

CHAPTER CLXXXVII.

March 2, 1872.

An Act to Authorize the Board of County Commissioners of Ramsey county to Appoint an Abstract Clerk, define his duties and fix his salary.

- SECTION 1. Authority to appoint an abstract clerk.
 2. Bond to be given for faithful performance of duties.
 3. Duties of abstract clerk defined.
 4. Fees to be reported monthly under oath.
 5. Register of deeds to furnish free access to books.
 6. Register of deeds prohibited from making abstracts.
 7. When act to take effect.

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

Authority to
 appoint ab-
 stract clerk.

SECTION 1. The board of county commissioners of Ramsey county are hereby authorized and empowered, at any time they may deem proper, to appoint an abstract clerk; who shall hold his office during the pleasure of said commissioners, and who shall receive such fees or compensation as the said commissioners may from time to time determine, not to exceed \$2,500 per annum. *Provided*, that the register of deeds of said county shall not be eligible to said appointment.

Bond to be
 given.

SEC. 2. Every abstract clerk before entering upon the duties of his office, shall give bond to the state of Minnesota, in the penal sum of two thousand dollars, with two or more sureties, to be approved by the board of county commissioners of said county, and the approval endorsed thereon, conditioned that the said abstract clerk shall well and faithfully in all things perform and execute the duties of abstract clerk according to law, during his continuance in office. He shall also take an oath of office, which oath of office and bond shall be filed with the auditor of the county of Ramsey.

Duties defined:

SEC. 3. It shall be the duty of said clerk, to do and perform all acts required of him by said board of county commissioners pertaining to the duties of his office, and shall also make out under his certificate, and deliver to any person requesting the same a full and perfect abstract of the title to any

real property in the county of Ramsey, together with all incumbrances, liens, instruments, judgments, and taxes in any manner affecting such title as the same appears of record on file in the office of the register of deeds, clerk of district court, and court of common pleas, county auditor and judge of probate, and for that purpose shall have free access, without charge or expense, at all times, to all books, public records or papers, in the offices of the register of deeds, clerk of district court, and common pleas, county auditor and judge of probate. The said clerk shall be paid for abstracts such sum as the board of county commissioners shall authorize said clerk to receive, provided however, that said clerk never charge more than fifteen cents for each transfer.

SEC. 4. The said clerk shall, at each and every regular monthly meeting of said board of commissioners, under oath, report the amount of all fees by him received, and of whom received, which fees may be retained by said clerk or shall be paid into the county treasury monthly, as may be determined by said board, when fixing the rate of compensation said clerk is to receive for his services.

Fees reported
monthly.

SEC. 5. The register of deeds of Ramsey county shall furnish free access to the office of the register of deeds, and to all books of records and papers therein contained, and desk room to any person or persons that the said board of commissioners of Ramsey county may at any time employ or appoint, to make or revise tract indexes, abstract books, or for any other purpose said board may deem necessary, and to afford all reasonable facilities and information to aid such person or persons in the discharge of the duties of their appointment.

Free access to
books.

SEC. 6. Whenever said board of county commissioners shall have appointed said clerk as aforesaid, then and from that date, the register of deeds is hereby prohibited from having or keeping any abstract books or books of indexes which do not belong to the county of Ramsey and are private property, in the office of the register of deeds, nor shall said register of deeds authorize or permit any other person to keep or have any private abstract books or indexes in said register's office. For any violation of this or the preceding section, by the said register of deeds, he shall be deemed guilty of malfeasance in office, and shall be subject to removal from office as now provided by law.

Register of
deeds prohib-
ed from making
abstracts.

SEC. 7. This act shall take effect and be in force from after its passage.

When act to
take effect.

Approved March 2, 1872.