

THE
STATUTES AT LARGE
OF THE
STATE OF MINNESOTA

COMPRISING
THE GENERAL STATUTES OF 1866
As amended by subsequent Legislation to the close of the Session of 1873
TOGETHER WITH
ALL LAWS OF A GENERAL NATURE IN FORCE, MARCH 7, A.D. 1873

WITH REFERENCES TO
JUDICIAL DECISIONS OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA, AND OF OTHER
STATES WHOSE STATUTES ARE SIMILAR

TO WHICH ARE PREFIXED
THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES, THE ORGANIC ACT,
THE ACT AUTHORIZING A STATE GOVERNMENT, AND THE
CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA

VOL. I.

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CHAPTER XXIX. OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH.

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TITLE I.

OF THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH.

(*This Title is the Act of March 4, 1872. S. L. 1872, 64.*)

SECTION 1. *Governor to appoint board of health.*—The governor shall appoint seven physicians, one from the city of St Paul, and the other six from different sections of the state, who shall constitute the state board of health and vital statistics. The physicians so appointed shall hold their offices for four years, and until their successors are appointed, and all vacancies in the board shall be filled by the governor.

SEC. 2. *Duties of the Board.*—The state board of health shall place themselves in communication with the local board[s] of health, the hospitals, asylums, and public institutions throughout the state, and shall take cognizance of the interests of health and life among the citizens generally. They shall make sanitary investigations and inquiries respecting the causes of disease, especially [of] epidemics; the source of mortality and the effects of localities, employments, conditions, and circumstances on the public health; and they shall gather such information in respect to these matters as they may deem proper for diffusion among the people. They shall devise some scheme whereby medical and vital statistics of sanitary value may be obtained, and act as an advisory board to the state in all hygienic and medical matters, especially such as relate to the location, construction, sewerage, and administrations of prisons, hospitals, asylums, and other public institutions. They shall at each annual session of the legislature make a report of their doings, investigations, and discoveries, with such suggestions as to legislative action as they may deem proper. They shall also have charge of all matters pertaining to quarantine, and authority to enact and enforce such measures as may be necessary to the public health.

SEC. 3. *Regular meetings and officers.*—The board shall hold regular meetings at least once every three months, one of which meetings shall be held at the capitol during the session of the legislature. Their first meeting shall be held at the capitol within ten days after their appointment shall have been made, and three members shall always constitute a quorum for business. They shall elect, from their own number, a president and permanent secretary; the latter shall be their

executive officer. No member except the secretary shall receive any compensation, but the actual expenses of any and all the members while engaged in the duties of the board shall be allowed and paid to the extent authorized by this title (act).

SEC. 4. *Duties of secretary.*—The secretary shall perform and superintend the work prescribed in this act, and shall perform such other duties as the board may require. He shall furnish to the legislature when in session such information cognate to this act as from time to time they may deem necessary.

SEC. 5 (AS AMENDED BY ACT OF MARCH 8, 1873). *Salary and expenses of secretary.*—The secretary of the board shall receive from the treasury in quarterly payments an annual salary of five hundred dollars, and his necessary and actual traveling expenses incurred in the performance of official duties, after they have been audited by the board and approved by the governor, and all other necessary expenses arising in his office shall be paid out of the treasury in the same manner as those of the different departments of state government: *provided*, that the expenses of said board shall not exceed the sum of fifteen hundred dollars per annum.

S. L. 1873, 115.

TITLE II.

OF TOWN BOARDS.

(*This Title is the Act of March 10, 1873. S. L. 1873, 116.*)

SEC. 6 (1). *Incorporated towns, etc., to have boards of health.*—All incorporate towns, villages, boroughs, and cities shall have a board of health; who shall have and exercise all the powers necessary for the preservation of the public health, and who shall hold regular monthly meetings.

SEC. 7 (2). *Composition of such boards.*—Said boards shall consist of not less than three members, one of whom, when practicable, shall be a physician, and such physician shall be health officer and *ex officio* president of the board, and shall receive such compensation for his services as the council, or other body answering thereto, of the town, village, borough, or city, shall determine.

SEC. 8 (3). *Duties of such board.*—It shall be the duty of the health officer to make, once in every three months, and oftener if necessary, a thorough sanitary inspection of said town, village, borough, or city, and present a written report of such inspection at the next meeting of the board of health, and he shall forward a copy of his monthly report as soon as rendered to the state board of health; and all local boards of health and health officers shall make such investigations and reports, and obey such directions as to infectious diseases as shall be directed by the state board of health.

SEC. 9 (4). *Election of the board.*—The board of health referred to in section six (one), shall be elected annually by the council, or other body answering thereto, of each incorporate town, village, borough, and city, unless a different term or mode is now provided by law, and such election shall be had at the next election that shall be held in such places.