

this act, the sum of twelve hundred (1200) dollars, or so much thereof as is necessary be, and the same is hereby appropriated out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated.

SEC. 3. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved February 27, 1872.

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CHAPTER XCVI.

*An Act to aid Citizens of Minnesota who have suffered Loss or Damage of Property by Fire and Storm during the Summer and Fall of 1871.*

February 29,  
1872.

- SECTION 1. Provides for an appropriation of money for relief of certain citizens.
2. Proceedings to entitle parties to relief.
  3. County auditors to forward statements of claims allowed to the governor.
  4. The governor required to consolidate these statements and file copy with state auditor.
  5. The state auditor to issue certificates for said claims.
  6. The certificates to be forwarded to the several county treasurers.
  7. Amount of appropriation.
  8. Provides for a ratio distribution if claims exceed appropriation.
  9. When act to take effect.

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

SECTION 1. There is hereby appropriated, for the relief of certain citizens in the several counties of this state, who have suffered loss or damage to property by fire or storm during the summer and fall of the year 1871, a limited amount of money as hereinafter specified to enable them to purchase seed wheat or other grain and for no other purpose whatever, for the present year.

Aid for damage  
by fire and hail.

SEC. 2. The chairman of the board of county commissioners of any county where the hail storm and fires of the past summer and fall have destroyed the crops in their respective counties to an extent sufficient to cause distress in any of the communities of said counties, may call a meet-

Proceedings to  
obtain aid.

ing of said board of county commissioners at the county seat of the county, on the 12th day of March, 1872, and such adjourned meetings as may be necessary up to and including the 30th day of said month, at which meeting all citizens of such county who suffered loss or damage to their crops, improvements or other property by fire or storm, at any time during the summer or fall of 1871, and who have not been paid insurance for said loss, may present to said board a statement in writing of said loss or damage, the amount and value of the property destroyed or damaged, and the time and cause of such loss or damage, which statement shall be duly signed and sworn to by the applicant before some officer authorized to administer an oath.

The said board shall, thereupon, forthwith examine into the merits of said claim, and may allow or disallow the same in whole or in part, as they find the facts in the case may justify, and thereupon the chairman of said board shall endorse on the said claim, the amount or balance allowed, and file the said claim so endorsed with the county auditor of said county. Provided, that in no case shall the claim of any one person be allowed at a greater sum than fifty dollars, nor shall the same be allowed, unless the claimant shall be an actual *bona fide* resident of the said county in which the claim is presented.

Claims to be  
forwarded to  
governor.

SEC. 3. On the 30th day of March 1872, or within three days thereafter, the county auditors of the several counties, in which any such claims have been preferred, shall make out, certify and seal duplicate consolidated statements of all such claims, any part whereof has been allowed by said county board with the name and post office address of the applicant, the township where he resides, the amount and value of property lost or damaged as aforesaid, and the amount of damages allowed by the county board. The said duplicates shall be certified as correct by the chairman of the board and one copy thereof filed in the office of the county treasurer of said county, and one copy sent by mail or otherwise, to the governor of the state, at the city of St. Paul.

Governor to  
certify claims  
to auditor.

Sec. 4. It shall be the duty of the governor on or before the 15th day of April, 1872, to consolidate all such statements received by him up to that date in duplicate, and after duly certifying the same, forthwith to file one copy thereof in the office of the state auditor, and one copy in the office of the state treasurer.

SEC. 5. The state auditor, upon receipt of said duplicate shall proceed at once to issue certificates under his hand

and seal, in the name of the several claimants, specifying the amount allowed to each one, and that said amount will be on the 15th day of May A. D. 1872, subject to the order of said claimant, at the office of the state treasurer upon return of said certificate.

Certificate to be issued.

SEC. 6. It shall be the duty of the state auditor on or before the 20th day of April A. D., 1872, to transmit by mail or express to the treasurer of the county where the several claimants reside, the certificates herein mentioned; said treasurer shall deliver to said claimants in person, or to their authorized agents, the certificates to which they shall be severally entitled and take a receipt therefor from each respectively.

Certificate to be forwarded to county auditors

SEC. 7. The sum of twenty thousand (2000) dollars is hereby appropriated out of unexpended balances in the treasury, not otherwise appropriated to carry out the provisions of this act.

Appropriation.

SEC. 8. Should the amount allowed to claimants in the aggregate exceed the sum appropriated it shall be the duty of the state auditor to apportion the amount to such claimant in the ratio that the whole amount allowed bears to the amount appropriated, and to issue his certificate accordingly.

Claims pro rata to apportionment.

SEC. 9. This act shall take effect from and after its passage.

Approved Feb. 29, 1872.