

CHAPTER 84.

[H. B. 55.]

COUNTY LAW LIBRARIES.

AN ACT to establish county law libraries in certain counties and to provide for their government and maintenance.

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

Authoriza-
tion.

SECTION 1. In each county having a population of three hundred thousand or more there shall be a county law library, which shall be governed and maintained as hereinafter provided.

Board of
trustees.

SEC. 2. There shall be in every such county a board of law library trustees consisting of five members to be constituted as follows: The chairman of the board of county commissioners shall be *ex-officio* a trustee, and the judges of the superior court of the county shall choose two of their number and two members of the bar of the county to be trustees. The term of office of a member of the board who is a judge shall be for as long as he continues to be a judge, and the term of a member who is from the bar shall be four years. Vacancies shall be filled as they occur and in the manner above directed. The office of trustee shall be without salary or other compensation. The board shall elect one of their number president and the librarian shall act as secretary. Meetings shall be held at least quarterly and as much oftener and at such times as may be prescribed by rule.

Officers and
meetings.

Powers
of board.

SEC. 3. The board of law library trustees shall have power:

(1) To make and enforce rules for their own procedure and for the government, care and use of the library, and for the guidance of employees.

(2) To remove any trustee, except an *ex-officio* trustee, for neglect to attend the meetings of the board.

(3) To employ a librarian and assistants and to prescribe their duties, fix their compensation and remove them at will.

(4) To purchase books, periodicals and other property suitable for the library and to accept gifts and bequests of money and property for the library, and to sell property which is unsuitable or not needed for the library.

(5) To examine and approve for payment claims and demands payable out of the county law library fund.

SEC. 4. The board of law library trustees shall, on or before the first Monday in September of each year, make a report to the board of county commissioners of their county giving the condition of their trust, with a full statement of all property received and how used, the number of books and other publications on hand, the number added by purchase, gift or otherwise during the preceding year, the number lost or missing, and such other information as may be of public interest, together with a financial report showing all receipts and disbursements of money.

Reports by trustees.

SEC. 5. The board of county commissioners of each county to which this act is applicable shall, upon demand by the board of law library trustees, provide a room suitable for the law library, adequately heated and lighted.

County to provide library room.

SEC. 6. The use of a county law library shall be free to the judges of the state and to state and county officials and to the inhabitants of the county. The board of law library trustees may prescribe uniform rules for the use of the library.

Persons entitled to use library.

Publications
to be sup-
plied by
state
officials.

State law
library
duplicates.

Library
fund, fees
credited to.

SEC. 7. State officials charged with the distribution of books, reports and publications are authorized to supply to each county law library established under this act the same books, reports and publications, and in the same quantities, as they are authorized to supply to the law library of the University of Washington; and the librarian of the state law library is hereby authorized and directed to distribute among the county law libraries established under this act, such duplicates of books and publications as may be in the supreme court library not needed for its purposes.

SEC. 8. In every civil action hereafter commenced in the superior courts of counties to which this act is applicable, there shall be paid to the clerk of the court, in addition to other fees required by law, by the plaintiff or person instituting the action, when the case is entered in the court or when the first paper on his part is filed therein, a fee of one dollar (\$1.00), and by the defendant or other adverse party and by an intervenor, or by groups of two or more defendants or other adverse parties or intervenors appearing separately from the others, when his or their appearance is entered in the case, or when his or their first paper is filed therein, a fee of one dollar (\$1.00). Such fees shall be costs in the case and taxable as such. The clerk shall pay the same into the county treasury, where they shall go into the law library fund and be expended only for the county law library.

Passed the House, January 31, 1919.

Passed the Senate, February 26, 1919.

Permitted to become law without signature of Governor.

I. M. HOWELL,

Secretary of State.