the bidders, except that of the successful bidder, which shall be retained until a contract shall be entered into for the purchase of such materials or doing such work, and a bond to perform such work furnished with sureties satisfactory to the Board of Water Commissioners in the full amount of the contract price between the bidder and the Commission in accordance with the bid. If said bidder fails to enter into said contract in accordance with said bid and furnish such bond within ten days from the date at which he is notified that he is the successful bidder, the said check and the amount thereof shall be forfeited to the water district: *Provided further*, That if in the judgment of the Water Commissioners such work can be performed at less cost under the district's own superintendence than by letting a contract, then the district may cause such work to be performed independent of contract and without calling for bids where the estimated cost of such work is in a sum less than five thousand dollars (\$5,000).

Passed the Senate March 9, 1947.

Passed the House March 9, 1947.

Approved by the Governor March 19, 1947.

CHAPTER 217.

[S. B. 100.]

APPROPRIATION—EDUCATION.

AN ACT relating to education; providing for the support of the common schools; establishing a minimum salary for teachers; and making an appropriation.

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

SECTION 1. There shall be apportioned among the several counties for the school districts thereof two hundred fifty dollars (\$250) annually for each edu-