

2. The clerk to the county commissioners, shall, within five days after such appointment, deliver to the sheriff of the county, a certificate of the appointment of each of the said trustees, endorsing one of them for each, and the sheriff shall, within six days thereafter, deliver one of the certificates to each of the trustees, agreeably to the endorsement thereof.

3. The said trustees, under the penalty of twenty-five dollars each, shall accept such office, and shall meet at the alms-house in said county, on the first Tuesday of May then next ensuing, (except prevented by sickness or other unavoidable accident, and in such case as soon thereafter as the disability shall be removed,) and qualify by taking the following oath: "I, A. B., do swear that I will duly and faithfully discharge the duties and trusts committed to me as a trustee for the poor of Worcester county, to the best of my skill and knowledge, so help me God," which oath may be administered by any one of the trustees to the others, any one of whom, being sworn, shall administer the same to him.

4. No member of the General Assembly, clergyman, attorney, or practising physician, shall be obliged to accept, or shall be liable to the penalty aforesaid for refusing to accept, the office of trustee of the poor; and no justice of the peace or sheriff, or any one who hath not the qualification to be a member of the House of Delegates, shall be eligible thereto, and no person shall be compellable to serve in less than three years after he has served or paid the penalty for not serving.

5. All vacancies happening by non-acceptance, death, resignation, removal out of the county, or disqualification of any of the said trustees, shall be filled by the county commissioners, at their next meeting thereafter.

6. The trustees so appointed and qualified are a body politic, with power to sue and be sued, by the name of the "Trustees of the Poor of Worcester County," and by that name may take, hold and enjoy any gift, donation or present which may be given, devised or bequeathed by any person to them for the support and maintenance of the poor in said county.

7. They may purchase and hold any lands or tenements not exceeding the yearly value of twenty-five hundred dollars.