## **COUNTY OFFICERS**

#### CHAPTER 69.

[H. B. No. 281-Johnson of Ward]

#### CLERK HIRE FOR OFFICE OF REGISTER OF DEEDS.

AN ACT to Amend Section 2596 of the Revised Codes of North Dakota of 1905, Providing the Clerk Hire for the Register of Deeds Office in the Various Counties in the State.

- § 1. AMENDMENT.] Section 2596 of the revised codes of North Dakota of 1905 is amended to read as follows:
- § 2596. County commissioners may employ depoties, when. COMPENSATION.] If in the judgment of the board of county commissioners, it shall be deemed necessary for the prompt and accurate dispatch of business in the office of register of deeds that deputies or clerks be employed therein, it shall by resolution fix the number of clerks to be employed and the compensation which they shall receive, which compensation shall be paid monthly from the special salary fund by warrant; provided, that the officers in whose office such deputies or clerks are employed shall have the sole power of appointing and removing them at pleasure; provided, further, that the total amount paid to the register of deeds for salary and clerk hire shall in no case exceed the amount of fees by such officer collected, and in counties having a population of less than fifteen thousand such amount so paid such register of deeds for salary and clerk hire shall not exceed the sum of five thousand dollars; and in counties having a population of more than fifteen thousand and less than twenty-five thousand, such amount so paid to such register of deeds for salary and clerk hire shall not exceed the sum of six thousand dollars; and in counties having a population of more than twenty-five thousand such amount so paid to such register of deeds for salary and clerk hire shall not exceed the sum of twelve thousand dollars; provided, however, that all moneys received for compiling or the continuation of abstracts of title shall be turned over to the county treasurer, who shall credit the same to the county general fund. Any officer who shall receive and appropriate to his own use and benefit any part of the salary allowed to any such clerk or deputy shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.

§ 2. EMERGENCY.] Whereas, an emergency exists, in that there is now under our present law not sufficient clerk hire permitted for the prompt and accurate dispatch of business in the office of the register of deeds in some counties in the state, this act shall take effect immediately upon its passage and approval.

Approved March 13, 1907.

#### CHAPTER 70.

[S. B. No. 325-Johnson of McLean]

#### SALARY OF COUNTY AUDITOR.

AN ACT Amending and Re-enacting Section 2592 of the Revised Codes of 1905, Relating to Salary of County Auditors.

- § 1. AMENDMENT.] Section 2592 of the revised codes of 1905, is amended and re-enacted to read as follows:
- § 2592. SALARY OF, HOW DETERMINED.] The salary of the county auditor shall be regulated by the value of the property in his county as fixed by the state board of equalization for the preceding year as follows: Provided, that no county auditor shall receive more than one thousand two hundred dollars for his personal services in any one year in counties where the valuation of taxable property is less than one million five hundred thousand dollars; nor more than one thousand four hundred dollars in counties where the assessed valuation exceeds one million four hundred thousand dollars, but does not exceed two million dollars; nor more than one thousand five hundred dollars in counties where the assessed valuation exceeds two million dollars, but does not exceed three million dollars; nor more than one thousand six hundred dollars in counties where the assessed valuation exceeds three million dollars, but does not exceed four million dollars; nor more than one thousand seven hundred dollars in counties where the assessed valuation exceeds four million dollars, but does not exceed four million five hundred thousand dollars; nor more than one thousand eight hundred dollars in counties where the assessed valuation exceeds four million five hundred thousand dollars, but does not exceed five million dollars; nor more than one thousand nine hundred dollars in counties where the assessed valuation exceeds five million dollars. but does not exceed six million dollars; nor more than two thousand dollars in counties where the assessed valuation exceeds six million dollars, but does not exceed seven million dollars; nor more than two thousand one hundred dollars in counties where the assessed valuation exceeds seven million dollars, but does not exceed eight million dollars; nor more than two thousand two hundred dollars

in counties where the assessed valuation exceeds eight million dollars, but does not exceed nine million dollars; nor more than two thousand three hundred dollars in counties where the assessed valuation exceeds nine million dollars, but does not exceed ten million dollars; nor more than two thousand four hundred dollars in counties where the assessed valuation exceeds ten million dollars, but does not exceed eleven million dollars; nor more than two thousand five hundred dollars in counties where the assessed valuation exceeds twelve million dollars; and all moneys received as fees for certifying to abstracts or deeds in excess of the salary as limited by this article shall be paid by the county auditor at the end of each month into the revenue fund of the county.

