

No. 217, S.]

[Published June 22, 1931.]

CHAPTER 295.

AN ACT to amend paragraph (h) of subsection (7) of section 23.09 and to create subsection (3) of section 80.01 and subsection (16) of section 82.02 of the statutes, relating to highway beautification.

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

SECTION 1. Paragraph (h) of subsection (7) of section 23.09 of the statutes is amended to read: (23.09) (7) (h) To enter into co-operative agreements with persons, firms or corporations or governmental agencies for purposes consistent with the purposes and provisions of this act, *including agreements with the highway authorities with regard to planting trees or other vegetation in or along highways, or furnishing stock for such planting.*

SECTION 2. New subsections are added to sections 80.01 and 82.02 of the statutes to read: (80.01) (3) No lands abutting on any public highway, heretofore or hereafter acquired or held for highway purposes, shall be deemed discontinued for such purpose so long as such lands continue to abut on any public highway. All lands hereafter acquired for highway purposes may be used for any purpose that the public authorities in control of such highway shall deem to conduce to the benefit of the public use and enjoyment thereof. Such authorities may improve such highways by suitable planting to prevent the erosion of the soil or to beautify the highway. The right to protect existing vegetation and to plant vegetation in any highway heretofore laid out may be acquired by the highway authorities in control of such highway in any manner that lands may be acquired for highway purposes. It shall be unlawful for any person to injure any tree or shrub, or cut or trim any vegetation, or make any excavation in any highway hereafter laid out or where the right to protect vegetation has been acquired, without the consent of the highway authorities having control of the highway and under their direction.

(82.02) (16) To acquire any lands or rights in lands that the commission may deem necessary to carry out any highway improvement made by the state, in the manner provided for town boards and county highway committees in sections 81.08, 83.07, and

83.08. Lands permanently acquired shall be held in the name of the state.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage and publication.

Approved June 19, 1931.

No. 104, A.]

[Published June 22, 1931.

CHAPTER 296.

AN ACT to create section 70.87 and to amend sections 60.19 and 61.19 and paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 62.09 of the statutes, relating to a county system of assessment in counties operating under the commission form of county government.

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

SECTION 1. A new section is added to the statutes to read: 70.87 (1) Any county operating under the commission form of county government under section 59.95 may, by resolution of the county board of commissioners, provide for a county system of assessment and appoint a county assessor in the manner provided in this section. Such resolution shall in no case take effect until sixty days after its adoption. If a petition for a referendum on such resolution is filed with the county clerk within sixty days after adoption, the question whether such resolution shall take effect shall be submitted to the electors at the next ensuing election in such county in the manner provided by law.

(2) Any such county which shall have adopted a county system of assessment, after operating under such system for three years or more, may, by a resolution of its county board of commissioners submitted to a referendum vote of the electors of said county and approved by a majority of those voting thereon, return to the local system of assessment.

(3) At the meeting following the taking effect of a resolution for a county system of assessment and at the annual meeting every four years thereafter, the county board of commissioners shall appoint a county assessor. The county assessor shall be a resident of the county. The person so appointed shall enter upon the duties of his office on the first day of January next following