

Bounty Law, Payment of County Clerks for Inspection.

County clerks should be paid the sum of five cents per hide for inspecting coyote and wolf scalps, or mountain lion lower jaws accounted for by them, out of the state bounty fund in the hands of the state treasurer, after their claims have been audited and approved by the state board of examiners.

Helena, Montana, June 23, 1905.

Mr. J. C. Lyndes, County Attorney, Forsyth, Montana.

Dear Sir: I am in receipt of your favor of the 21st, asking opinion from my office upon the following question, viz: "How are county clerks to be paid the amount prescribed by law for inspecting coyote and wolf scalps?"

Accordingly I give you the following as my opinion:

Section 3072, Political Code, as amended by Chapter 49, Laws 1905, provides: "The county clerk and recorder shall receive for each scalp of mountain lion lower jaw accounted for by him, the sum of five cents each. to be paid quarterly by the treasurer out of the bounty fund." The word "treasurer" as used in the latter part of said amended section above quoted respecting the compensation of the county clerk" for each scalp

or mountain lion lower jaw accounted for means state treasurer, not county treasurer, for the reason that the bounty fund is deposited with the state treasurer. Therefore, the claims of county clerks for such services should be presented to the state board of examiners and be by them audited as a claim against the bounty fund.

Yours very truly,

ALBERT J. GALEN,
Attorney General.