

CHAPTER 298.

[Published April 1, 1873.]

AN ACT to authorize Wood county to build and maintain a free bridge across the Wisconsin river at Grand Rapids, on section eight, town twenty-two, range six east.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

May erect and maintain free bridge.

SECTION 1. The county of Wood is hereby authorized to erect and forever maintain a free bridge across the Wisconsin river upon section eight in township number twenty-two north, of range number six east, as follows: From a point within the city of Grand Rapids, and upon said section eight, to be selected as hereinafter provided, across the Wisconsin river at the "grand chute," to a corresponding point in said section eight within the village of Centralia: *provided*, the total cost of building and completing said bridge shall not exceed fifteen thousand dollars; *and provided further*, that nothing herein shall be held or construed to authorize any impeding or obstruction of the free navigation of the Wisconsin river for logs and lumber.

Supervisors may fix location of bridge.

SECTION 2. The board of supervisors of said county of Wood are hereby authorized and empowered to fix upon and determine within the limits mentioned in section one of this act, the exact location of the bridge by this act authorized to be erected, and said supervisors are authorized and empowered to contract in behalf of said county, and in its corporate name, with one or more responsible parties for the erection of said bridge, in whole or in part, as the best interests of the public shall seem to require; and all contracts shall be let in a public manner, and to the lowest responsible bidder, after a public notice of at least three weeks published in one or more newspapers in the county of Wood: *provided*, that the time for awarding such contract or contracts may be postponed from time to time as the public interest may require, and reasonable public notices of such postponement shall in all cases be given; *and provided further*, that the said board of supervisors shall have the right, if in their best judgment the public interests will be best subserved thereby, to cause the erection and completion of said bridge under the supervision of a committee not exceeding three in number, to be chosen *in viva voce* by the said board of supervisors at a gen-

May make contract.

May erect bridge under supervision of committee.

eral meeting thereof, and to act during the pleasure of the said board of supervisors only.

SECTION 3. The bridge aforesaid shall not be less than sixteen feet wide, shall have strong railing at the sides, and shall be constructed and maintained in a safe and substantial manner for the passage of teams, animals and foot passengers; and the said board of supervisors may at any time prescribe regulations for the government of said bridge, including penalties for the violation thereof, not inconsistent with the laws of this state, which penalties may be enforced by actions as for tort, brought in the name of the state and at the instance of any tax payer, and shall be in all respects conducted like ordinary actions in tort, before any justice of the peace of said county, or the police justice or other justice of the city of Grand Rapids; and all moneys recovered in any such action, exclusive of costs, shall be paid into the county treasury. A legible copy of all regulations, and of penalties for violations thereof, hereby authorized, shall be posted in a conspicuous place upon or near either end of said bridge, and shall immediately thereafter be deemed in full force.

Dimensions of the bridge.

May prescribe regulations.

Copy of regulations to be posted.

SECTION 4. The members of the committee herein authorized to be chosen shall receive such compensation as the board of supervisors may authorize, not exceeding three dollars for every day actually employed: *provided*, that if such board of supervisors shall choose to so employ but one person, who shall be an experienced and skillful bridge-builder, they may pay him such compensation as shall be usual and reasonable for such persons.

Compensation of committee.

SECTION 5. The board of supervisors of said county of Wood are hereby authorized at the time and in the manner provided by law for levying county taxes, to levy a tax upon the taxable property in said county sufficient to pay the expense of erecting and completing the said bridge: *provided*, that not more than one-third of said amount shall be levied as aforesaid in any one year. The tax so levied in any year shall be certified separately by the county clerk to the several towns, villages and cities in said county, and shall by them be put in the assessment roll in a separate column, and shall be designated as "county bridge tax," and shall be payable in money.

May levy "county bridge tax."

SECTION 6. If the said board of supervisors shall deem the same preferable to the mode of raising money to erect the said bridge authorized by the preceding section, they are hereby authorized to issue the bonds of the said county of Wood to an amount not exceed-

May issue bonds in lieu of tax.

ing fifteen thousand dollars, which bonds or the proceeds thereof, or so much thereof as shall be necessary, shall be applied in payment of the expenses of building and completing the bridge hereinbefore mentioned, and for no other purpose. Said bonds shall be of the denominations of fifty, one hundred, five hundred and one thousand dollars respectively, in such proportions as the board of supervisors shall deem proper, with coupons attached for the payment of interest, at a rate not exceeding seven per cent. per annum, and both principal and interest shall be made payable within a period not exceeding ten years, and shall be executed by the chairman of the board of supervisors and countersigned by the county clerk of said county, and shall have the county seal attached thereto: *provided*, that before a tax shall be levied by said county board for the purpose of erecting and completing said bridge, or if said board shall elect to issue the bonds of said county as provided in the next section, before said bonds shall be issued, in either case, the question shall be submitted to the qualified electors of said county, at an election to be held at the various election precincts in said county; notice of which election shall be first directed to be given by a resolution of said county board, in a newspaper published weekly in said county; and said notice shall be published for the space of six successive weeks in said newspaper prior to said election, and shall specify the time, place and manner of holding the said election, and the said question of levying a tax or of issuing bonds shall be voted upon by ballot, which shall read, "for tax," or "against the tax," or "for issuing bonds," or "against issuing bonds," and the said tax shall or shall not be levied, and the said bonds shall or shall not be issued, in accordance with the vote thereon, as herein provided, by a majority of the electors of said county: *provided further*, that no tax shall be levied or bonds issued, as aforesaid, until said county shall have complied with the provisions of section seven, chapter one hundred and seventy-eight, private and local laws of 1865, by purchase and possession of said Wood county bridge.

SECTION 7. In case the said county board shall issue the bonds of said county, as aforesaid, the said county board shall annually thereafter levy a tax upon the taxable property of said county sufficient to pay the interest on all the said bonds which, at the time of levying the said tax, shall be outstanding and the principal of so many of said bonds as shall mature and become payable in such year, which tax shall be called

Denominations of the bonds and rate of interest.

How executed.

Questions to be submitted to vote.

Form of ballot.

Conditions of the levy.

Shall levy tax to pay interest and principal of bonds.

the "county bridge tax," and shall be paid in money or in the bonds and coupons then due and payable.

SECTION 8. The county clerk of said county shall keep a faithful record of the bonds of said county which may be issued under the provisions of this act, which record shall contain a statement of the number of bonds issued, to whom issued, the amount of each respectively, when they will mature, and the rate of interest thereof, which record shall be open to the inspection of the public at any reasonable hour.

County clerk to keep record of bonds.

SECTION 9. The said county board of supervisors are hereby authorized to levy such a tax annually as may be necessary therefor, upon the taxable property in said county, for the purpose of maintaining and keeping in repair the said bridge, after the same shall have been erected.

May levy tax for repairs.

SECTION 10. This act shall be construed favorably in all courts and places to effect the purposes intended to be accomplished, and shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved March 19, 1873.

CHAPTER 299.

[Published March 27, 1873.]

AN ACT to amend chapter fifty-six, general laws, 1870, entitled an act to provide for the incorporation and government of fire and inland navigation insurance companies.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section thirty-three, chapter fifty-six, general laws 1870, is hereby amended by striking out the word, "incorporated," where it occurs in the thirty-fourth line as printed, so as to read as follows: Section 33. It shall be the duty of every company transacting the business of insurance under this act, to include in its annual statement, a statement showing the amount received in the state during the year for which such statement is made, in cash for premiums, in premium notes, in cash notes, and the amount received from other sources; and showing also the amount paid in this state for salaries, commissions to agents, and for losses during the same period. And each such company,

Amended—what annual statement shall include.