

proved of by the board of county commissioners, if the sureties thereon are satisfactory to said board. And upon being approved as aforesaid the same shall be, at the expense of the officer giving the same, by said county auditor filed for record in the office of the register of deeds of said Ramsey county, and shall be by said register of deeds recorded at length in the records of said county, and thereafter, immediately, by said register of deeds transmitted to the secretary of state of the state of Minnesota.

SEC. 3. Each of the officers of said Ramsey county named in section one (1) of this act now serving their terms of office in said county shall file the bond herein designated and required on or before the first (1st) day of May, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and ninety-one (1891); *Provided, however,* that where said officers have already given a bond as required by law such bond and the amount thereof shall be taken and deemed to be a part of the bond herein required, and said present officers shall only be required to give such additional bond as may be necessary to make the entire amount of their bonds equal to the sum herein required for their said respective bonds.

SEC. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved April 13, 1891.

## CHAPTER 440.

[H. F. No. 1200.]

AN ACT TO REDUCE THE COMPENSATION AND FEES PAID OFFICERS AND EMPLOYES OF THE COUNTY OF RAMSEY, MINNESOTA, AND TO REGULATE THE DUTIES OF CERTAIN OF SAID OFFICERS.

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

SECTION 1. That from and after the time herein specified, the clerk of the district court, the register of deeds and the sheriff of Ramsey county, Minnesota, shall make and file with the auditor of Ramsey county, on or before the first (1st) meeting in each month of the board of county commissioners of said county, an itemized statement, showing the total receipts, fees, emoluments and charges of each of their respective offices for the preceding month, the amount of the same collected during said month, and the amount remaining unpaid and uncollected at the end of said month; and, as to such uncollected portion, the names of the persons by whom the same is owing and the amount thereof, which said report shall be verified by the oath of the officer making the same as being full, true and correct; and each of said officers shall, before the filing of said report, pay in to the county treasurer of the county of Ramsey, twenty-five (25) per cent of the gross amount of said fees, charges and emoluments so made and earned during said preceding month, and shall attach to said report said treasurer's receipt for said amount. And it is hereby made the duty of the treasurer of Ramsey county upon the receiving of said sum, as hereinabove specified, to issue to the officer paying the same his re-

cept therefor in duplicate; *Provided, however*, that the clerk of the district court, register of deeds and sheriff of Ramsey county, shall each be entitled to retain sufficient of said fees, so that each of said officers shall receive from their respective offices a net income of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per annum. And at the time hereby specified for the making of any of said reports, each of said officers shall be entitled to retain from and out of the fees, collections and receipts of said office received by him during the preceding month a sufficient amount to make up the proportionate amount of said five thousand dollars (\$5,000) per annum, which shall then have been earned by him; and which said salary shall be deemed to have commenced on the first (1st) day of January of each and every year; but neither said clerk, register of deeds or sheriff shall have any claim upon said county, nor shall said county be liable to said officers, for any compensation over and above said fees; *And provided further*, that the clerk of the district court, the register of deeds and the sheriff of Ramsey county, now serving their respective terms of office in said county, shall not be required to pay said amounts to said county of Ramsey during their present respective terms, nor shall this section take effect as to said officers until the expiration of their said present respective terms.

SEC. 2. That for the faithful performance of all the duties of the office of the county assessor of Ramsey county, said county assessor shall receive out of the treasury of said Ramsey county the following amounts to-wit: In odd numbered years nine thousand five hundred dollars (\$9,500) per annum, to be paid as follows: For the months of April, May, June and July, one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500) per month; and the remainder of said annual salary, to-wit, three thousand five hundred dollars (\$3,500), shall be paid in eight (8) equal monthly installments. And in the even numbered years said assessor's salary shall be the sum of eleven thousand five hundred dollars (\$11,500) per annum, payable as follows: For the months of April, May, June and July, two thousand dollars (\$2,000) per month, and the remainder of said annual salary, to-wit, the sum of three thousand five hundred dollars (\$3,500), in eight (8) equal monthly installments; each and every of said payments to be made monthly and said payments shall be in lieu of and in full for all clerk hire and assistance of every kind in making a complete assessment of all the property of said county for taxation and performing all the acts necessary in the performance of the duties of the said office, including the services of said assessor as a member of the county board of equalization; *Provided*, the salary for April eighteen hundred ninety-one (1891), shall be the sum of twelve hundred sixty-four dollars (\$1264).

SEC. 3. The abstract clerk of Ramsey county shall receive no salary, fee or compensation from the county of Ramsey from and after the first (1st) day of May, eighteen hundred ninety-one (1891), nor shall any clerk or assistant employed by said abstract clerk in the performance of the duties of his said office receive any salary, fee or compensation from the county of Ramsey from and after the first (1st) day of May, eighteen hundred ninety-one (1891).

