

of Florida, approved June 3, 1915, be, and the same is, hereby amended so as to read as follows:

Sec. 2. The said County of Okaloosa shall be a part of the Third Congressional District, and a part of the First Senatorial District, and shall have one member in the House of Representatives of the State of Florida. It shall be a part of the First Judicial Circuit and the time for holding the terms of the Circuit Court in said county shall be as follows: Winter Term, commencing on the last Monday in December; Spring Term, commencing on the last Monday in April; Fall Term, commencing on the last Monday in August, "of each year."

Sec. 3. That this Act shall take effect immediately upon its becoming a law.

Approved April 30, 1917.

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Okaloosa
County—
districts—
terms of
court.

CHAPTER 7401—(No. 143).

AN ACT Providing for the Creation of Okeechobee County in the State of Florida, and for the Organization and the Government Thereof.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. That the County of Okeechobee in the State of Florida, be, and the same is, hereby created and established. Such county shall comprise and include all that certain territory of the counties of Saint Lucie, Osceola and Palm Beach, which is described as follows:

Beginning at the northeast corner of section one (1), township thirty-four (34) south, range thirty-six (36) east, thence running west six (6) miles to the northwest corner of township thirty-four (34) south, range thirty-six (36) east, thence north to the northeast corner of township thirty-three (33) south, range thirty-five (35) east, thence west on the line dividing townships thirty-two (32) and thirty-three (33) south, to the Kissimmee River, thence in a southerly direction in the middle of the Kissimmee River to the normal water level on the boundary of Lake Okeechobee, thence easterly meandering the shores of Lake Okeechobee on normal water level to the line dividing ranges thirty-six (36) and thirty-seven (37)

Okeechobee
County—
creation and
boundaries.

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Part of
certain dis-
tricts.

County seat.

Appoint all
officers.

School
Board—first
meeting.

County Com-
missioners—
first meeting.

Jurisdiction
of courts.

Transfer of
all suits or
other pro-
ceedings.

east, township thirty-eight (38) south, thence north between ranges thirty-six (36) and thirty-seven (37) east, to the point of beginning, being parts of St. Lucie, Osceola and Palm Beach Counties, as they are now constituted by the Laws of Florida.

Sec. 2. The said county shall be a part of Fourth Congressional District, a part of the Thirteenth Senatorial District, and a part of the Seventh Judicial Circuit, and said county shall have one member in the House of Representatives of the State of Florida.

Sec. 3. The City of Okeechobee shall be the temporary county seat of said county.

Sec. 4. The Governor of the State of Florida shall on or before the first day of September, 1917, appoint all the officers in which said county may be entitled under the Constitution and Laws of the State of Florida.

Sec. 5. It shall be the duty of the Board of Public Instruction of Okeechobee County to hold its first meeting on the first Monday of September, 1917.

Sec. 6. It shall be the duty of the Board of County Commissioners of Okeechobee County to hold its first meeting on the first Monday in September, 1917, and at said meeting the said Board shall make arrangements for the temporary carrying on of the county government.

Sec. 7. The courts of Okeechobee County shall have civil and criminal jurisdiction throughout the said county over causes of action which shall have accrued, and over crimes and misdemeanors which shall have been committed within the territory embraced in the said county, as hereby constituted prior to the first day of September, 1917, in the same manner and to the same extent as if said county had been in existence when such crimes and misdemeanors were committed.

Sec. 8. All actions and prosecutions and all proceedings in guardianship or administration, and any and all other actions, prosecutions or proceedings that may be pending in Saint Lucie, Osceola and Palm Beach counties in the Circuit Court or in any other court, or before any officer or board of said counties on the first day of September, 1917, whereof any court, officer or board of Okeechobee County would have had exclusive jurisdiction if said county had been in existence when such action or proceeding was instituted, shall be transferred to the corresponding court, officer or board of Okeechobee

County having jurisdiction of such matters; and all pleadings, papers and documents in any way pertaining to any such action, prosecution or proceedings shall be delivered by the clerk or other officer of Saint Lucie, Osceola and Palm Beach counties having custody thereof, to the proper officer of Okeechobee County.

