

of proof upon
owner of claim

inclusive of this Act, the burden of proof shall be upon the owner of such claim or claims as to the compliance with the provisions hereof. In the event of any failure, a re-location of the lands involved shall be void if made directly by or indirectly in the interest of, such delinquent locator or his successors in interest, until one calendar year shall have elapsed since the failure obtained.

Ch. 74, Session
Laws, 1913, Re-
pealed.

Section 22. That Chapter 74, Alaska Session Laws, 1913, and all other Acts or parts of Acts in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

Approved, April 20, 1915.

CHAPTER 11.

AN ACT

[H. B. 50.]

To provide for local self-government in certain native villages in the Territory of Alaska.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska:

Self-govern-
ment in certain
native villages
authorized.

Section 1. That any village in the Territory of Alaska, whose inhabitants are members, or descendants of members, of the Thlinget, Tsimpsean, or Hydah Indian Tribes, or other native tribes of Alaska, having not less than forty permanent inhabitants above the age of twenty-one years, may form a self-governing village organization for the purpose of governing certain local affairs, as hereinafter described and in the manner hereinafter provided.

Petition for or-
ganization—
Contents of.

Section 2. A petition praying for such village organization shall first be presented to the commissioner, ex-officio probate judge, for the recording district in which such village is situated, which petition shall be signed by at least fifteen adult members or descendants of members of said Thlinget, Tsimpsean, or Hydah Indian Tribes, or other native tribes of Alaska, who are bona fide residents of such village, and shall specify the boundaries and the

number of inhabitants of the proposed organized village and shall specify the name by which such village is to be known, and such other facts as may tend to show good grounds for such organization. The commissioner, ex-officio probate judge, shall thereupon fix a time and place for considering said petition, which time shall not be less than fifteen, nor more than thirty days after the date of such order. At the time and place fixed for considering said petition, the commissioner, ex-officio probate judge, shall give a reasonable hearing to those who are in favor of, and those who are opposed to the same, and if he is satisfied that it is to the best interests and welfare of such village to be so organized, he shall, by an order, so judge; and he may, by the order, change or modify the proposed boundaries, which shall in no case embrace more than six hundred and forty acres. He shall also, by said order, designate the name and the boundaries of the proposed organized village, and the time and place, when and where, an election shall be held to determine whether the people of the village desire to be so organized; and he shall also, by said order, appoint three qualified residents of such village to act as judges of such election. A copy of said order shall be posted at three public places within the limits of the proposed organized village, at least fifteen days prior to the day of election, and such posting shall be deemed a sufficient notice of such election. In case said commissioner, ex-officio probate judge, shall refuse to consider such petition, or after considering the same, shall refuse to make such order, or any order hereinafter provided for, the said petitioners may appeal from such action by the commissioner to the judge of the district court for the division in which said village is situated, in the manner provided by law for appeals from justice's courts.

Section 3. That the qualifications of an elector hereunder shall be as follows: He or she shall be a member, or descendant of members, of the Thlinget, Tsimpsean, or Hydah people, or people belonging to other Alaska

Hearing

Order for election

Copies to be posted.

Appeal

Qualifications of electors

Indian Tribes, and shall be over twenty-one years years of age, and shall have resided within the limits of the village proposed to be organized for a period of six months.

Ballot—form of

Section 4. That said election shall be by written or printed ballot in the following form:

“For organization of the village (name of village proposed to be organized) ()

Against the organization of the village of (name of village proposed to be organized) ()”

Election of council

At the same election by separate ballot, twelve of the said members of the village shall be elected as councilmen and said council shall have the following powers:

Powers of council

To make rules and regulations for the conduct of its own proceedings;

Election of officers

To elect from its membership a mayor, a secretary, a municipal magistrate and a treasurer, all of whom shall serve without pay; and to prescribe their duties and the rules by which they shall be governed;

Ordinances for government of villages not to conflict with existing laws

To pass such ordinances for the government of the village as shall not be in conflict with federal or territorial laws, and shall pass ordinances to prevent the practice of witchcraft;

Poll tax

To levy and collect a poll tax not exceeding three dollars per annum on all able-bodied male residents above twenty-one and under fifty years of age;

Tax on dogs and general tax

To levy and collect a tax on dogs, and a general tax not to exceed one per cent per annum on assessed valuation of houses, boats, and canoes (but all household goods shall be exempt from taxation);

Appointment of constables

To appoint constables and prescribe powers and duties as it may deem necessary;

Punishment for violation of ordinances

To provide for the punishment of any violation of its ordinances by fine or imprisonment in the village jail or both such fine and imprisonment, but no such fine shall exceed twenty dollars nor any such imprisonment five days;

Improvements—

To provide for necessary street improvements, water

supply, fire protection, lights, public health, and relief of destitution and indigents; water supply, fire protection

To fill vacancies in the council until the time of next election, and to provide rules and regulations governing place and conditions of the annual election; Provided, that public notice of said election shall be given at least ten days prior to such election. Vacancies in council.— How filled.

The commissioners, ex-officio probate judges, shall for acts rendered in pursuance of this Act receive the same fees and commissions as are prescribed for similar services when acting as probate judges. Fees to Commissioners

Approved, April 21, 1915.

CHAPTER 12.

AN ACT

[H. B. 34.]

To prevent and punish family desertion and to provide support bonds.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska:

Section 1. Any person who shall, without lawful excuse, desert or wilfully neglect or refuse to provide for the support or maintenance of his wife, who is in destitute or necessitous circumstances, or any person who shall, without lawful excuse, desert or wilfully neglect or refuse to provide for the support and maintenance of his or her minor children under the age of eighteen years who are in destitute or necessitous circumstances, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction thereof, be punished by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars, or by imprisonment in the jail, in the division wherein said sentence is imposed, for not more than twelve months, or by both such fine and imprisonment; and should a fine be imposed it may be directed by the Court to be paid whole or in part to the wife or to the guardian or custodian of the minor child. Family deser- tion and non- support a mis- demeanor Penalty