SEC. 4. The abstract clerk of Ramsey county shall have the custody and control of the abstract books and records of said Ramsey county, and shall, upon demand of any person, furnish to such person, upon the payment of the fee herein provided for, abstracts of title to any real estate in the county of Ramsey as shown upon said abstract

books. And for such abstract of title, said abstract clerk shall be entitled to receive therefor the following fees: For each conveyance shown upon said abstract, fifteen (15) cents, and for his certificate thereto, fifty (50) cents; and, in addition thereto, such fees as he shall be required by law to pay the clerks of the district court and of the United States circuit court for certificates as to judgments as now provided by law.

SEC. 5. Hereafter no claim shall be made upon the county of Ramsey by either clerk of the district court of said county or the clerk of the United States court, nor shall said county of Ramsey be liable to either of said clerks for any certificate as to judgments against any person furnished to said abstract clerk; but said abstract clerk shall be personally responsible to each of said officers for all such services so rendered by them.

SEC. 6. On or before the first (1st) meeting in each month of the board of county commissioners of Ramsey county, said abstract clerk shall make and file with the county auditor of said county a true and correct account of all fees of every name and nature received, collected and earned by him as such abstract clerk, and in and about said office during the preceding month, which said report shall be verified by the oath of the abstract clerk as being full, true and correct, and shall be distinctly itemized. Before the filing of said report said abstract clerk shall pay to the county treasurer of the county of Ramsey, for the use of said county, and into the treasury of said county, ten (10) per cent of the gross amount of said fees so charged and earned by him during said preceding month, and upon the payment thereof to the said treasurer he shall issue to said abstract clerk his receipt therefor in duplicate, one (1) of which receipts shall be attached to said report before the filing thereof; *Provided*, the present abstract clerk shall not be required to pay said fees to said county until the expiration of his present term.

SEC. 7. All the books, records, files and papers in the abstract office of said Ramsey county or which may be hereafter purchased, made or filed in said office, shall be the sole and exclusive property of the county of Ramsey, and it is hereby made the duty of the abstract clerk to keep said abstract records accurately posted and complete, and all the records in the office of the register of deeds of said Ramsey county shall be by said abstract clerk abstracted into said books in said abstract office, so that the records of the said abstract office shall contain a complete and accurate abstract of the records in the office of the register of deeds. And for that purpose said abstract clerk and his assistants shall have free access to the records in said office of the register of deeds.

SEC. 8. It is hereby made the duty of the present abstract clerk of Ramsey county, on or before the first (1st) day of September, eighteen hundred ninety-one (1891), to have the records of his said office accurately posted and completed, as specified in the foregoing section, in ink, in the books and records of said abstract office, up to and including the thirty first (31st) day of August, eighteen hundred and ninety-one (1891); and thereafter to keep said abstract records so completed and posted so that the same shall be a complete abstract of the record of said office of the register of deeds at all times, except as to such instruments or conveyances which may have been filed for record in the office of said register of deeds within twenty-four (24) hours then last past.

SEC. 9. It is hereby made the duty of the county attorney of Ramsey county, on or before the first (1st) meeting of the board of county commissioners of said county in September, eighteen hundred and ninety-one (1891), to make an examination of the office of said abstract clerk, and at such meeting to report to said board of county commissioners as to whether or not the duties herein imposed upon said abstract clerk with reference to the making and keeping of said records have been performed; and if at the time of making such report it shall appear that said abstract clerk has failed to accurately make said records in the manner and within the time herein required, it shall be the duty of said board of county commissioners to declare said office vacant; and said neglect upon the part of said abstract clerk shall forfeit his said office, and said office shall thereupon become vacant, and it shall be the duty of said board of county commissioners to elect some suitable person as abstract clerk, who shall hold his office during the unexpired term of said abstract clerk so removed and until his successor is elected and qualified.

SEC. 10. Except as hereinabove provided, said abstract clerk, for the faithful performance of the duties of his said office, shall retain the fees and charges received by him in said office, which said fees and charges shall cover all clerk hire and assistants of every name and nature required for the faithful and full discharge of said office.

SEC. 11. Said abstract clerk, before entering upon the duties of said office, shall give a bond to the state of Minnesota in the sum of twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) with two (2) or more sureties, who shall be freeholders of the state of Minnesota, and justify, in the aggregate, in the amount of said bond, and such persons shall be accepted and approved by the board of county commissioners of Ramsey county; which said bond shall be conditioned for the full, faithful and accurate performance of all the duties of his said office and shall be, at the expense of said abstract clerk, filed for record in the office of the register of deeds, and after being recorded shall be transmitted by said register of deeds to the secretary of state of Minnesota. The present abstract clerk shall furnish said bond on or before May first (1st), eighteen hundred and ninety-one (1891).

