

of electrical current, including private telephone wires to be carried on such towers, upon, over and across the following lands owned by the state of Wisconsin, in the town of Westport, county of Dane, state of Wisconsin, described as follows, to wit: The southwest quarter of the northeast quarter and the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter and the southwest quarter of the southeast quarter and the southeast quarter of the southeast quarter, all in section twenty-six, township eight north, range nine east. The center line of said line of towers and wires shall be described as follows, to wit: Beginning at a point on the west line of the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section twenty-six, township eight north, range nine east, eight feet southwest from the right of way of the Chicago and Northwestern Railway Company and running thence southeasterly in a straight line parallel to the right of way of the Chicago and Northwestern Railway Company through the above described land. All plans and details of construction of such line of towers and wires to be erected upon the above described land shall be submitted to the railroad commission of Wisconsin for approval before any such work of construction shall be commenced.

SECTION 2. The grant herein authorized to be made shall be subject to the right of the legislature to repeal or revoke the same.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage and publication.

Approved July 30, 1915.

No. 262, A.]

[Published August 5, 1915.

CHAPTER 497.

AN ACT to create sections 376—50 and 172—66 of the statutes, creating a state board of education, conferring powers and defining the duties of such board, and making an appropriation.

The people of the State of Wisconsin, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. There are added to the statutes two new sections to read: Section 376—50. 1. There is hereby created a state board of education to consist of five members. The governor, the secretary of state and the state superintendent of public instruction shall be ex officio members of said board. One person shall be appointed by the board of regents of the University of

Wisconsin and one person shall be appointed by the board of regents of the normal schools to be members of said board.

2. The members appointed by the board of regents of the university and the board of regents of normal schools shall hold office for terms of two years and until their successors are appointed and qualified. The first appointments hereunder shall be made on or before August 1, 1915, and the terms of office shall begin on the first day of August, 1915, and biennially thereafter. In case of any vacancy the appointment shall be for the unexpired term.

3. The members of the said board shall receive an honorarium of eight dollars per day for not to exceed sixty days in any one year; and they shall receive the actual and necessary expenses incurred by them in discharging their duties as members of the said board. Such honorarium shall not be paid to any member who receives a salary from the state or from any state institution.

4. Before entering upon the duties of his office, each member of said board shall take and subscribe the constitutional oath of office which shall be filed in the office of the secretary of state.

5. The members of the said board shall, during the first week of August, 1915, meet at the state capitol and organize. The state superintendent of public instruction shall be ex officio president of said board. A majority of the members of said board shall constitute a quorum to transact business and any vacancy shall not impair the right of the remaining members to exercise all the powers of the board.

6. The board may appoint and fix the compensation of a secretary, who shall also be chief accountant, and such other assistants, clerks and stenographers as may be necessary to carry out the duties of said board. The board shall require a bond of the secretary, and may require bonds of such other subordinates and employes as it shall deem expedient to bond, the amounts of which shall be fixed by the board. The secretary shall not be a member of the board, and shall perform such duties as may be prescribed by law or by the by-laws and rules of the board. The secretary shall keep a faithful record of all the transactions of the board and of all committees thereof.

7. The board shall keep its office at the capitol and the superintendent of public property shall provide suitable rooms, necessary office furniture, supplies and stationery. The board may hold meetings at any place other than the capitol. The meetings of the board shall be open to the public and all records of such meetings and of all proceedings of the board shall be open to inspection by the public at all reasonable hours; provided that

the board may hold executive sessions, the findings of such executive sessions to be made a part of the records of the board.

8. It shall be the duty of the state board of education to have the exclusive charge and management of all financial affairs of the educational activities of the state and to examine and study the business methods and management of and the expenditure of public funds for the common schools, high schools, county training schools, county schools of agriculture and domestic economy, continuation, commercial, industrial and evening schools, day schools for the deaf and blind, Stout institute, the mining trade school, the several normal schools and the university, shall ascertain the financial and business needs of such schools and institutions, the fair and proper distribution of such expenditures and the most efficient and economical use of public funds for educational purposes and shall have power to institute and maintain an adequate and uniform accounting system.

9. The said board shall have power and authority to require and it shall be the duty of every state or county superintendent of public instruction or education and every officer or governing body of any school or institution mentioned in subsection 8 of this section to furnish such data and information as such board may deem necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

10. The board shall cause all of the financial transactions and accounts of or relating to the mining trade school, Stout institute, the several normal schools, the university and the various departments thereof, at the close of each fiscal year, to be fully and thoroughly examined and audited by its accountant. Said board may cause a like audit of any of the other schools mentioned in subsection 8 which receive state aid. Such examination shall be commenced immediately after the close of said period and be completed as soon as practicable. Upon the completion of such examination a full and detailed report thereof shall be made by such accountant to the board.

11. The state board of education shall on or before the fifteenth day of December next preceding the convening of the legislature in any regular session prepare in convenient form its recommendations as to the financial and business needs of and the fair and proper distribution of public funds to the schools and institutions mentioned in subsection 8 of this section so as to increase and promote the efficiency and educational value of such schools and institutions and such other recommendations as to the improvement of the business management and control of such schools and institutions as the said board may deem expedient, a full and detailed report of any audit made under the provisions of subsection 10 and its estimates for each of the several insti-

tutions under its supervision specifying therein, in detail, the amount of money that will be required for the support and maintenance of each of the said institutions and also estimates setting forth the various amounts needed, detailed as to class of schools and purpose of proposed appropriation, as direct state aid, for all public schools not under its supervision, the amount needed for the support of the department of the state superintendent of public instruction, and also the amount needed for the board of education to carry out the purposes of this section, all such estimates to be for the next biennial period. The secretary of the board shall on or before the fifteenth day of December mail to each member-elect of the legislature and to the governor-elect a copy of said reports, recommendations and estimates.

12. Whenever matters affecting any school under the board are before it or any of its committees for consideration, the president of such school and any other persons shall have the right to be present at such meeting and be heard by the board or the committee having charge of the subject. The governing bodies of the several schools under the supervision of the board shall submit biennial estimates and annual budgets to the board, and shall be heard by the board or the proper committee thereof upon the estimates or budgets for the various schools. It shall be the duty of the presidents and the governing bodies of each of the several schools under the jurisdiction of the board of education to prepare and supply to the board all useful and helpful information regarding the financial needs of the various schools and to make recommendations regarding the needs of such schools in order that the board of education may have full information upon which to base its recommendations to the legislature.

13. No new buildings shall be constructed or lands purchased except by or under the direction of said board.

Section 172—66. There is annually appropriated to the state board of education out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated fifteen thousand dollars for carrying out the duties, powers and functions provided by law for said board.

SECTION 2. All acts and parts of acts conflicting with any of the provisions of this act are repealed in so far as they are inconsistent therewith.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage and publication.

Approved August 3, 1915.