

fully and impartially to perform the duties of their office, shall proceed to ascertain the compensation to be paid by the Company, in such way as they or he, or a majority of them, shall deem best, and the award of such Arbitrators, or of any two of them, or of the sole Arbitrator, shall be 5  
 final and conclusive: Provided, that no such award shall be made or any official act done by such majority, except at a meeting held at a time and place of which the other Arbitrator shall have had at least one clear day's notice, or to which some meeting at which the third Arbitrator 10  
 was present shall have been adjourned; but no notice to the Company or opposite party shall be necessary, but they shall be held sufficiently notified through the Arbitrator they shall have appointed or whose appointment they shall have required. 15

Proviso.  
 Award not to be made except at proper meetings or times.

Costs, how paid.

Provided always, that the award given by any sole Arbitrator shall never be for a less sum than that offered by the Company as aforesaid; and if in any case where three Arbitrators shall have been appointed, the sum awarded be not greater than that offered by the Company 20  
 the costs of the arbitration shall be borne by the opposite party, and deducted from the compensation, otherwise, they shall be borne by the Company, and in either case they may, if not agreed upon, be taxed by the County Judge aforesaid. 25

Arbitrators to have power to examine witnesses on oath

The Arbitrators, or a majority of them, or the sole Arbitrator, may examine on oath or solemn affirmation, the parties or such witnesses as shall voluntarily appear before him or them, and may administer such oath or affirmation; and any wilful false statement made by any 30  
 witness, under such oath or affirmation, shall be deemed wilful and corrupt perjury, and punishable accordingly.

False statement to be perjury.

Time within which award must be made.

The County Judge by whom any third Arbitrator or sole Arbitrator shall be appointed, shall, at the same time, fix a day on or before which the award shall be 35  
 made, and if the same be not made on or before such day, or some other day to which the time for making it shall have been prolonged, either by the consent of the parties, or by the order of the said County Judge, (as it may be for reasonable cause shown, on the application of such 40  
 sole Arbitrator or one of the Arbitrators after one clear day's notice to the others,) then the sum offered by the Company as aforesaid shall be the compensation to be paid by them.

Time may be prolonged in certain cases.

Arbitrator dying, &c.

If the party appointed by such Judge as third Arbitrator or sole Arbitrator shall die before the award be made, or shall be disqualified, or refuse or fail to act within a reasonable time, then upon the application of either party, the County Judge being satisfied by affidavit or otherwise of such disqualification, refusal or failure, 50