Approved March 19, 1907.

#### CHAPTER 71.

[S. B. No. 152—Taylor]

#### COUNTY AUDITOR KEEPS RECEPTION BOOK.

AN ACT to Provide for the Safe Keeping of Documents and Bonds Required to be Deposited in the Office of the County Auditor.

Be It Enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the State of North Dakota:

- § 1. Book provided.] There shall be provided by the board of county commissioners of each county in the state, in the same manner that other record books are provided, a book for use in the office of the county auditor to be known as the "reception book," in which shall be entered, immediately after numbering, all documents, bonds and other papers required by law to be deposited in the office of the county auditor. Such book shall be ruled in parallel columns, showing in the first column at the left hand side of the page the document number, in the second column the date of filing, in the third column the character of the instrument, and in the fourth column miscellaneous remarks.
- § 2. Duty of county auditor.] It is hereby made the duty of each county auditor in the state to immediately upon receipt of any document, bond or other paper required to be filed in his office, number the same, and to make the proper entries in the reception book, and index the same. He shall also cause to be recorded at length in the office of the register of deeds all bonds that are required by law to be deposited in his office.
- § 3. EMERGENCY.] Whereas, there now exists no adequate law for the safekeeping of documents and bonds to be filed in the office of the county auditor, an emergency exists, therefore this act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and approval.

Approved March 8, 1907.

# CHAPTER 72. [S. B. No. 211—Strom]

#### COUNTY SURVEYOR.

AN ACT Providing for the Election of County Surveyor and Prescribing His Duties and the Manner in Which His Records Shall Be Kept, and Authorizing the Board of County Commissioners and the Board of Township Supervisors to Make Surveys, and Authorizing and Prescribing the Manner for the Payment of the Expenses Incurred Therein.

- § 1. ELECTED. BOND.] There shall be elected at the general election of each organized county in the state for the term of two years a county surveyor, who shall give bond to the people of this state in the penal sum of not to exceed two thousand dollars, the amount to be fixed by the board of county commissioners, either with two sureties, who must justify as sureties are required to justify in arrest and bail, or by an indemnity bond of some reputable company to be approved by the board of county commissioners, the same to be filed with the county auditor of the proper county, conditioned for the faithful and impartial discharge of the duties of his office.
- § 2. Deputies.] Each county surveyor may appoint one or more deputies and revoke such appointment at pleasure, which appointment and revocation shall be in writing, under his hand, and filed with the clerk of court, and such deputies shall take the constitutional oath of office; and for the faithful performance of the duties of their office by such deputies the said surveyor and his sureties shall be responsible.
- § 3. CERTIFICATE EVIDENCE.] The certificate of the surveyor or his deputy, of any survey made by him of any lands in the county, shall be presumptive evidence of the facts therein contained unless such surveyor or his deputy shall be interested therein.
- § 4. Surveys presumptively correct.] The county surveyor or his deputies shall make in a good and professional manner all surveys of land within the county which they may be called upon by the owner thereof or his representative or directed by the district or county courts, the board of county commissioners or the board of township supervisors to make; and also all lands, tracts or lots owned by the county, and public roads, when so directed by said board; and his surveys shall be held as presumptively correct.
- § 5. OTHER SURVEYOR ACTS, WHEN.] Whenever a survey may be required of any land in which the county surveyor or either of his deputies shall be interested or when from any cause there shall be no surveyor or deputy surveyor of the county to be found or

able to act, such survey may be made by the surveyor of an adjoining county or either of his deputies in like manner, and to the same effect as if such survey had been made by the surveyor where the land is situated.

