

[S. F. 331.]

CHAPTER 56.

[Chap. 87.]

OVERFLOWED LANDS.

AN ACT authorizing owners of land subject to overflow, situated on the Iowa and Mississippi River Bottom, in Des Moines and Louisa Counties, to raise a tax upon such lands for the purpose of repairing, continuing, and extending the levee now commenced, to prevent such overflow.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa,

SECTION 1. Tax land in Louisa county, south of the Iowa river, and in Des Moines county, for making levee. That all lands situated on the south side of the Iowa river, and west of the Mississippi river, in the counties of Des Moines and Louisa, and subject to overflow, may be subjected to a tax or contribution in manner hereinafter provided.

SEC. 2. Commissioners. That the county judge of Des Moines county, shall appoint two persons, resident of said [64] county, and the county judge of Louisa county shall appoint one person resident of said county, who shall, before entering on their duty, give bond for the faithful performance of their duty, to be approved by said judges, and shall hold their office one year and until their successors are appointed and qualified as other county officers, and shall act as commissioners in relation to the system of leveeing the lands subject to overflow, as in the first section of this act referred to.

SEC. 3. Powers and duties of com'rs—tax pro rata—notice of meeting of the owners of the land—object of meeti'g. The commissioners shall have power to arrange and decide as to the character and extent that levees shall be made, and drains shall be dug, and do all acts necessary to carry out the system of leveeing already begun; for the purpose of raising funds, they shall have power, and they are hereby authorized to tax the lands to be protected and benefitted by said work pro-rata not to exceed ten cents per acre. Before levying any tax as aforesaid, they shall call a meeting of the owners of said lands, to be held at some place convenient to said overflowed lands. They shall give at least ten days notice of the time and place of said meeting, by posting notices in five public places in each county, in the vicinity of said lands, and the owners of said lands shall at said meeting, decide by ballot, at an election to be held, and governed as other elections in this state. The commissioners to act as judges of said election. The amount and pro-rata of said tax, the manner of collecting, the extent of the work that shall be done each year, and all other acts that may be necessary to secure the making of the levee and draining of said lands, contemplated by this act which acts of the owners shall be instructions to said commissioners, and by them faithfully carried out.

SEC. 4. Collection of tax. Said commissioners shall have power to cause said tax to be collected, appoint a surveyor, and all agents necessary to superintend the work, collect the taxes or disburse the money collected under this act.

SEC. 5. This act shall be in force from and after its publication in the Hawkeye, and Wapello Republican, [65] papers published in Des Moines and Louisa counties, without expense to the state.

Approved March 31, 1860.

I hereby certify that the foregoing act was published in the Wapello Republican April 19, 1860.

ELIJAH SELLS,
Secretary of State.