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CHAPTER 375

AN ACT to amend 59.12, 60.19 (1) (b) and 60.60 (3); and to create 5.27 (5) and 10.525 of the statutes, relating to the selection of town supervisors in counties containing only one town.

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

SECTION 1. 5.27 (5) of the statutes is created to read:

5.27 (5) In counties containing only one town candidates shall be nominated for the office of supervisors at large and by precincts, and all applicable provisions of this section shall apply to their selection. In selecting the candidates for precinct supervisor, by caucus, the candidates for each precinct shall be selected separately, and only those electors shall participate in each as are residents of that precinct. Any precinct candidate seeking nomination by the circulation of nomination papers shall incorporate in his nomination papers a statement that the signers are qualified electors of that precinct.

SECTION 2. 10.525 of the statutes is created to read:

10.525 TOWN ELECTIONS IN SPECIAL COUNTIES. In counties containing only one town, part of the board members of which are elected by precincts, the clerk shall prepare a ballot distinguishing between supervisors elected at large and by precinct.

SECTION 3. 59.12 of the statutes is amended to read:

59.12 A county clerk, treasurer, sheriff, coroner, clerk of circuit court, district attorney, register of deeds and surveyor shall be elected in each county for full terms at the general election held in each even-numbered year. The regular term of office of each such officer shall commence on the first Monday of January next succeeding his election and shall continue 2 years and until his successor qualifies. In any county containing one town only, the county board may, by resolution, designate any county office a part-time position, combine 2 or more county offices, and, if concurred in by the town board, combine the offices of county clerk and town clerk and any other county and town offices, provided that the offices combined are not incompatible and the combination is not expressly forbidden by law. *If the town board so concurs, the election shall be for the combined office and no separate election for the town office shall be held until after the county board has by resolution decided to abandon such combination and the town board has concurred by resolution.*

SECTION 4. 60.19 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

60.19 (1) (b) In the town in any county containing one town only, in place of 3 members there shall be elected a town board of not more than 7 members, consisting of one or more members chosen from the town at large and one member chosen from each town board precinct, of which there shall be not less than 2 nor more than 5. A majority of such members shall constitute a quorum. The number and boundaries of the town board precincts and the number of members to be elected from the town at large shall be designated by the legislature when the town is first established, but thereafter such precincts shall be subject to reapportionment and increase or decrease in number and the number of members at large shall be subject to increase or decrease, from time to time, by majority vote of the town board in order to provide that all inhabitants will be adequately represented, each precinct will have substantially the same number of inhabitants, the precinct, insofar as is practicable, will consist of contiguous territory and will be in compact form. The total number of town board members shall not be changed from the number initially fixed by the legislature. The member elected from the town at large who has the highest number of votes shall become the town chairman. Such members and a town clerk, a treasurer, an assessor and one or more constables, shall be elected by ballot biennially in the odd-numbered years on the first Tuesday in April, and shall hold office for 2 years *except as provided in s. 60.60 (3).*

SECTION 5. 60.60 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

60.60 (3) No town officer shall be entitled to compensation from the town for acting in more than one official capacity or office at the same time. In the town in any county containing one town only, the town board may, by resolution, designate any town office a part-time position, combine 2 or more town offices, including the offices of town clerk and assessor,

and, if concurred in by the county board, combine the offices of town clerk and county clerk and any other town and county offices if the offices combined are not incompatible and the combination is not expressly forbidden by law. *If the town and county boards agree to combine a county and town office, the election shall be for the combined office as provided in s. 59.12 and no separate election for the town office shall be held until after the county board has by resolution decided to abandon such combination and the town board has concurred by resolution.*

Approved September 27, 1963.
