

SECTION: TRANSPORTATION

SUBJECT: PUBLIC WORKS PERSONNEL POLICY

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**Personnel Policy**

The personnel policies as follows apply to the Public Works Employees of the County of Warner No. 5 and shall remain in force until such time as changed by Council in consultation with the Public Works Employees' Association.

**1. DEFINITIONS**

a. Permanent Employees

Employees who occupy permanently established positions which requires the employment of an individual for a period of twelve (12) months and who have successfully completed the probationary period.

b. Probationary Employees

Shall mean any employee who is filling a position and who has been employed by the County for a period of less than six (6) months.

c. Casual Employees

Casual Employees shall mean temporary employees filling a non-permanent position.

d. Salary Scale

Shall be set by the County of Warner Council for the various positions.

e. Anniversary Date

Anniversary date shall be the date on which an employee commenced employment with the County.

f. Management

Management shall mean the County Administrator, Agricultural Fieldman, Public Works Superintendent and the Accountant.

**2. CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT**

a. Public Works - Maintaining, Construction and Shop

i. The hours of work shall be ten (10) hours per day, Monday through Thursday,

- forty (40) hours per week.
- ii. Employees who are required to eat their lunch out on the job will be allowed a thirty (30) minute lunch period, but time shall not be included in their regular shift.
- iii. General Hours of operation will be from 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. but may vary from time to time at the discretion of Management, due to seasonal and adverse weather patterns.

### **3. CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT - OTHER**

- a. An employee reporting for work, who has not been instructed not to return to work and cannot perform his regular duties and cannot be offered alternate work and is sent home shall be paid for three (3) hours at his regular rate of pay as though he had been working. An employee refusing reasonable alternative work shall be sent home without pay.
- b. If an employee starts to work and then is sent home, shall receive not less than three (3) hours pay at his regular rate.
- c. All travelling time to and from the job shall be included in the regular hours of work from specified bases.
- d. A fifteen (15) minute break will be allowed in each half of a regular shift for all employees.

### **4. OVERTIME**

- a. Overtime will take effect on all hours worked exceeding ten (10) hours per day, all hours worked exceeding 44 hours per week.
- b. All hours worked on a statutory holiday.
- c. All overtime must be authorized by the Superintendent of Public Works.
- d. No employee shall be required to take time off in lieu of overtime unless an overtime agreement is signed.
- e. Special Conditions: Should time be lost due to weather conditions, it is agreed that such lost time can be made up on following Fridays and those hours shall not affect the number of hours paid as overtime.

### **5. EMERGENCY SITUATIONS**

Employees may be requested to work overtime in case of an emergency situation. Any overtime is to receive prior approval of Management and will be paid at one and one half (1½) times the regular hourly rate.

**6. GENERAL HOLIDAYS**

- a. The following shall be considered General Holidays:

New Year's Day	Labour Day
Good Friday	Thanksgiving Day
Victoria Day	Remembrance Day
Canada Day	Christmas Day
1st Monday in August	Boxing Day
Alberta Family Day	

and all general holidays proclaimed by the County of Warner No. 5, the Province of Alberta and the Dominion of Canada.

- b. When such General Holidays fall on a Friday, Saturday or Sunday, the following Monday and/or Tuesday shall be observed as the holiday in lieu. If the Employee does not receive the lieu day the Employee shall be entitled to an extra days pay for same.
- c. If a General Holiday or declared holiday falls on an Employee's regular working period and he works, he shall be paid at one and one half (1½) times his regular hourly rate of pay for each hour worked.
- d. If December 24 (Christmas Eve) falls on a regular working day, the afternoon of that day will be granted as a holiday.

**7. VACATIONS**

- a. Employees who have been hired for a full time position or provided full time employment, excluding minor temporary lay-off, shall receive holidays as follows:
- b. After one (1) year of employed service, the employee shall receive two (2) weeks vacation with pay. Any employee requesting holidays before the completion of the first years service shall, with prior approval of management, receive holidays on a pro-rata basis.
- c. From two (2) thru nine (9) years service, the employee shall receive three (3) weeks vacation with pay.
- d. After ten (10) years of service, the employee shall receive four (4) weeks vacation with pay.
- e. After eighteen (18) years of service, the employee shall receive five (5) weeks of vacation with pay.
- f. Vacation Pay - Part Time Employees

As far as General Holiday pay is concerned, 3.6% of regular wages, (not including overtime) will be paid and for Vacation Pay, the employee shall receive 6% of his

regular wages (not including overtime) for a grand total of 9.6% of regular wages. These monies to be paid on a monthly basis.

- g. Any holidays taken prior to the employee's anniversary date will require prior approval of Management.
- h. An employee shall not be paid cash in lieu of vacation earned with the exception of terminated employees, part time employees and members of management. (See Management definition within this policy). If an employee feels they may have an extenuating circumstance, a written request will be reviewed by the County Administrator and the affected member of Management and a decision will be made regarding the request.

Members of management may receive a payout for their vacation hour entitlements, to a maximum of only those hours that exceed their current year allocation, and the calculation and approval will be at the discretion of the County Administrator. In the case of the County Administrator, County Council will be required to make the decision.

- i. It is agreed that employees taking holidays during the winter months shall be granted one extra day for each week taken. Winter months to be between November 1<sup>st</sup> and March 31<sup>st</sup>.

