

No. 566, A.] [Published April 27, 1897.

CHAPTER 318.

AN ACT authorizing the county board of any county to place the county jail under the supervision of a board of trustees.

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

Board of trustees for the county jail.

SECTION 1. The county board of any county in this state may, by a majority vote, at any annual meeting thereof, provide for placing the county jail under the supervision of a board of three trustees, who shall be known and designated as the "trustees of the county jail." They shall be elected by the county board at any annual meeting thereof; at the first election the trustees, shall be elected for terms of one, two and three years respectively, and thereafter one trustee shall be elected each year for a term of three years, and such trustees so elected, shall receive the same compensation for services rendered as such trustees as is allowed to members of county boards.

Vacancies in board—how filled.

SECTION 2. Should vacancies occur in said board of trustees by death or other cause, the chairman of the county board shall fill such vacancies by appointment, until the next annual meeting of the county board.

Duties of the board of trustees defined.

SECTION 3. It shall be the duty of the trustees of the county jail to meet at the jail, at least once each month, and examine and report on all sheriffs' accounts for the month preceding, and file such report with the county clerk, who shall lay the same before the county board at its first meeting thereafter; and also examine fully into the condition of the jail, and as to the health, cleanliness and discipline of the inmates; and the keeper thereof shall lay before the trustees a calendar setting forth the name, age and cause of commitment of each prisoner,

and if sentenced to hard manual labor, the character of the work performed and the time actually employed by each such prisoner at hard labor; and if it shall appear to the said trustees that any of the provisions of this act have been violated or neglected to be performed by the sheriff or by the keeper of any jail, they shall forthwith give notice to the district attorney of the county, whose duty it shall be to enforce by proper proceedings, the collection of fines and the punishment for such violation or neglect provided by this act.

SECTION 4. The trustees of the county jail, when authorized by the county board, shall cause to be erected upon the jail grounds, or upon land that can be secured as near as practicable thereto, a workhouse, or a suitable building or buildings, in which to employ prisoners, but in no case shall the expense of such workhouse or buildings exceed the appropriations of the county board for that purpose.

Erection of
workhouses.

SECTION 5. Every male person over sixteen years of age, who shall be convicted by any court or magistrate within a county which has elected trustees of the county jail and erected the workhouse or buildings herein provided for, on the charge of vagrancy, vagabondage, petty larceny, drunkenness, disorderly conduct, or shall be convicted of violating any of the provisions of chapter 470, of the laws of 1887, and acts amendatory thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than one dollar, nor more than one hundred dollars, and in default of payment thereof, by imprisonment in the county jail, at hard manual labor, not less than five days nor to exceed thirty days for the first offense, known to or brought to the notice of any justice of the peace, magistrate, or judge of any court; and for the second or any subsequent conviction of any offender, upon default of any fine imposed, he shall stand committed to such jail at hard manual labor not less than fifteen days nor to exceed six months.

Penalty for
vagabondage.
Commitments
to the work-
house.

Prisoners must
labor.

SECTION 6. All persons of sufficient health and ability, committed to any jail and sentenced to hard manual labor under the provisions of this act, when a workhouse is provided by the trustees of the county jail, as contemplated by this act, shall be kept and employed at such labor by and under the direction and supervision of the sheriff of the county, or the keeper of its jail, for ten hours each day, Sundays excepted, but not to exceed that time; and such labor shall be performed in or about the county buildings or workhouse provided by the trustees, pursuant to this act.

No liquor or
tobacco
allowed.

SECTION 7. No tobacco, liquor or other intoxicating beverage shall be furnished to, nor shall any liquor or other intoxicating beverage be used by any person committed to the jail under the provisions of this law, during his confinement therein.

Punishment
for refusing
to work.

SECTION 8. Any person duly committed to the county jail under the provisions of this act, of sufficient health and ability, and who shall refuse to work diligently, shall be punished by being placed in solitary confinement in the jail, in the discretion of the sheriff, not to exceed ten days for each refusal to work diligently, but not beyond the term of his sentence, and shall receive bread and water only, during said solitary confinement.

Penalty when
officers refuse
or fail to en-
force the
sentence
imposed.

SECTION 9. Any sheriff or other officer under him, in charge of any jail, in which any person is confined under the provisions of this act, who shall neglect or refuse to require any prisoner sentenced to hard manual labor under it, when provision has been made for its performance as contemplated by this act, or who, if any prisoner of sufficient health and ability shall refuse to work or perform such labor, shall fail or neglect to comply with and enforce the provisions of section 8, of this act, as to any such prisoners who shall refuse to work, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and be subject to a fine not to exceed one hundred dollars, and for a

second offense shall be removed from office, on charges duly preferred against him, and proof of such failure.

SECTION 10. The county board may, by separate resolution, empower the trustees of the county jail to examine the accounts of the sheriff against the county each month, and when so empowered, it is hereby made the duty of the trustees to ascertain the amount reasonably due the sheriff for the previous month and certify such amount to the county clerk, and thereupon the county clerk shall issue his order on the county treasurer in favor of the sheriff for seventy-five per centum of the amount certified to him by the trustees as so due, and at the audit of the sheriff's accounts by the county board, the amount so paid shall be deducted from the amount found to be due by said board from the county to the sheriff on his account.

Examination of the accounts of the sheriff.

SECTION 11. In any county having trustees of the asylum for the chronic insane, the county board may, in place of electing a board of trustees for the county jail, by resolution declare the said trustees of the asylum for the chronic insane the ex-officio trustees of the county jail, and they shall have and exercise all the powers conferred upon the board of trustees of the county jail by this act.

Chronic insane trustees may be ex-officio trustees of the county jail.

SECTION 12. This act shall not be construed as applying to or in any manner affecting any county or counties now maintaining, or that may hereafter erect or maintain workhouses under the provisions of chapter 290, of the laws of 1895, or acts amendatory thereof, nor shall anything contained in this act be construed as in any manner restricting, repealing or amending any part of said chapter 290, of the laws of 1895, nor of any of the acts amendatory thereof.

Where this act shall not apply.

SECTION 13. All acts or parts of acts inconsistent with this act, are hereby repealed.

Repealing section.

SECTION 14. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and publication.

Approved April 23, 1897.