Sec. 9. The Clerk of the Circuit Court of Okeechobee County, or by his authorized agent or deputy, shall procure from the records in the office of the clerks of the Circuits Courts of Saint Lucie, Osceola and Palm Beach Counties, a transcript of all such records of deeds, transfers, mortgages or other conveyances of real or personal property and of all judgments, orders, decrees and wills and any and all other matters of record, and any and all papers or documents in the custody of the clerks of the Circuit Courts of Saint Lucie, Osceola and Palm Beach counties that may in any wise affect the interests of the citizens of Okeechobee County as the County Commissioners may from time to time direct, and the clerks of the Circuit Courts of Saint Lucie, Osceola and Palm Beach counties shall, without charge or fees, allow to the clerk of the Circuit Court of Okeechobee County full access to all books and papers on file in his office that would in anywise facilitate the procuring of such transcriptions. The clerk of the Circuit Court of Okeechobee County shall certify to the correctness of such transcription and thereupon such certified copies of records, documents and other matters so transcribed and certified shall be of the same force and effect as the original records.

Sec. 10. As compensation for the service required of him in Section 9 of this Act, the clerk of the Circuit Court of Okeechobee County shall be paid by said county the sum of one hundred dollars per month for such time as he shall be actually engaged in such work.

Sec. 11. The assessors of taxes of Saint Lucie, Osceola and Palm Beach counties shall continue to perform the duties of their offices in relation to all property and persons within the territory of Okeechobee County as herein created until the first day of July, 1917. Upon the completion of their assessment rolls as provided by law, they shall deliver to the assessor of taxes for Okeechobee County a transcript of so much of said assessment rolls as apply to property and persons within the limits of

Transcript
of records of
the Clerks
of Circuit
Courts.

Compensation for transcribing.

Tax Assessors continue to perform duties, etc.

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Compensation
for assessing
taxes of 1917
and preparing
transcript of
assessment
rolls.

Okeechobee County as hereby created, and thereafter the assessor of taxes of Okeechobee County shall perform all the duties of his office as now provided by law.

Sec. 12. The assessors of taxes of Saint Lucie, Osceola and Palm Beach counties shall be paid as provided by law for assessing the taxes of Okeechobee County for the year 1917, and the County Commissioners shall provide for reasonable compensation to be paid to said assessors for preparing transcripts of their assessment rolls as herein provided, and for any and all other extraordinary services which assessors may be required to perform. And the counties of Saint Lucie, Osceola and Palm Beach shall not be required to pay for any services performed by said assessors during the year 1917, in relation to property and persons in the territory of Okeechobee County, as hereby created.

Compensation
of Assessor
of Okeechobee
County.

Sec. 13. The assessor of taxes for Okeechobee County shall receive no compensation for the assessment of taxes in said county for the year 1917, but he shall receive for such services as he may perform after the first day of July, 1917, such compensation as may be agreed on by the County Commissioners.

Collectors of
parent coun-
ties allowed
certain
credits.

Sec. 14. The collectors of taxes of Saint Lucie, Osceola and Palm Beach counties shall be allowed or credited in their settlement for the amount of all the taxes due on property or from persons within the County of Okeechobee as hereby created, for the year 1917.

Collection
of taxes of
1917.

Sec. 15. The collectors of taxes for Saint Lucie, Osceola and Palm Beach counties shall proceed to collect the taxes which shall on the first day of July, 1917, be unpaid and past due on lands lying in the territory of Okeechobee County as hereby created, and to enforce the payment thereof by sale of delinquent lands in the same manner and with the same effect as if the County of Okeechobee had not been created. And all sales made in pursuance of this section shall be as valid as if this territory of Okeechobee County had remained a part of Saint Lucie, Osceola and Palm Beach counties.

