

CHAPTER 287.

[Published April 1, 1878.]

AN ACT to authorize the board of supervisors of Douglas county to settle and compromise all matters of difference between said county and the Superior and St. Croix Railroad Company.

Preamble.

WHEREAS, The county of Douglas did issue its bonds to the Superior and St. Croix Railroad Company to the amount of three hundred and fifty thousand dollars, to aid in the construction of a part of the line of the railway of said company; and,

WHEREAS, Said company has performed a portion only of the work, on account of which said bonds were issued, and is unable and has failed to complete the road according to its contract with said county; now, therefore,

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

Board of supervisors may compromise claims.

SECTION 1. It shall be lawful for the board of supervisors of Douglas county to settle and compromise all matters of difference and all claims and demands on either part, between the said county and the Superior and St. Croix Railroad Company, and for that purpose to provide by agreement with said company for the surrender by the same of the bonds which have heretofore been issued and delivered by said county to said company, except such an amount of said bonds as the said company shall be allowed under such agreement to retain as compensation for all or part of the work so as aforesaid done by said company. And the said board are also authorized in and by such settlement to provide for the surrender to said company of all or any portion of the stock of said company now held and owned by said county, and to make a complete settlement of all claims and demands of either party to such settlement against the other, upon such terms and conditions as the said board shall deem most advantageous to said county, and all bonds of said county which, under such settlement shall be returned and surrendered to said county, shall thereupon and thenceforth be void and of no effect, and shall forthwith be burned under the direction of said board: *provided*, that any settlement made under the provisions of this act, as between said county and said company shall not be

May provide for surrender of stock.

Settlement to be ratified by vote.

valid or binding on said county, unless the same shall be ratified by a vote of the electors of said county voting upon the question of said settlement, as hereinafter provided.

SECTION 2. Whenever the board of supervisors of said county shall have negotiated and concluded any such settlement, which shall have been reduced to writing and signed by the parties thereto, then a duplicate of such settlement in writing shall be filed with the county clerk of said county, and shall be open to the inspection of all persons in said county, and thereafter it shall be lawful for the said board, at any time within one year from and after the passage of this act, by resolution, to order that an election be held in said county, at a time in said resolution to be specified, for the purpose of voting upon the question of such settlement, copies of which resolution shall be posted by the sheriff of said county in five public places in said county, at least one week prior to the time fixed in said resolution for such election, and shall be once prior to that time, published in a newspaper printed in said county. The said resolution so published and posted, shall be deemed due notice of such election, and the same shall be held and conducted at the time fixed by said resolution, and at the place or places where, according to law, any general or special election may be held in said county. Votes cast at such elections in favor of such settlement shall be by ballot, with the words, "in favor of settlement," written or printed thereon; votes against such settlement shall be by ballot, with the words, "against settlement," written or printed thereon.

Shall file duplicate of settlement with county clerk.

May order election to vote upon question of settlement.

Form of ballots

SECTION 3. Such election shall be conducted, and the result thereof canvassed, certified and published in like manner as is provided by law in the case of a special election for the election of a county officer, so far as such provisions may be applicable.

How election to be conducted.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and shall continue for one year only.

Approved March 19, 1873.