## **8. PAY DAYS**

- a. Full time monthly paid employees - Pay day shall be every other Friday with the exception of December when, if required, pay day shall be the last working day prior to Christmas.

## **9. TERMINATION**

- a. Termination of employees shall be under the authority of the Superintendent of Public Works, and the County Administrator.

## **10. SICK LEAVE**

- a. Sick leave shall be granted to all permanent employees according to the County Sick Leave Policy No. 120.20.
- b. An employee may be required to provide proof of illness upon return to work and provide a doctor's certificate where reasonable doubt exists in respect to the purpose of the absence claimed due to illness.
- c. An employee may use his sick leave to attend a medical practitioner.
- d. An employee deemed to be unfit by a medical board to perform his regular work shall become eligible for Long Term Disability Coverage.
- e. Long Term Disability Coverage shall provide income benefits to employees who are

disabled in accordance with the terms and conditions of the County approved benefits contract.

## 11. OTHER ABSENCES

### a. **Bereavement Leave**

Absence shall be authorized, with full pay, by Management, for the purpose of bereavement leave. A reasonable period of time for the absence shall be at the discretion of management. Bereavement leave shall be granted for the death of the following legal relatives of the permanent staff or their spouse: spouse, child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sister, brother, aunt, uncle, niece, nephew, sister-in law, brother-in-law, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, or other relative who is a member of the permanent staff's household.

### b. **Defined Personal Leave**

Permanent staff requesting an absence from work shall receive prior authorization from Management. Time off, with full pay, shall be granted up to a maximum of twenty-four (24) hours per year. This leave is non-accumulative and cannot be carried forward to the next year. Defined personal leave can be utilized for the following reasons:

- i. Time off for the care of children, spouse, parents and spouse's parents who are ill and/or injured and unable because of age or capacity to provide for their own care.
- ii. Time off for funeral services for other individuals not listed above in 11(a). Examples include distant relatives, friends of immediate family and community members.
- iii. **Hospitalization** - additional defined leave benefit hours are allowed based on the following conditions:
  - (1) the total 24 hours referred to in 12(b) must be depleted
  - (2) the individual requiring care must be either a spouse or a dependent child. (*Dependent is defined as: a child you adopted or who is your ward, a foster child for whom you declare an income tax deduction, a single adult child under 25 enrolled in a full time accredited educational program or a single adult child over 21 who is dependent through disability.*)
  - (3) the individual must be hospitalized for a minimum of 24 hours.
  - (4) one half (½) of the hours the employee is absent from work shall be granted as additional defined leave for the extenuating leave. The other half (½) of the hours shall be recorded by the employee as time off in lieu or holidays.
  - (5) the maximum number of hours the employee is eligible for as additional defined leave in a calendar year is forty (40) hours.
  - (6) the change is retroactive to January 1, 2004.

### c. **Jury and Court Witness Duties**

Where an employee is subpoenaed for jury duty, as a crown witness in criminal matters, or as a general witness in civil matters, the employee is entitled to receive normal County pay, or court and other attendance fees as awarded, whichever is

the larger amount. Should the employee elect to receive normal County pay, any court and other attendance fees must be paid to the employer or be deducted from the normal County pay, with the exception of monies awarded for travel, meals and lodging expenses. The employee shall present proof of subpoenaed service and the amount of court and attendance pay received. The employee is ineligible for normal County pay if the employee is charged with an offense that is associated with either their summoned or subpoenaed court appearance.

- d. Absence, without pay, for a reasonable period of time, may be authorized by Management for the purpose of attending to personal business.

## **12. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

- a. The County agrees to pay towards the cost of Medical, Dental, Life and Long Term Disability benefits, Dependent Life, as well as other benefits authorized by the County Council at a rate agreed to by Council, any cost over the agreed to rate will be the responsibility of the employee.
- b. Pension Plan - Employees are required to join the Local Authorities Pension Plan as required by regulation. Payments are to be made by both the employee and employer and contributions shall be made according to the schedule provided to the County.

## **13. EMPLOYEE SALARIES**

- a. Salaries will be reviewed in a manner that is agreeable to Council and the employee groups to ensure the fair and equitable treatment of staff while ensuring the sustainability of municipal operations.
- b. Merit Increases - Employees should be recognized for above average ability and employee initiative and any merit or grid movements are at the discretion of the Superintendent of Public Works.

## **15. SPECIAL PROVISIONS**

- a. The Employer agrees to supply only personal protective equipment as required or stipulated under the Occupational Health and Safety Act.
- b. The Employer shall supply specialty tools and equipment required by employees in the performance of their duties subject to prior approval by the department head. Replacement will be made by producing the worn or broken equipment. Tools that have been signed for by an Employee and not returned by the Employee shall be deducted from the Employee's wages.
- c. Medicals - The Employer shall grant time off with pay and pay costs of a medical examination required by an Employee to perform his duties when a medical is requested.
- d. Clothing - All regular full-time Mechanics will be supplied with laundered coveralls.

- e. Coveralls and Caps - All regular full time Public Works employees will be given one pair of coveralls and one County cap per year.

**16. ADVERTISING OF POSITIONS**

- a. All supervisory positions will be posted in order that present Public Works employees are aware of the opening prior to any further advertising.