

MUSSULMAN RELIGIOUS TRIBUNALS.

See Courts.

NICOSIA WATER SUPPLY.

22 OF 1919.

TO PROVIDE FOR THE MANAGEMENT AND CONTROL OF THE WATER
SUPPLY OF THE VAQF AQUEDUCTS KNOWN AS THE ARAB AHMET
AND SILIKDAR AQUEDUCTS.

MALCOLM STEVENSON.]

[May 3, 1919.]

1. This Law may be cited as the Nicosia Water Supply (Arab Ahmet and Silikdar Vakfs) Management Law, 1919. Short title.

2.—(1.) The Nicosia Water Supply (Arab Ahmet and Silikdar Vaqfs) shall be managed and controlled by a Water Commission consisting of the following persons:— Water Commission.

Two members to be appointed by the High Commissioner.

The two delegates of Evcaf.

Two members to be appointed by the Municipal Council or Commission of Nicosia.

(2.) The members appointed by the High Commissioner shall hold office during such time as the High Commissioner shall think fit. The members to be appointed by the Municipal Council or Commission of Nicosia shall hold office during the period of two years from the date of their appointment.

(3.) The High Commissioner shall appoint one member of the Water Commission to be Chairman, and such member shall be Chairman during the period for which he shall be appointed.

3. The Water Commission shall provide an adequate supply of pure and wholesome water, and shall maintain the waterworks in good condition and repair and shall, if necessary, reconstruct the same. Water Commission to provide adequate supply of water.

Water
Commission
with
approval of
High Com-
missioner to
appoint
officers.

4. The Water Commission may, with the approval of the High Commissioner, appoint such officers and servants as may be necessary for the efficient exercise of the powers and obligations vested in and imposed on them by this Law: Provided that such officers and servants shall hold office during the pleasure of the High Commissioner, and shall receive such remuneration as the Water Commission, with the approval of the High Commissioner, shall determine.

Powers of
Water
Commission
to make
rules.

5. Subject to the provisions of this Law, the Water Commission may make rules relating to all or any of the following matters, namely:—

- (a.) The time and place of its meeting;
- (b.) The mode of convening its members;
- (c.) The attendance of its members;
- (d.) The form and order of its debates;
- (e.) The powers and duties of its officers and servants;
- (f.) The general regulation of its proceedings and the mode of conducting its business.

Power of
Water
Commission
to make
bye-laws.

6.—(1) The Water Commission may make bye-laws for the following matters:—

- (i.) Regulating the supply of water for sanitary and domestic purposes and fixing and levying the rates or rents for the same;
- (ii.) Regulating the supply of water by meter and fixing the price to be paid for the same;
- (iii.) With respect to the time and mode of making application for any supply of water;
- (iv.) With respect to the manner of laying house services, the quantity of water to be supplied and the nature and quality of the meters and other appliances and apparatus to be used;
- (v.) With respect to the circumstances in which a water supply shall be stopped;
- (vi.) With respect to the management and control of the water-works and for the prevention of waste or misuse of water.

(2) Any person who—

- (i.) Violates the provisions of any such bye-laws; or

- (ii.) Refuses or neglects to act in obedience thereto; or
- (iii.) Resists, opposes, or obstructs the lawful execution thereof shall be liable to a fine not exceeding ten pounds.

Provided that until new rules and bye-laws, to relate to any of the above-mentioned matters, are brought into operation under this Law, the existing Law shall, so far as it is consistent with the provisions of this Law, remain in full force and effect.

7. Bye-laws made by the Water Commission under this Law shall not take effect unless and until they shall have been submitted to and approved of by the High Commissioner, who may allow or disallow the same, or any part thereof, as he may think proper. Subject to such approval such bye-laws shall be published in the *Cyprus Gazette* and shall thereupon have the force and effect of law.

Bye-laws to be approved by High Commissioner.

8. On and after the appointment of the Water Commission under this Law, all property, real and personal, and all books, papers and documents which, at the time of such appointment shall be vested in or belong to the authority for which it is substituted, and all the rights, powers and liabilities thereof shall vest in and belong and be attached to such Water Commission; and all contracts, covenants, agreements, and obligations whatsoever relating to the property or affairs of such outgoing authority shall be deemed to be contracts, covenants, agreements and obligations of such Water Commission and shall and may be enforced and performed accordingly.

Property, and all books, etc., shall be vested in Water Commission on its appointment.

9. The right of the Delegates of Evkaf to be supplied from the said aqueducts free of charge with so much water as at the date of the coming into force of this Law they have been accustomed to receive for use at the Mosques and other Moslem religious institutions and at the baths and other Vaqf properties of the Department shall continue, and the provision of such water shall be a first charge on the whole supply.

Saving of rights of Evkaf to receive water for Mosques, etc.

10. All rights lawfully acquired to supplies of water from the aqueducts, other than the rights specified in the preceding section, shall be preserved and maintained, subject to any liability attaching thereto. Provided always that the Water Commission may at any time cancel any supply of water granted after the year 1878 upon payment to the person receiving such supply of the amount of money at any time paid in respect thereof.

Saving of private rights.

Ijares and
Mahlul
water.

11. The right to receive the ijares covenanted to be paid or customarily paid in respect of the supply of water from the said aqueducts and the right to resume possession of water which has become Mahlul shall, after the coming into force of this Law, be vested in and be recoverable by the Water Commission.

Investi-
gation and
registration
of private
rights.

12. The Water Commission shall, within a period to be fixed by the order of the High Commissioner (who is hereby authorised to extend such period if in his opinion it shall appear necessary to do so), make a Register setting forth:—

(a.) The approximate amount of water which, at the date of the coming into force of this Law, was accustomed to be supplied from the Arab Ahmet or Silikdar aqueduct free of charge to any Mosque or other Moslem religious institution or to any Vaqf bath or other Vaqf property.

(b.) The rights to receive water from the above-named sources which, at the date of coming into force of this Law, were lawfully held and enjoyed by any person and the conditions as to payment of an ijare or annual rent or otherwise subject to which such rights were held.

Power to
compel
attendance
of witnesses.

13. The Water Commission shall, before the holding of an enquiry for the purpose of making the Register, cause a notice to be published at such time or times as may be appointed by the Water Commission calling upon all interested persons to appear before the Water Commission with the evidence upon which they rely to support their claims; and, for the purposes of the above inquiry, the Water Commission may require by summons the attendance of any person whose presence or evidence they may consider necessary for the investigation or settlement of any question arising during the inquiry, and any person refusing to attend on such summons or to answer any questions material for the purpose of the inquiry, or to produce any document he may be required to produce, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding one pound.

The Water Commission may, for the purposes of the inquiry, take evidence on oath or affirmation; and any person wilfully giving false evidence upon such oath or affirmation shall be liable to the same penalties as if he had given false evidence in a judicial proceeding.