

No. 653, A.]

[Published September 29, 1959.

CHAPTER 494

AN ACT to repeal and recreate 5.27 (1) of the statutes, relating to nominations for town and village officers.

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

5.27 (1) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

5.27 (1) If a caucus is to be held, the date for the caucus shall be set by resolution adopted by the town or village board at least 60 days before each first Tuesday of April in years in which there is to be a town or village election, which date shall not be less than 23 nor more than 32 days before said first Tuesday in April. If the caucus is held on the same day of holding a spring primary election, it shall be held after the polls close. The clerk of the municipality in which a caucus has been ordered shall give at least 5 days' written notice of the time and place of holding the caucus by publishing a copy of the resolution in some newspaper published

or circulated in such town or village. A copy shall also be posted in the clerk's office immediately after adoption. The town chairman and village president shall act as officers of the caucus, together with the clerk, providing they are not candidates for any town or village office. If ineligible to serve, the chairman or president shall call for the election of permanent officers who shall conduct the caucus as hereinafter described. If others are elected officers, they shall be elected by acclamation or ballot, as the meeting directs. The permanent chairman shall appoint 2 tellers to canvass the vote cast for each town or village office. Names of candidates shall be placed in nomination by motion from the floor and seconded or by writing the name of a candidate on a slip of paper distributed by the tellers to those electors attending the caucus, and only those candidates whose names are placed in nomination shall be voted upon. The nominations shall be made for one office at a time. The offices of town supervisor when elected jointly and village trustee shall be considered as one office for the purpose of nominating and electing candidates to these offices. Before balloting the chairman will announce the names of all candidates who have been placed in nomination. The voting for each office shall be by ballot, except the chairman may dispense with taking a ballot when 2 or less candidates are nominated for the same office. The 2 candidates receiving the highest number of votes cast for each office shall be nominated and certified by the caucus officers to the town or village clerk, and the names of such candidates shall be printed on the official ballots, together with those who file nomination papers under sub. (2). If any town elects its supervisors jointly, pursuant to s. 10.52 (2), the number of candidates for supervisor equal to twice the number of positions to be filled who receive the highest number of votes shall be nominated and certified, as provided above. Village trustees, excluding the office of president, shall be nominated together and at large. The number of candidates for trustee equal to twice the number of positions to be filled who receive the highest number of votes shall be nominated and certified, as provided above. If any candidate nominated by the caucus files with the town or village clerk within 5 days thereafter a written declination of nomination, only the names of the remaining candidates and those who file nomination papers under sub. (2) shall be printed on the official ballots. The names of all candidates for the same office shall be arranged alphabetically on the ballot. A tie vote shall be determined by lot.

Approved September 18, 1959.
