

No. 262.

AN ACT

Providing for the better management of the jails or county prisons in the several counties of this Commonwealth of the third and fourth classes by creating, in such counties, a board to be known by the name and style of inspectors of the jail or county prison, with authority to appoint a warden of such prison, and by vesting in said board, and the officers appointed by it, the safe-keeping, discipline, and employment of prisoners and the government and management of said jails or county prisons.

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That the persons now holding the following offices, and their successors, in all counties in this Commonwealth of the third and fourth classes, shall compose a board, to be known by the name and style of inspectors of the jail or county prisons, to wit: The judges of the court of quarter sessions, the district attorney, the sheriff, the controller, and the commissioners of each of said counties; in which board, and the officers appointed by it, the safe-keeping, discipline, and employment of prisoners, and the government and management of said institution, shall be exclusively vested; and that the present responsibility of the sheriff of each of said counties in regard to the safe-keeping of the prisoners shall cease and determine on their committal to said prison, and such sheriff shall no longer be furnished a residence in said institution.

Counties of the third and fourth classes.
Jails and prisons.

Board of inspectors.

Powers and duties.

Responsibility of sheriff for prisoners.

Section 2. That, within thirty days after this act shall become effective, the above-named board shall meet and organize by the election of a president and secretary. A majority of the members of said board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, and all actions of said board must be by the approval of a majority of all the members of said board. The board shall meet monthly, or oftener if required, and keep regular minutes of their proceedings in a book, to be filed with the financial records of each of said counties, and shall make such rules and regulations for the government and management of the prison, and the safe-keeping, discipline, and employment of the prisoners, as may be deemed necessary. The board shall appoint a warden of the prison, who shall reside in the building. The warden, subject to the approval of the board, may appoint such deputy or deputies, assistant or assistants, keeper or keepers, as may be required in the taking care of the prison, the number and salary of the same to be fixed by said board of inspectors.

Organization of board of inspectors.

Quorum.

Meetings.

Minutes.

Rules and regulations.

Warden.

Deputies, etc.

Section 3. That all the expenditures required for the support and maintenance of prisoners, the re-

Expenditures for prisons and prisoners.

Contracts. pairs and improvement of said prison, shall be paid from the county treasury by warrants drawn, in the mode now prescribed by law, on the regular appropriation for the purpose, but no warrant shall be certified by the controller for any expense connected with the prison unless on vouchers approved by a majority of said board and endorsed by the president and secretary thereof; and all contracts involving an expenditure of over one hundred dollars shall be publicly advertised in the newspapers authorized to do the county advertising, and be given to the lowest and best bidder.

Bond of warden. Section 4. That the warden, at the time of his appointment, shall give bond, with good and sufficient security to be fixed and approved by the board of inspectors, for the faithful performance of his duty, and may, at any time, be removed by said board for misconduct or inefficiency. All deputies, assistants, or keepers shall also give bond if required by said board, and may at any time be suspended by the warden or removed by the said board.

Bond of deputies, etc.

Sheriffs now acting as wardens.

Section 5. Provided that in all counties to which this act applies, where the sheriff is now the acting warden or keeper of the county jail or prison and has his residence therein, this act shall not take effect until the expiration of the term of office of the sheriff now so acting as jail or prison warden or keeper.

Special laws.

Section 6. This bill shall not be construed to repeal any special laws relating to the management of jails or county prisons in the counties affected by this act.

APPROVED—The 16th day of May, A. D. 1921.

WM. C. SPROUL.

No. 263.

AN ACT

To amend clause twenty-four of section two of an act, approved the third day of April, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one (Pamphlet Laws, three hundred and twenty), entitled "An act regulating boroughs," as amended; authorizing the boroughs to increase the rate of taxation for general borough purposes.

Boroughs.

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., That clause twenty-four of section two of an act, approved the third day of April, one thousand eight hundred and fifty-one (Pamphlet Laws, three hundred and twenty), entitled "An act regulating boroughs," which, as amended by an act, approved the eleventh day of May, one thousand nine hundred and one (Pamphlet Laws, one hundred and fifty-two), entitled "An act amending the act of June twenty-sixth, one thousand eight hundred and ninety-five, entitled 'A supplement to an act, en-