§ 6. Records.] Each county surveyor shall record in a suitable book, to be provided by him at the expense of the county, all surveys for permanent purposes made by him and his deputies, except surveys for township highways and village plats. The record of each survey shall set forth the evidence by which the surveyor determined or identified the corners or other starting points of his survey, describing the points fully, and also setting forth whatever means were taken by him to perpetuate them upon the ground or to assist in determining and preserving their location. The record shall show the object of the survey and the methods pursued by the surveyor in making it, diagrams or plats being used to illustrate the same when necessary or convenient to do so. Upon the diagrams shall be shown the courses and distances of such boundary lines as may have been located by the survey, and such other facts as may have been determined by it. Such diagrams shall be considered a part of the record. When the courses of the lines are given by the magnetic needle the record shall show the amount and direction of the allowance made by the surveyor for the difference between the magnetic meridian and the true meridian. The record shall show the date of the survey, the name of the person or persons for whom it was made, and of the persons employed as chainmen on the survey. The surveyor shall certify upon the record that he has carefully compared the record with the original field notes taken by him at the time of the survey and that it is a true statement of the facts of such survey, as shown by said original notes. Each county surveyor and his deputies shall keep the original field notes of all surveys made by them for permanent purposes in books of convenient size and well bound in leather, to be furnished by the county surveyor at the expense of the county. These notes shall be taken and set down in the manner in which field notes of the United States surveys are kept, and shall contain all the details of each survey in the order in which the survey was made, including in full all calculations made by the surveyor to determine areas, or for measuring inaccessible distances, such as lake and river crossings, or for any other purpose required by the survey. Diagrams may be used for purposes of illustration, but shall not be used instead of the written notes required to be kept. Each field book shall contain an index referring to the surveys of which it contains the field notes. It shall also contain the certificate of the surveyor who made the surveys, that the field notes therein contained are the complete original field notes of the surveys therein referred to and described. These original field notes shall be a part of the record required to be kept by the county surveyor and the books containing them shall be deposited and kept with the surveyor's other records of the county. Each deputy county surveyor whenever one of these books shall be filled with field notes by him, or whenever he shall, for any cause, have ceased taking notes in the book he had been using, shall deposit the same in the office of the county surveyor or county auditor, and whenever his own term of office expires shall turn over to the county surveyor such books as have been partly filled by him.

- § 7. Papers delivered to successor.] When the term of office of any county surveyor shall expire or he shall resign or be removed he shall deliver over all books and papers relating to this office to his successor therein, and any county surveyor who, on the expiration of his term of office or on his resignation or removal shall neglect for the space of one month after his successor shall be elected or appointed and qualified to deliver such books and papers as aforesaid and any executor or administrator of any deceased county surveyor who shall neglect for the space of one month to deliver to such successor all such books and papers which shall have come to his hands shall forfeit and pay a sum not less than ten or more than fifty dollars, which amount shall be fixed by the board of county commissioners at their first meeting after such failure on the part of the county surveyor, and a similar sum for every month thereafter during which he shall so neglect to deliver the same as aforesaid.
- § 8. Copies of u. s. plats. The county surveyor shall arrange the terms of a contract with the surveyor general of the state or other proper officer, for certified copies of the field notes and plats of the original surveys by the United States of the lands of his county, and if such contract be approved by the board of county commissioners of his county the county surveyor shall upon receiving such copies direct the county auditor to draw an order upon the treasurer of his county for the amount so agreed upon, and transmit it to the said surveyor general or other person to whom it may be due, and shall have said plats and field notes substantially bound in book form which shall be kept open in said county surveyor's or county auditor's office for the benefit of the public; and all records of surveys, field notes and calculations made by any former county surveyor since the organization of the state government and now in the hands of such former county surveyor, or any other person, shall, on demand of the county surveyor of the proper county, be immediately delivered to him as a part of the records and files of his office and the boards of county commissioners of the several counties shall respectively audit and allow to the person entitled thereto, such sum as they shall deem a reasonable compensation for the expense of the books containing such records.
- § 9. FORM OF SURVEYS.] All surveys made by the county surveyors in this state must be made in accordance with the rules and regulations laid down by the commissioner of the United States

general land office, and in accordance with the following principles, when applicable:

First. All corners that can be identified by the original field notes or other unquestionable testimony shall be regarded as the original corners and must not be changed while they can be so identified.

Second. Extinct intersection corners must be re-established at proportional distances as recorded in the original field notes from the nearest known points in the original section line, east and west, and north and south from such extinct section corners.

