

RESOLUTION

ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Public Works Committee
INITIATED BY

Ben Coopman, Public Works Director
DRAFTED BY

Public Works Committee
SUBMITTED BY



October 24, 2011
DATE DRAFTED

AUTHORIZING OVERLAP OF POSITION FOR DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, HIGHWAY DIVISION

- 1 **WHEREAS**, the Department of Public Works, Highway Division currently has four
- 2 Patrolworker positions assigned on Interstate Highways in Rock County; and,
- 3
- 4 **WHEREAS**, one of those assigned workers is off work for medical reasons and may not
- 5 return to those duties for a long time; and,
- 6
- 7 **WHEREAS**, having a limited number of staff is causing difficulty adequately maintaining
- 8 the Interstate Highways and will create even greater difficulties with the upcoming winter
- 9 season; and,
- 10
- 11 **WHEREAS**, temporarily overlapping another Patrolworker position insures that the
- 12 temporary new hire will be adequately trained prior to the winter season; and,
- 13
- 14 **WHEREAS**, the Department has sufficient funds available for this position.
- 15
- 16 **NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Rock County Board of Supervisors
- 17 duly assembled this 17th day of November, 2011 does hereby authorize
- 18 temporarily overlapping a Patrolworker position, not to exceed six months.

11-11D-522

Respectfully submitted,

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Kurtis L. Yankee
Kurtis L. Yankee, Chair

Betty Jo Bussie
Betty Jo Bussie, Vice-Chair

Eva Arnold
Eva Arnold

David Diestler
David Diestler

Brent Fox
Brent Fox

AUTHORIZING OVERLAP OF POSITION FOR DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, HIGHWAY DIVISION

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Marilynn Jensen

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Kurtis L. Yankee
Kurtis Yankee

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to secs. 59.22(2), 59.01, and 59.51, Wis. Stats., in addition to Administrative Policy and Procedure No. 5.30.

Jeffrey S. Kuglitsch
Jeffrey S. Kuglitsch
Corporation Counsel

FISCAL NOTE:

Sufficient funds are available in the DPW-Highway's 2011 and 2012 budgets for the cost of the overlapping patrol worker position.

Jeffrey A. Smith
Jeffrey A. Smith
Finance Director

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Recommended.

Craig Knutson
Craig Knutson
County Administrator

- Executive Summary -

For the past several years, the Highway Division of the Public Works Department has been downsizing its staff through attrition. These have been done mostly in the Patrolworker position. There have also been several employees who have been injured on the job or otherwise become physically unable to work. At least two Patrolworker retirements are anticipated in January of 2012. Vacancies/absences at any one time are at least six employees.

It has been difficult at times to deploy a full complement of plow drivers in winter storms, especially on the two Interstate Highways in the County. The Wisconsin Department of Transportation also expects that service on these two roads should be provided twenty-four hours per day during these storms. Temporary shifting of work hours is regularly done to provide this service. This further reduces the available workforce for snow storms.

One of our Patrolworkers is returning from medical leave, but is restricted from doing Patrolworker duties. This is not anticipated to change for many weeks, surely throughout this winter. This resolution seeks to temporarily fill the gap in covering his duties with a new hire.