

accounts shall remain open for twenty days thereafter for the payment of claims incurred prior to the close of such year. Any claim presented after the twentieth day following the close of a fiscal year shall not be paid from the appropriations for that year but shall be provided for in the next ensuing budget: *Provided*, That this shall not prevent payment upon uncompleted improvements in progress at the close of the fiscal year.

Proviso.

Invalidity.

SEC. 36. If any section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this act is declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, the remainder of this act shall not be affected thereby.

Passed the Senate March 9, 1955.

Passed the House March 8, 1955.

Approved by the Governor March 21, 1955.

CHAPTER 338.

[S. B. 329.]

DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS.

AN ACT relating to drainage improvement districts; and amending section 4, chapter 157, Laws of 1921 and RCW 85.08.300.

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

Amendment.

SECTION 1. Section 4, chapter 157, Laws of 1921 and RCW 85.08.300 are each amended to read as follows:

Board of supervisors of district; membership.

At the election, two electors of the county owning land in the district shall be elected, who, with the district engineer, shall constitute the first board of supervisors of the district. The supervisors shall have charge of the construction and maintenance of the systems of improvements, subject to the limitations hereinafter set forth, and may employ a superintendent of construction and maintenance who may be one of the two elected supervisors. The

Employ superintendent of construction and maintenance.

elected supervisors may be employed upon the construction or maintenance, receiving the same compensation as other labor of like character. The engineer shall receive compensation for his services as supervisor in the maintenance of the system at the per diem rate allowed him for other work; and if he is a salaried officer the compensation shall be a charge against the district in favor of the engineer's office.

Employment of elected supervisors possible.

Compensation for engineer.

The term of office of each elected district supervisor shall be four years, and until his successor is elected and qualified except that the terms of those chosen at the first election in each district shall be as follows: The one receiving the highest number of votes shall serve for a period ending four years after the first Monday of January of the first odd-numbered year following the election; and the one receiving the second highest number of votes shall serve for a period ending two years after the first Monday of January of the first odd-numbered year following the election. Elections after the first election in a district shall be held biennially on the fourth Tuesday of November in the even-numbered years, except that where the first election is in an odd-numbered year no election shall be held in the next even-numbered year. Terms of office shall begin on the first Monday of January next following the election, except that the terms of the supervisors elected at the first election shall begin immediately on their qualifying. Every duly elected supervisor shall qualify in the same manner as other county officers. A vacancy on the board shall be filled by a district elector appointed by the board of county commissioners.

Terms of office.

Terms of first elected supervisors.

Elections held biennially.

Date terms commenced.

Qualification.
Vacancy filled.

There shall be no general district election held in the year 1957 and the commissioner in each district whose term expires in 1957 shall continue in office until his successor is qualified for a four-year term beginning the first Monday in January 1959.

No general district election in 1957; commissioner continues in office.

Election
procedure.Election
expense.Notice of
election;
publication.Commission-
ers to canvass
votes, declare
results and
issue certi-
ficates of
election.When district
engineer shall
act as super-
visor of
district.

Elections, except for the first election as provided in RCW 85.08.290, shall be conducted by the board of supervisors of such district, who shall prepare the ballot therefor. The expenses of the election shall be defrayed by the district, and the judges, clerks and inspectors of the election shall each receive not to exceed the sum of five dollars per day for services so rendered. At least thirty days before the election the district supervisors shall post notice thereof in four public places in the district, and publish notice of the election at least once in a legal newspaper published in the district, or if none is published therein, then in a legal newspaper in the county in which the district is situated. Such notice shall contain the names of the two judges and one inspector of the election, who shall be electors of the district appointed by the supervisors. The supervisors may declare the entire district as one precinct and shall designate in the notice of election the number and places of voting. The commissioners shall meet on the day following the election and canvass the votes, declare the results, and issue the certificates of election.

When a district contains not more than five hundred acres, or when a petition is presented to the board of county commissioners signed by the owners of fifty percent of the acreage of the district praying for such action, the district engineer shall act as supervisor of the district; and in such case the allowance of all claims against the district shall be by the county commissioners.

Passed the Senate February 22, 1955.

Passed the House March 8, 1955.

Approved by the Governor March 21, 1955.