Tax certifi-
cates—
redemptions,
etc.

Sec. 16. All tax certificates conveying lands lying in Okeechobee County, which shall on the first day of September, 1917, or thereafter be owned by or issued to the State of Florida, shall be delivered to the clerk of the Circuit Court of Okeechobee County, and all redemption of lands heretofore and hereafter certified or sold for

taxes, whether certified or sold to the State or to individuals shall be made to the clerk of the Circuit Court of Okeechobee County.

Sec. 17. It shall be the duty of the Board of County Commissioners of Okeechobee County at as early a date as may be possible, to hold a conference with the Boards of County Commissioners of Saint Lucie, Osceola and Palm Beach counties, and agree with said Boards upon a plan or plans for assumption by Okeechobee County of its pro rata share of the indebtedness of Saint Lucie, Osceola and Palm Beach counties, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of the State of Florida; and also upon an equitable division of the surplus funds of Saint Lucie, Osceola and Palm Beach counties, may have on hand or that may be owing to Saint Lucie, Osceola and Palm Beach counties on the first day of July, 1917.

Boards of County Commissioners to hold conference to fix pro rata indebtedness.

Sec. 18. It shall be the duty of the Board of Public Instruction of Okeechobee County at as early a date as may be possible to hold a conference with the Boards of Public Instruction of Saint Lucie, Osceola and Palm Beach counties and agree with such boards upon a plan for the assumption by Okeechobee County of its pro rata share of the indebtedness of the Boards of Public Instruction of Saint Lucie, Osceola and Palm Beach counties, and also upon an equitable division of the surplus funds that said boards may have on hand or that may be owing to the said boards on the first day of September, 1917.

Boards of Public Instruction—pro rata indebtedness, etc.

Sec. 19. The Spring Term of the Circuit Court of Okeechobee County shall be held on the second Tuesday in February and the Fall Term of the Circuit Court of said county shall be held on the second Tuesday in September in each year.

Terms of Circuit Court.

Sec. 20. The foregoing sections of this Act shall take effect upon their ratification by the affirmative vote of three-fifths of the votes cast at a special election to be held in the territory hereinabove set forth as the proposed County of Okeechobee. The registration books of the respective precincts or portion of precincts shall be opened on the first Monday in July, 1917, for the purpose of registering in the respective precincts and closed on the 28th day of July, 1917.

Act effective upon ratification by an election.

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Election—
when held
and how con-
ducted.

Sec. 21. The election provided for in the previous section of this Act shall be held on Tuesday after the first Monday in August, A. D. 1917. The County Commissioners and supervisors of registration of the respective counties of St. Lucie, Osceola and Palm Beach shall discharge such duties in connection with the calling and holding of said election as are now required of them by law for general elections and the said election shall be governed in all respects by the law for holding general elections, except as otherwise provided herein, or not inconsistent herewith. No notice of said election shall be necessary. Those who are duly qualified to vote within the territorial limits of said proposed county of Okeechobee at the time of this election shall be qualified electors at said election. In those precincts which may be divided by the proposed county line, the county commissioners of the respective counties herein named shall designate a polling place within the boundary line of said proposed county for the purpose of this election.

Sec. 22. This Act shall become effective upon its passage and approval by the Governor.

Approved May 8, 1917.

CHAPTER 7402—(No. 144).

AN ACT to Restore to the Tax Books of Bradford County Certain Lands Withdrawn from the List of Taxable Property of Said County by Reason of the Purchase by the State of Lands in said County, known as the State Prison Farm, and to Provide for the Assessment and Collection and Payment of Taxes Thereon for County Purposes; Prescribing Certain Duties in Relation Thereto of the Board of Commissioners of State Institutions, and for Other Purposes Incidental Thereto.

Whereas, By Chapter 5491, of the Acts of 1909, and Chapter 6134 of the Acts of 1911, and purchases by the Board of Commissioners of State Institutions of the State of Florida, approximately eighteen thousand acres