

period of two years after the date of his appointment or until his successor is appointed and qualified, and be paid a salary to be fixed by said County Commissioners, not to exceed fifteen hundred dollars per year. In the appointment of such engineer the said County Commissioners shall be governed by the merits and qualification of the appointee without reference to his political opinions. The said engineer shall be liable to be removed from office for incompetency or wilful, continued or persistent neglect of duty, upon the sworn complaint of ten or more resident taxpayers of Charles county, to be filed in writing with the said County Commissioners, and every such complaint shall state specifically the nature and character of the charge preferred, of which due notice shall be given the said county road engineer, and if the said County Commissioners after hearing said charges, at which the engineer and the parties making complaint shall be entitled to be represented by counsel and to produce any competent testimony, shall find the said county engineer is incompetent, or has been guilty of wilful, continued or persistent neglect of duty it shall be their duty to immediately remove said county road engineer from office. The said road engineer shall be a citizen of Charles county and reside therein. No one shall be eligible for appointment to the position of road engineer of Charles county nor shall any one be eligible to hold said position who is not a citizen and resident of Charles county, and who has not been a registered voter of said county for at least two years prior to his appointment, and said road engineer shall have entire charge, control and supervision of said roads, subject to the approval and supervision of the said County Commissioners. The salary of said engineer, as well as the supervisors and laborers shall be paid monthly. The said engineer shall give bond in the penalty of five thousand dollars, with such security as the said County Commissioners may approve, and under such conditions as they may prescribe in regard to the duties to be performed, and for the use, safekeeping and due return of all property placed in his charge. He shall have power and authority to discharge said supervisors or laborers appointed or employed by the County Commissioners, and shall file in writing the reasons for such discharge with said County Commissioners. Such supervisors or laborers discharged by the said engineer shall have the right to appeal within the period of ten days from the date that the reasons for their discharge was filed with the Board of County Commissioners, whereupon the County Commissioners shall hear said appeal at their first meeting thereafter and their decision shall be final. The said