

CHAPTER 320—S. F. No. 1019.

An act authorizing the issue and sale of county bonds for the purpose of permanently improving certain roads, and providing for reimbursement by the State of Minnesota to such county of the proceeds of such bonds hereafter expended by them in such improvement on roads described in article 16 of the constitution of the State of Minnesota and to be hereafter definitely fixed and determined by the commissioner of highways as trunk highways.

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

Section 1. County boards may issue bonds for road and bridge purposes.—The county board of any county is hereby authorized, without a vote of the people, to issue and sell from time to time the bonds of said county to such an amount as in the judgment of the board may be necessary for the purpose of paying the expense to be incurred in permanently improving any road or roads, including temporary trunk highways, in said county, which have not been definitely fixed and determined by the commissioner of highways as trunk highways, but the aggregate indebtedness of any county, inclusive of bonds issued hereunder, shall not at any time exceed fifteen per cent of the assessed valuation of the county's taxable real property; provided, however, that the amount of bonds issued hereunder by any county shall, together with bonds heretofore authorized by such county under the provisions of chapter 265, Laws 1919, in no case exceed in the aggregate the sum of \$250,000.00.

Sec. 2. Definitions.—The words "permanently improve" as used herein shall mean any work approved by the commissioner of highways as hereinafter specified which is essential or preparatory to the paving of such road with a proper durable hard-surface type of paving.

Sec. 3. Commissioner of highways to approve routes and plans.—Before any bonds shall be issued under the provisions hereof, the route and termini of the road or roads proposed to be permanently improved and the plans and specifications for such improvement shall be approved by the commissioner of highways. Before any contract for such improvement shall be let, such contract, including the price thereof, shall be approved by the commissioner of highways; and the contract shall be performed and the improvement made under the direction and supervision of the commissioner of highways. The approval of such route, termini, plans and specifications, and the fact that the road is one for the permanent improvement of which bonds may be issued hereunder, shall be conclusively evidenced by a certificate to that effect signed by the commissioner of highways, in which the road or roads proposed to be improved shall be designated by proper description or reference.

Sec. 4. Form of bonds—Interest—Sale of bonds.—Such bonds shall be in such form and denominations, shall bear such rate of interest not exceeding six per cent per annum payable semi-annually, shall become due and payable at such time or times not more than twenty years from their date, and shall be sold in such manner, as the county board and the commissioner of highways shall determine, may contain an option permitting their redemption on any interest date, shall be signed by the chairman of the county board and countersigned by the county auditor, and shall be sold conformably to the provisions of section 1856, General Statutes 1913, for not less than par and accrued interest.

Sec. 5. Use of proceeds.—The proceeds of such bonds shall be used for the permanent improvement of the road or roads designated in the resolution authorizing their issuance; and if any part of such proceeds remains unexpended after the completion and acceptance of said improvement, such unexpended surplus may by said board be paid into the trunk highway fund, in which event such surplus shall be expended by the commissioner within one year after the receipt thereof upon trunk highways within said county. In case the proceeds from such bonds issued by any county should for any reason be insufficient to pay for the completion of any contract for the making of the improvement for which they were issued, such contract shall be carried out by the county so far as such proceeds shall permit, and the remainder of such contract shall be assumed by the commissioner of highways and paid for out of the trunk highway fund, but only if and when the highway being so improved shall be designated as a trunk highway.

Sec. 6. Funds to be credited to trunk highway fund.—In case any county shall authorize the issuance of bonds under this act, and thereafter and prior to the letting of a contract for the making of such improvement the road on which such improvement is to be made shall be designated as a trunk highway, the county may pay the proceeds from such bonds into the trunk highway fund to be expended by the commissioner of highways in the making of such improvement upon the route and under the plans and specifications therefor approved by the commissioner prior to the issuance of said bonds.

Sec. 7. Bonds to be issued prior to January 1, 1925.—The powers conferred by this act are additional to all other powers conferred by law; but no bonds shall be issued hereunder unless authorized by resolution of the county board adopted after the passage of this act and prior to January 1, 1925.

Sec. 8. Counties to be reimbursed from state highway funds.—The state of Minnesota hereby agrees to reimburse, to the extent hereinafter provided, all counties for moneys expended by them under the provisions of this act between the passage thereof and January 1, 1925, in permanently improving, in accordance with

plans and specifications therefor approved by the commissioner of highways, roads described in Article 16 of the Constitution of Minnesota and to be hereafter definitely fixed and determined by the commissioner of highways as trunk highways. Moneys paid by any county upon any contract hereunder shall be deemed to have been expended as of the date of such contract. Moneys paid by any county into the trunk highway fund and expended by the commissioner of highways under the provisions of sections 4 and 6 hereof shall be deemed to have been expended by such county as of the date of such payment into said fund. Such reimbursement shall be made according to the provisions of chapter 522, Laws 1921, and particularly of subdivision (a) of section 2 thereof, exclusive of amendments thereto, so far as applicable hereto, except that the certificate by the county board required by said subdivision (a) shall be made and filed forthwith upon the issuance of said bonds and in no case later than April 1, 1925.

Approved April 18, 1923.

CHAPTER 321—H. F. No. 364.

An act to amend Section 2796, General Statutes of Minnesota, 1913, relating to the length of the school year.

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

Section 1. School year to be seven months.—That Section 2796, General Statutes 1913 be and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 2796. The school shall be maintained not less than seven nor more than ten months, but this provision shall not apply to night schools or kindergartens. The school month shall consist of four weeks. Every Saturday shall be a school holiday and all legal holidays shall be counted as a part of the school week."

Sec. 2. Effective July 1, 1923.—This act shall take effect and be in force from and after July 1st, 1923.

Approved April 18, 1923.

CHAPTER 322—H. F. No. 365.

An act to amend Section 2, Chapter 467, General Laws 1921, relating to the distribution of endowment fund for school purposes.

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

Section 1. Districts must have schools seven months to be entitled to apportionment.—That Section 2, Chapter 467, General Laws 1921 be and the same is hereby amended so as to read as follows:

"Section 2. The endowment fund shall be distributed semi-