

CHAPTER CCVI.

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ST. LOUIS COUNTY TO LEVY A TAX FOR AND EXPEND THE SAME ON ROADS AND BRIDGES IN SAID COUNTY.

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

SECTION 1. That the board of county commissioners of Saint Louis county are hereby authorized and empowered to levy annually a tax in the same manner that other taxes are levied by them, to an amount not exceeding one mill per centum upon the valuation of all of the taxable property of said county as fixed by the State Board of Equalization, which tax shall constitute a separate fund, and shall be known and designated as the "special road fund."

SEC. 2. The board of county commissioners aforesaid shall have power to expend and appropriate from said fund, in the same manner as now provided for by law in respect to other county funds, such sums of money as in their discretion may be deemed advisable for the opening, vacating, resurveying, repairing, ditching or otherwise improving the county roads of said county, and also for the building or repairing of bridges and drains upon said roads.

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

Approved Feb. 18, 1879.

CHAPTER CCVII.

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE FORMATION OF THE CARVER COUNTY MUTUAL HAIL INSURANCE COMPANY.

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

SEC. 1. It shall be lawful for any number of persons not less than twenty, residing in the county of Carver, and engaged in agricultural business, to form themselves into a company under the name and style of the Carver County Mutual Hail Insurance Com-

pany, for mutual insurance against loss or damage by hail to grain of all kinds, flax, hops, and other crops; which company may sue or be sued, contract or be contracted with, plead or be impleaded in any court of law in this state, and shall possess the usual powers and be subject to the usual duties of corporations under the laws of this state.

SEC. 2. An annual meeting of said company shall be held on the first Monday of March in each year, at such time and place as the by-laws of such company shall prescribe, at which the members of said company shall elect one president, one vice president, one secretary, one treasurer, and three directors, who shall each hold their office for one year and until their successors are elected. The president, secretary, treasurer, and the three directors shall constitute the board of directors of such company, and shall have the management and control of the finances and affairs of said company.

SEC. 3. The board of directors of such company shall file their articles of association together with a copy of their by-laws and the names of the officers of said company in the office of the register of deeds of Carver county.

SEC. 4. The articles of association of such company shall bind each member thereof, his heirs and assigns, to pay to the treasurer of the company, within a time to be specified therein, his *pro rata* share of all losses or damages by hail to the crops insured by such company, which may be sustained by any member thereof.

SEC. 5. Every member of such company who may sustain loss or damage to crops by hail shall within two days after such loss notify the president or secretary of such company, who shall forthwith convene the directors, whose duty it shall be when so convened to appoint a committee of not less than three nor more than five members of such company to ascertain the amount of such loss; such committee shall, after a thorough examination of the crops damaged, report in writing to the secretary of the company the amount of such loss and shall deliver a copy of such report to the claimant. In case the claimant is dissatisfied with the determination of such committee he shall, within twenty-four hours after being served with a copy of the report of such committee, serve upon the president or secretary of the company a demand in writing for a reappraisal of such loss, and thereupon an officer of such company shall choose one disinterested person to act as appraiser, the claimant shall choose a second and the two so chosen shall choose a third, and the three appraisers thus chosen shall each make an appraisal of the loss, the amount of their several appraisements shall be added together and divided by three, and the amount so found shall be the loss or damage for which the company shall be liable.

SEC. 6. Whenever the amount of any loss shall be ascertained, the president shall convene the board of directors of said company, who shall apportion the loss among the members of the company, by levying the amount of such loss upon the whole number of acres of crops insured and assessing each member rateably in proportion to the number of acres insured by him.

SEC. 7. It shall be the duty of the secretary whenever such apportionment shall have been completed, to immediately notify every person composing such company by letter sent to his usual post office address of the amount of such loss and the sum due from him as his share thereof, and the time within which and to whom such payment is to be made.

SEC. 8. Suits at law may be brought by said company against any members thereof, who shall refuse or neglect to pay any assessment made upon them, under the provisions of this act, and the directors of such company who shall wilfully neglect or refuse to perform any duties imposed upon them by the foregoing sections of this act, shall be liable in their individual capacity to the person sustaining such loss.

SEC. 9. Any member of said company may withdraw therefrom at any time by giving notice in writing to the president or secretary thereof, and paying his share of all claims then existing against said company. And it shall be the duty of the secretary whenever any member of such company shall withdraw from his membership therein to notify every other member thereof of such withdrawal.

SEC. 10. Such company may adopt such by-laws for its regulation as are not inconsistent with the provisions of this act, and may therein prescribe the duties and compensation of its officers.

SEC. 11. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved March 3, 1879.

CHAPTER CCVIII.

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE AND PROVIDE FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FREE BRIDGE ACROSS THE MINNESOTA RIVER AT THE BOROUGH OF BELLE PLAIN, COUNTY OF SCOTT, STATE OF MINNESOTA, AND TO LAY OUT SUITABLE ROADS AND APPROACHES THERETO.

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

SECTION 1. That James D. Webb, Charles M. Hooper, William H. Wubeler, Michael Gates and William Henry, of Scott county, be and they are hereby appointed and constituted commissioners whose duty it shall be, in connection with a competent engineer, to select a suitable site and place of crossing the Minnesota river, at or near Grove street in the Borough of Belle Plaine in said county, for a suitable bridge, and to adopt plans and specifications.