Third. Any extinct quarter section corner except on fractional section lines must be re-established equidistant and in a right line between the section corners in all other cases at proportional distances between the nearest known points in the original lines.

Fourth. Central quarter corners of whole sections and of fractional sections adjoining the north and west boundary of townships, must be re-established at the intersection of two right lines connecting their opposite quarter section corners respectively. It shall be the duty of county surveyors to perpetuate the original corners they may work from by noting new bearing trees when timber is near. They shall also perpetuate the principal corners made by themselves in like manner.

- § 10. OATH OF CHAINMAN.] Every chainman and marker employed in making surveys pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, shall first take an oath that he will faithfully discharge his duties as such, which oath the county surveyor or his deputy making the survey is hereby authorized to administer.
- § 11. Corners located. Expenses, how paid.] Whenever two or more resident owners of real estate after having given at least ten days' notice by personal or written service to all other persons or their agents owning land in the same section, or abutting on same section that will be affected by said survey, who reside in the same township, shall desire to have their corners and lines, or any of them, established or relocated or perpetuated, the county surveyor shall proceed to make the required surveys and the expense thereof shall be borne by all the persons benefited to the amount of work done for each to be determined by the surveyor and if any person thus benefited, whether a non-resident or otherwise, shall refuse or neglect to pay his share of such expense within sixty days thereafter, such surveyor shall certify the same, and to whom due, to the county auditor, together with a description of the land of such person, who shall assess it upon the land of such person to be collected and paid to the county treasurer in the same manner as state and county taxes, and paid by said county treasurer on the order of the county surveyor.
- § 12. Section corners, How MADE.] The surveyor as above employed shall sink into the earth at all section and quarter post corners a column of concrete or cement block at least two feet

high, twelve inches square at the base and six inches square at the top, and carefully describe the same in the records of his survey, and also dig pits and mark and record new witness trees wherever possible to do so, and if any person shall wilfully cut down, destroy. deface or injure any living witness tree, or remove a corner post in any shape as above established, he shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof shall be liable to a fine of not less than twenty-five dollars nor more than fifty dollars.

- § 13. Commissioners perpetuate corners.] county commissioners of the several counties in this state, or the board of township supervisors of any organized civil township in this state, are hereby authorized to establish and perpetuate any government section corners or quarter posts in their respective counties, which they may have good reason to believe are lost or are in danger of being lost, by the employment of the county surveyor or some other competent surveyor therefor, who shall keep a full and complete record of his work, giving in detail the evidences by which any corner is identified, also the manner in which lost corners are re-established, which record shall be kept in the san e book provided by the county for county surveyor's records and kept in the office of the county surveyor, or county auditor, and the record so made and entered by the surveyor aforesaid shall be received as evidence in all the courts in this state wherein any question may arise as to the establishment or identification of such corner or corners; provided, that such work shall be done only in such townships where a majority of the voters, voting, shall vote to raise such sum as is required for such work by any surveyor authorized to do such work, as provided by this act; provided, further, that nothing in this act shall apply to lands where section and quarter section lines are already properly established, such sum to be assessed upon the real estate of such townships, according to its assessed valuation. Such assessment to be levied and taxes therefrom collected in the same manner as other assessments and collection of taxes are made; provided, further, that any surveyor as above employed, shall mark all corners substantially, as provided for in section 12 of this act.
- § 14. REPEAL.] All acts and parts of acts in so far as they conflict with the provisions of this act are hereby repealed.

  Approved March 19, 1907.

#### CHAPTER 73.

[H. B. No. 304—Chapman]

#### FEES OF COUNTY SURVEYORS.

- AN ACT to Amend Section 2612 of the Revised Codes of 1905, Relating to Fees of County Surveyors.
- Be It Enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the State of North Dakota:
- § 1. AMENDMENT.] Section 2612 of the revised codes of 1905 is amended to read as follows:
- § 2612. FEES ALLOWED.] County surveyors shall be allowed to charge and receive the following fees:
- 1. For time actually employed, four dollars per day and mileage.
- 2. For each lot laid out and platted in any city or village, twenty-five cents.
  - 3. For each copy of plat and certificate, fifty cents.
  - 4. Recording each survey, twenty-five cents.
- 5. For each mile actually and necessarily travelled in going to and returning from work, ten cents.
  - 6. For establishing each corner, twenty-five cents.
- 7. For ascertaining the location of a city or village lot in old survey and measuring and marking the same, two dollars.
  - 8. For surveying county roads, four dollars per day.
- 9. Expenses of necessary assistance shall in addition be paid by the person requiring the work to be done.

