

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1953, Section 89.17, is amended to read:

89.17 **Leases granted.** The director, with the approval of the Commissioner, shall have power to grant and execute, in the name of the state, leases and permits for the use of any state forest lands for any purpose which in his opinion is not inconsistent with the maintenance and management of the state forest in which the land is situated, on forestry principles for timber production. Every such lease or permit shall be revocable at his discretion at any time and subject to such conditions and regulations as he may prescribe. The approval of the commissioner of administration shall not be required upon any such lease or permit. No such lease or permit for a period exceeding *ten* years shall be granted except with the approval of the executive council.

Approved March 15, 1957.

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#### CHAPTER 137—S. F. No. 345

*An act relating to the abolition of the office of village constable and for the performance of his duties in certain cases; amending Minnesota Statutes 1953, Sections 212.34, 212.35, Subdivision 2, and 412.161.*

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

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1953, Section 212.34, is amended to read:

212.34 **Elective officers and terms.** *Subdivision 1.* Village elective officers shall consist of the following: in every village, the mayor; *in every village in which the office of constable has not been abolished as provided in Subdivision 3,* two constables; in every village where a municipal court has been organized, municipal judges as provided by law, and in every other village, two justices of the peace; in villages operating under the standard plan of village government, the clerk, treasurer, three trustees and, if the village is a separate assessment district, an assessor; and in *every* village operating under an optional plan of village government, four trustees. Municipal judges shall serve for terms of four years, trustees for terms of three years, and all other officers for terms of two years, each commencing on the first business day of January following the election at which the officer is chosen. All officers chosen and qualified as such shall hold office until their suc-

cessors qualify. Vacancies in office shall be filled for the remainder of the term by the countil; in case of a tie, the mayor shall fill the vacancy by appointment for the unexpired term.

*Subd. 2.* When a vacancy in the office of assessor is not filled by appointment as provided in this section before May first following its occurrence, the county auditor shall appoint some resident of the county as assessor for such village.

*Subd. 3.* The council of any village having one or more regularly employed village police officers may by ordinance adopted at least 60 days before the next regular village election abolish the office of constable; but if within 30 days after publication of the ordinance, a petition asking for a popular referendum on the ordinance is signed by voters equal to ten percent of the number of voters voting at the last village election and filed with the clerk, the ordinance shall be suspended in operation until it has been approved by a majority of those voting on the proposition at a regular or special village election. After such approval, or after the expiration of 30 days without the filing of the required petition, each of the two offices of constable in such village shall cease to exist at the end of the term of the incumbent or when an earlier vacancy occurs. In similar manner the office of constable may be re-established in any such village.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 1953, Section 212.35, Subdivision 2, is amended to read:

*Subd. 2.* The mayor, one trustee, and, if elective, the treasurer, shall be elected in each odd-numbered year. One trustee, and, if elective, the assessor and clerk shall be elected in each even-numbered year; and an additional trustee shall be elected every third year in every village operating under an optional plan of government. *In any village in which the office of constable has not been abolished, one constable shall be elected each year.*

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 1953, Section 412.161, is amended to read:

**412.161. Constables, duties.** The village constables shall be governed by the same laws as town constables. They shall obey all orders of the council or the mayor and enforce all laws and ordinances for the preservation of the peace. They shall have all the powers of a peace officer. *In any village in which the office of constable has been abolished, the council shall designate one or more of its police officers as a process officer, who shall have all the powers and duties of the con-*

*stable. The council may require process officers to pay into the village treasury all fees received by them for performing the duties of constables.*

Approved March 15, 1957.

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CHAPTER 138—S. F. No. 373

[Not Coded]

*An act relating to taxation for road and bridge purposes in certain counties.*

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

**Section 1. Sibley county, tax levy for roads and bridges.** In any county now or hereafter having a taxable valuation of over \$12,000,000 and having a population of not less than 15,000 nor more than 16,000 inhabitants, and containing less than 20 full and fractional congressional townships, and having a land area of less than 600 square miles, the county board may levy an amount of taxes for road and bridge purposes, in the years 1957 and 1958, which shall not exceed 25 mills on the dollar of the taxable valuation of the county.

Approved March 15, 1957.

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CHAPTER 139—S. F. No. 396

*An act authorizing the disposal or destruction of certain obsolescent papers in certain cases; amending Minnesota Statutes 1953, Section 465.63, Subdivision 1.*

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

**Section 1.** Minnesota Statutes 1953, Section 465.63, Subdivision 1, is amended to read:

**465.63 Municipal records, destruction authorized.** Subdivision 1. The officers of any city, and of any board or commission of such city, *including the board of directors of trusts of any public charitable hospital*, may destroy the following records *of the city or such public charitable hospital*:

(1) Claims and vouchers paid by the city or *public charitable hospital* more than *seven* years prior to such destruction;