

CHAPTER 50.

[S. B. 19.]

COMMISSIONERS OF WATER DISTRICTS.

AN ACT providing for the election of commissioners of water districts; authorizing districts to compensate their commissioners and reimburse them for expenses paid; and amending section 6, chapter 114, Laws of 1929, as amended by section 1, chapter 72, Laws of 1931 (section 11584, Remington's Revised Statutes, also Pierce's Perpetual Code 994-11) and section 7, chapter 114, Laws of 1929 (section 11585, Remington's Revised Statutes, also Pierce's Perpetual Code 994-13).

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

SECTION 1. That section 6, chapter 114, Laws of 1929, as amended by section 1, chapter 72, Laws of 1931 (section 11584, Remington's Revised Statutes, also Pierce's Perpetual Code 994-11), is amended to read as follows:

Amend-
ments.

Section 6. Nominees for Water Commissioners shall be by petition of at least ten per cent 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.

Election of
water com-
missioners.

The polls shall be open at every election held

Polls open,
when.

by said water district at least from one o'clock p. m. to eight o'clock p. m., but said Board of Water Commissioners 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.

Registration
records
available.

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 officer 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

Registered
voters
eligible.

duties enumerated under this act shall receive no additional compensation therefor.

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
election laws
applicable.

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.

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 Commis-

Number of
commis-
sioners.

sioner 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.

Time of
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 7, chapter 114, Laws of 1929

(section 11585, Remington's Revised Statutes, also Amend-ments. Pierce's Perpetual Code 994-13), is amended to read as follows:

Section 7. When the said water district shall be President. created as hereinbefore provided for, the officers Secretary. of such district shall be a Board of Water Commissioners consisting of three members elected as provided in section 6 of this act and said Board of Water Commissioners shall annually elect one of their number as President and another of their number as Secretary of said board.

The Secretary of the said Board of Water Com- Salary. missioners may be paid a reasonable sum for the clerical services performed by him. They shall by resolution adopt rules governing the transaction of its business and shall adopt an official seal. All pro- Records. ceedings shall be by resolution recorded in a book or books kept for such purpose, which shall be public records.

Each water district may provide by resolution Expenses. for the payment of compensation to each of its Commissioners at a rate not exceeding ten dollars (\$10) for each day or major part thereof devoted to the business of the district. Each Water District Commissioner shall be reimbursed for reasonable expenses actually incurred in connection with such business, including his subsistence and lodging while away from his place of residence and mileage for use of personal automobile at the rate of five cents (5¢) per mile.

The date for holding elections and taking office as herein provided shall be subject to the provisions Election laws applicable. of any consolidated election laws that may be made applicable thereto although previously enacted.

Passed the Senate February 9, 1945.

Passed the House March 7, 1945.

Approved by the Governor March 14, 1945.