  Approved March 14, 1907.

# CHAPTER 74.

[H. B. No. 159—Shirley]

#### SALARIES OF CLERKS OF DISTRICT COURT.

- AN ACT to Amend Section 2580 of the Revised Codes of North Dakota for 1905, Relating to the Salaries of Clerks of the District Court.
- Be It Enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the State of North Dakota:
- § 1. AMENDMENT.] Section 2580 of the revised codes of North Dakota for 1905 is amended to read as follows:
- § 2580. SALARY OF CLERK OF DISTRICT COURT, HOW DETERMINED.] The salary of the clerk of the district court shall

be regulated by the value of the property in his county as fixed by the state board of equalization for the preceding year, as follows: He shall be entitled to receive not to exceed five hundred dollars in counties where the assessed valuation does not exceed five hundred thousand dollars; six hundred dollars in counties where the assessed valuation exceeds five hundred thousand dollars but does not exceed one million five hundred [thousand] dollars; eight where the assessed valuation exceeds one million dollars but does not exceed one million five hundred [thousand] dollars; eight hundred dollars in counties where the assessed valuation exceeds one million five hundred thousand dollars but does not exceed two million dollars; nine hundred dollars in counties where the assessed valuation exceeds two million dollars but does not exceed three million dollars; one thousand dollars where the assessed valuation exceeds three million dollars but does not exceed three million five hundred thousand dollars; eleven hundred dollars where the assessed valuation exceeds three million five hundred thousand dollars but does not exceed four million dollars; twelve hundred dollars where the assessed valuation exceeds four million dollars but does not exceed five million dollars; thirteen hundred dollars where the assessed valuation exceeds five million dollars but does not exceed six million dollars; fourteen hundred dollars where the assessed valuation exceeds six million dollars but does not exceed seven million dollars; fifteen hundred dollars where the assessed valuation exceeds seven million dollars but does not exceed eight million dollars; sixteen hundred dollars where the assessed valuation exceeds eight million dollars but does not exceed nine million dollars, and in counties where the assessed valuation exceeds nine million dollars but does not exceed ten million dollars, the clerk shall receive the sum of eighteen hundred dollars, and in counties where the assessed valuation exceeds ten million dollars the clerk shall receive two thousand dollars; provided, that no clerk of the discrict [court] shall receive for his personal service an amount in excess of two thousand dollars in any one year, as provided by this article, to be paid monthly from the general county fund on the warrant of the county auditor.

Approved March 14, 1907.

#### CHAPTER 75.

[H. B. No. 332—Adams]

#### SALARY OF STATE'S ATTORNEY.

AN ACT to Amend Section 2578 of the Revised Codes of 1905 of the State of North Dakota, Prescribing the Salary of the State's Attorney and Assistant.

Be It Enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the State of North Dakota:

§ 1. AMENDMENT.] Section 2578 of the revised codes of 1905 of the state of North Dakota is hereby amended to read as follows:

§ 2578. SALARY OF STATE'S ATTORNEY AND ASSISTANT.] As compensation for his services the state's attorney shall be paid, in all counties, an annual salary, based on the assessed valuation, as follows: In counties having a valuation under five hundred thousand dollars, three hundred dollars; over five hundred thousand dollars and under one million dollars, five hundred dollars; over one million dollars and under one million five hundred thousand dollars, six hundred dollars; over one million five hundred thousand dollars and under two million dollars, seven hundred dollars; over two million dollars and under two million five hundred thousand dollars, eight hundred dollars; over two million five hundred thousand dollars and under three million dollars, one thousand dollars; over three million dollars and under five million dollars, twelve hundred dollars; over five million dollars and under seven million dollars, fifteen hundred dollars; over seven million dollars and under eight million dollars, seventeen hundred and fifty dollars, and in all counties having a valuation over eight million dollars, two thousand dollars for his personal services; provided, that in counties of over nine million dollars assessed valuation, an assistant state's attorney shall be appointed by the state's attorney, who shall receive a salary fixed by the county commissioners in an amount not to exceed one thousand dollars, and in counties of less than nine million dollars assessed valuation the salary of assistant state's attorney shall be fixed by the county commisssioners.

