

CHAPTER 44.

AN ACT

(H. B. 48)

To provide for the election of a Board of Trustees for the local self-government of towns or communities within the limits of the public domain now under control of the Land and Industrial Department; and defining the powers of such Board.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska:

Authority to
elect Board of
Trustees granted

Section 1. That any town or community in the Territory of Alaska, within the limits of any public domain, now under control of the Land and Industrial Department of the United States of America, shall have authority to elect a Board of Trustees for the local self-government of such town or community as hereinafter set forth: PROVIDED, that the powers of such Board of Trustees shall in no way conflict with any federal officer representing the Land and Industrial Department of the United States of America, or representing any other Department of the federal government.

Proviso

Powers Board
not to conflict

Petition for elec-
tion presented to
Commissioner

Section 2. A petition, praying for an order establishing and directing the election of a Board of Trustees, provided for in Section 1 of this Act, shall first be presented to the United States Commissioner and ex-officio probate judge for the recording district, in which such town or community is situated, which petition shall be signed by at least fifteen adults, bona fide residents of such town or community, who shall have substantial property rights in such town or community over which such board of Trustees shall have authority. Such petition shall specify the boundaries, the number of inhabitants and the name by which said town or community shall be known, and shall also present good and substantial reasons for the establishment of such Board of Trustees. The Commissioner shall, thereupon, fix the 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. Upon making such order,

Qualifications of
petitioners—con-
tents of petition

fixing the time and place for the consideration of such petition, the Commissioner, ex-officio Probate Judge, shall forthwith cause to be posted, in three public places within the limits of said town or community, a copy of such order. At the time and place fixed for the consideration of 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 establishment of the Board of Trustees, and if he is satisfied that it is to the best interest and welfare of the town or community to elect and establish such a Board of Trustees for the local self-government of such town or community, he shall by an order so judge, and he may, by such order, change or modify the proposed boundaries of such town or community, which shall in no case embrace more than six hundred forty acres (640). He shall also, by said order, designate the name and boundaries of such town or community, and also the time and place, when and where an election shall be held to determine if the people of the town or community desire to elect and conform to the authority of such board. He shall also, by said order, appoint three qualified electors to act as judges of such election. A copy of said order shall be posted at three public places within the limits of the town or community where such election is to be held, at least fifteen days prior to the day set for such election, and such posting shall be deemed a sufficient notice of such election.

Order and notice of time and place of hearing

Hearing of petition and order for election

Notice of election —how given

Section 3. That the qualifications of an elector hereinunder shall be as follows: He or she shall be a citizen of the United States, and of the age of twenty-one years, and a resident for thirty days within the limits of the town or community, where such board shall be elected.

Qualifications of electors

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

Form of ballot

For the establishment of a Board of Trustees for the

local self-government of the Town of

.....
(Name of Town or Community)

Against the establishment of a Board of Trustees for the local self-government of the Town of

.....
(Name of Town or Community)

Electors to choose seven trustees for one year

The qualified electors of the town or community, where such election is held, shall also, at said election, by a separate ballot, choose seven citizens to constitute said Board of Trustees for the local self-government of said town or community, who shall be qualified electors of the town or community, and who shall be owners of substantial property interests therein; and the said Board of Trustees shall serve for the term of one year or until their successors are elected and qualified and shall have the following powers:

Powers of trustees

(First) To formulate suitable rules governing their own body, and to elect one of their members president, who shall be ex-officio Mayor, and also to provide for the subsequent election of the Board of Trustees.

Proviso

(Second) To provide for the necessary street improvements, fire protection, water supply, all lights, wharfage, sewerage, police protection, and the protection of public health; PROVIDED, that nothing in this Act shall be construed to delegate to such Board of Trustees any authority in conflict with the authority now vested in the Townsite Manager of Towns and communities now under the control of the Land and Industrial Department, acting in conjunction with the Alaska Engineering Commission, having control over certain public domain in the Territory of Alaska.

(Third) To formulate rules and regulations governing trespass of horses, dogs, and cattle, running at large; too impose fines and penalties upon the owners thereof, and have power to enforce payment of same.

As to rate of taxation

(Fourth) To impose and collect a tax on real or personal property or on possessory rights in improve-

ments for the purpose of providing for fire protection, and for other exigencies that may arise; PROVIDED, that no tax imposed by said Board of Trustees shall exceed one-third of one per centum of the assessed valuation of property; and all assessments and valuations made by the Assessor of the Board shall be subject to review, readjustment, and modification by the Board, before which local body any property owner may appear, and set forth reasons for such modification and readjustment of values.

Section 5. The Commissioner, ex-officio Probate Judge 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 judge, and accompanying any petition, praying for an order establishing such Board of Trustees for the local self-government of towns and communities, as provided for in this Act, shall be a cash deposit, or a bond, sufficient to cover any fees or commissions, which may be earned by the said United States Commissioner, ex-officio Probate Judge, because of the said petition.

Fees of commissioner to be deposited or provided for

Approved May 3, 1919.

CHAPTER 45.

AN ACT

(S. B. 74)

To amend Chapter 51, Session Laws of Alaska, 1913, entitled, "An Act to relieve destitution in the Territory of Alaska."

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Territory of Alaska:

Section 1. That Chapter Fifty-one (51), Session Laws of Alaska, 1913, be amended to read as follows:

"Section 1. That the Governor of the Territory of Alaska is vested with entire and exclusive superintendence of the poor, with authority to appoint an advisory board in each judicial division of the Territory, composed of such officers charged with the administration

Governor vested with superintendence of the poor

Advisory board to be appointed