SEC. 12. Any person who may sustain damages by reason of the neglect or failure of said abstract clerk to perform the duties required of him by law may maintain an action therefor upon said bond in any court of competent jurisdiction; *Provided*, that nothing herein contained shall be deemed to take away the right of the county of Ramsey or the board of county commissioners of said county to maintain an action on said bond for any loss said county may sustain by reason of any failure or neglect of duty on the part of said abstract clerk.

SEC. 13. The county auditor, county treasurer and chairman of the board of county commissioners of Ramsey county shall constitute a purchasing committee for all stationery and office supplies required for the use of all county officers of said Ramsey county. On or before the first (1st) day of January of each and every year said purchasing committee shall advertise for sealed bids for all such stationery and office supplies required by said county during the ensuing year; and at the first (1st) meeting of the board of county commissioners in each year said bids shall be opened and the contract for such stationery and supplies shall be by said purchasing committee awarded to the lowest responsible bidder therefor, if in the discretion of said committee any

one (1) of said bids is sufficiently low; but if in the opinion of said committee no one (1) of said bids is sufficiently low, they shall re-advertise for bids; which bids so received as the result of said re-advertisement shall be opened at the first (1st) meeting of said board of county commissioners in February of each year, and said contract shall then be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder. Each of said bids shall be published in the official paper of said county once, and at least once in some daily paper published in the city of St. Paul, and said publications shall be at least five (5) days prior to the meeting of said board of county commissioners.

SEC. 14. Said supplies when so purchased shall be in the custody of the county auditor of Ramsey county, and shall be only issued by him to the officers of said Ramsey county upon the requisition of the officer requiring the same. Said requisition shall be in writing and itemized and signed by the officer so requiring said stationery or office supplies.

SEC. 15. That hereafter, when any county officer or other person shall render or present a bill to the board of county commissioners of Ramsey county for any services performed by him for which he may be in any manner entitled to compensation from said county, such bill shall be distinctly itemized and shall show each and every item of charge, cost or disbursement claimed or for which said bill is rendered.

SEC. 16. Whenever it shall be deemed necessary in the opinion of the board of county commissioners of Ramsey county to send any agent or person outside of the limits of the state of Minnesota for the purpose of bringing to the county of Ramsey any person charged with a crime for trial in said county, the board of county commissioners may appropriate a sufficient sum, upon the recommendation of the county attorney of said Ramsey county, to defray the expenses of such person so sent as aforesaid; *Provided however*, that the sum so appropriated shall not exceed five (5) cents per mile for each and every mile necessarily traveled by the person so sent and the necessary expenses of such person while engaged in the performance of said duty. And it shall be the duty of the person so sent, before said expenses shall be audited or allowed, to present to the board of county commissioners an itemized and verified account thereof under oath, which said verification shall contain the statement that said expenses have been actually incurred and that the same were necessary.

SEC. 17. Whenever the sheriff of said Ramsey county is entitled to fees for the attendance of bailiffs upon any court or for the bringing of prisoners before such court for examination, the same shall not be audited or allowed by the board of county commissioners of Ramsey county until such fees shall have been certified to as correct by the judge of the court before whom said bailiffs attended or such person is brought.

SEC. 18. The clerk of the district court of the county of Ramsey shall receive no fee, compensation or emolument from said county for the performance of any of the duties imposed upon him by Chapter one hundred and fourteen (114) of the General Laws of the State of Minnesota for the year eighteen hundred and eighty-seven (1887), relating to vital statistics.

SEC. 19. For searching the judgment docket books of his office and certifying to the existence or non-existence of judgments docketed

therein the clerk of the district court of Ramsey county shall receive the sum of fifteen (15) cents for each name so searched for and fifteen (15) cents for each judgment found and entered on the certificates, and for each certificate fifteen (15) cents.

SEC. 20. All acts and parts of acts inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed, whether such act requires by its terms that it shall not be repealed unless specifically mentioned or otherwise.

SEC. 21. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage, except as otherwise herein provided.

Approved April 26, 1891.

## CHAPTER 441.

[H. F. No. 136.]

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF RENVILLE TO APPROPRIATE MONEY TO PAY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF BRIDGES ON TOWN ROADS.

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

SECTION 1. That the county commissioners of the county of Renville be and hereby are authorized to appropriate the sum of fifteen hundred and eighty dollars (\$1580) for the construction of bridges on town roads as follows :

The sum of five hundred dollars (\$500) for a bridge across the Minnesota river near the village of Franklin.

The sum of five hundred dollars (\$500) for a bridge across the Minnesota river near the village of Morton.

The sum of five hundred dollars (\$500) for a bridge in the town of Sacred Heart, across the Minnesota river, and the sum of eighty dollars (\$80) for a bridge in the town of Winfield.

SEC. 2. The county auditor of said county, upon the order of the board of county commissioners, shall draw his warrants on the county treasurer to the order of the person or persons to whom the said commissioners shall make the appropriation specified in section one (1) of this act, which warrants shall be paid by said treasurer out of any money in the treasury of said county not otherwise appropriated.

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

Approved February 16, 1891.