

SEC. 2. That all moneys so appropriated shall be expended by and under the direction and supervision of such boards of county commissioners, and not otherwise, and in the following manner: That in all cases before expending any such money for such purpose or purposes, such board of county commissioners shall require the county surveyor of such county, or his deputy, to furnish to such board a survey of the work for which it is proposed to expend such money, together with suitable plans and specifications thereof and the estimated cost thereof, and that upon the receipt of the same by such board it shall be the duty of such board, if it shall deem such expenditure advisable, to invite bids for such work, by posting notices for at least fifteen (15) days prior to the letting of the contract for the same, in at least three (3) of the most public places in the town wherein such work is to be done, and such notices shall contain a brief description of such work and shall state the time and place of awarding the contract for the same, and at the time and place mentioned in said notices, it shall be the duty of such board to let such contract to the lowest responsible bidder, who shall in all cases be required to enter into a written contract evidencing the same, and said board shall require a satisfactory bond for the faithful performance of such contract; *provided, nevertheless*, that nothing herein contained shall be construed to prevent such board from rejecting all bids for such work, if in the judgment of such board all bids are excessive.

Fund to be expended under supervision of board.

SEC. 3. All acts or parts of acts inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

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

Approved March 11, 1899.

CHAPTER 54.

H. F. No. 135.

Rural schools.

An act to amend section three (3) of chapter two hundred and fifty-nine (259) of the General Laws of the State of Minnesota for the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven (1897), entitled, "An act to encourage a better condition of rural schools and to appropriate money therefor."

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

SECTION 1. That section three (3) of chapter two hundred and fifty-nine (259) of the General Laws of the State

Sec. 3, C. 259, Laws 1897, amended.

of Minnesota for the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety-seven (1897) be and the same hereby is amended so as to read as follows:

Applications for aid, how made.

Sec. 3. Applications from districts for aid provided for in this act shall be made to the superintendent of schools in the county in which such schools are located. County superintendents shall forward to the state superintendent of public instruction such applications as are endorsed and recommended by them. Applications so endorsed shall be acted upon in the order of their reception. The said superintendent of public instruction shall apportion to each of said schools which shall have fully complied with the provisions of this act, and with the rules and regulations provided for in section four (4) of this act, and whose applications shall have been approved by him the sum of fifty (50) dollars in each year. *Provided*, first, that the total amount of apportionment under this act shall not exceed thirty-five thousand (35,000) dollars in any one year.

Not more than 30 per cent of districts to receive aid.

Provided, second, that no more than thirty (30) per cent of the total number of districts in any one county shall in any one year be granted aid under this act.

Appropriation for; when and how distributed.

Provided, third, that any such rural school which maintains two (2) rooms and employs two (2) teachers, one of which shall hold a first-grade certificate and the second at least a second-grade, and which complies with all the other provisions shall be entitled to one hundred (100) dollars. The sum or thirty-five thousand (35,000) dollars is hereby appropriated annually, to be paid out of any moneys in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of this act, which amount, or so much thereof as shall be necessary, shall be paid upon the warrants of said superintendent of public instruction, drawn upon the state auditor.

SEC. 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved March 11, 1899.

S. F. No. 401.

CHAPTER 55.

Members of legislature

An act granting to the members of the legislature of the State of Minnesota power to administer oaths and to take depositions and acknowledgments.

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