Approved March 13, 1907.

#### CHAPTER 76.

[H. B. No. 144—Dean]

#### CONTINGENT FUND FOR STATE'S ATTORNEY.

AN ACT Providing a Contingent Fund for the Use of the State's Attorney for the Payment of Such Expenses as Are Necessary and Not Otherwise Provided for in Securing Evidence in Criminal Cases, and Providing for the Auditing and Payment of Such Expenditures.

- § 1. County commissioners appropriate money.] The county commissioners of each county in this state are hereby authorized and directed to set apart at their first meeting in January of each year, from any funds then in the county treasury not specifically appropriated or set aside for any other purposes, in an amount to be fixed by said board of county commissioners, a sum of money not less than one hundred dollars and not more than one thousand dollars, to be used by the state's attorney of such county as a contingent fund for the purpose of defraying such necessary expenses as are not otherwise specifically provided for in the trial and preparation for trial of criminal cases, and in the payment of such necessary expenses as are not otherwise provided for in securing evidence in the investigation of criminal cases.
- § 2. State's attorney may use funds.] The state's attorney of each county, by and with the consent and approval first had and obtained of the district court or any judge thereof in and for his county, is hereby authorized and empowered to incur the expenses specified in section one of this act, so far as is necessary, to the amount annually appropriated by said board of county commissioners for said purpose.
- § 3. AUDITOR DRAWS WARRANT.] All disbursements from said fund shall be made in the usual manner by the county treasurer of each county upon the warrant of the auditor of each county, which auditor's warrant shall be executed and delivered in an amount and to the person designated by the order of the state's attorney countersigned by the judge of the district court for that county.
- § 4. APPROVAL DISTRICT JUDGE REQUIRED.] Before any approval shall be indorsed upon any such order of any state's attorney so applying for the same, it shall be the duty of said state's attorney to present to said judge of the district court an itemized and detailed statement of the expenses for the payment of which he then makes application, and which statement shall be verified in the usual manner provided for the verification of claims against the counties in this state.

- § 5. Verified expense account.] Immediately upon such judge of the district court affixing his signature to said order of the state's attorney, said judge, if in his opinion the public interest will not be prejudiced thereby, and if he be of the opinion that the public interest will be prejudiced thereby, then as much as the public interest will permit, shall file in the office of the county auditor of the county on which said order is drawn said itemized and verified statement so made by said state's attorney.
- § 6. UNEXPENDED BALANCES.] Any sum remaining in said fund on the 31st day of January of each year shall then be transferred by the county auditor to the general county revenue fund of said county.
- § 7. AVAILABLE IN 1907.] During the year of 1907 the expenses mentioned in section one of this act shall be paid in the manner provided for herein, from any funds in the county treasury not specifically appropriated or set aside for other purposes.

Approved March 13, 1907.

## COURTS

#### CHAPTER 77.

[H. B. No. 206—Buttz]

#### EXPENSES DISTRICT JUDGES.

- AN ACT Fixing the Salaries and Providing for the Payment of Necessary Expenses for the Judges of the District Courts of the State of North Dakota.
- Be It Enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the State of North Dakota:
- § 1. Personal expenses.] Each judge of the district court shall, during his present term of office, receive the sum of five hundred dollars per annum for the purpose of defraying the personal expenses of such judge when away from home in the discharge of the duties pertaining to his office, and for other necessary expenses, such amount to be paid in the same manner as other state officers are paid; but the provisions of this section shall not apply to judges hereafter elected.
- § 2. SALARY.] The judges of the district courts shall receive an annual salary of four thousand dollars, the payment thereof to begin at the expiration of the term of each of the present incumbents, and until the expiration of the present term of each of said judges he shall receive an annual salary of three thousand five hundred dollars.