

DATE: February 27, 2008

TO: Department Heads and Elected Officials

FROM: Steve Watson

SUBJECT: Clarification of Position Types/Definitions per NRS and Washoe County Code

As departments work on methods to meet their budgets, questions arise over employment position types/definitions and their attributes, i.e. temporary, part time, intermittent and overfill appointments. The Human Resources Department has developed this reference paper to provide you with updated information concerning position types and the statutory constraints for your use in managing resources within your department.

One specific position type that has been the submission of numerous questions is in designating positions as "intermittent." Washoe County Code states that an "intermittent hourly employee means a person who is not employed on a fixed schedule and is paid at an hourly rate." Some departments are using intermittent hourly employees to staff reoccurring work needs. For example, in some cases incumbents in "intermittent" positions are actually working regular reoccurring (fixed) schedules although limited to less than 1039 hours over the course of a fiscal year. This is not the intent of the "intermittent" designation.

Further, incumbents who are rehired following retirement with PERS into an intermittent hourly position have been found working fixed schedules, rather than intermittently. This has caused PERS to question these employees' eligibility status for drawing PERS retirement. If you are hiring a PERS retiree, please refer the employee to PERS for guidance.

The attached document provides NRS and/or WCC definitions of employment categories that may be used to meet your staffing needs as well as the process for creating each type of position, position definition, and benefits attached to each category. The Budget Division works with each department to ensure that positions are created within the appropriate position categories through the budget process (for approval) to meet State Statute, County Code and each department's needs. Departments are responsible for monitoring compliance with NRS and Washoe County Code.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact HR or the Budget Division.

## **Position Types**

| Category  | Position Use  | Eligibility for<br>County Benefits  | Required Approvals  |
|---|---|---|---|
| Full Time<br>WCC 5.229                                      | The normal work week for county employees shall be 40<br>hours, except that work weeks of a different number of<br>hours may be established in order to meet the varying needs<br>of different county departments.  | PERS, health<br>insurance, sick,<br>annual, and holiday,<br>etc.              | Budget<br>Board of County<br>Commissioners (BCC)<br>JEC   |
| Part Time (21 hours<br>plus)<br>WCC 5.054                   | Part-time (21 hours plus) employee is a person who is<br>employed on a fixed schedule of less than 2080 hours,<br>but more than 1039 hours in a year.   | PERS, health<br>insurance, pro-rated<br>annual, sick, and<br>holiday, etc.    | Budget<br>BCC<br>JEC  |
| Part Time (less than<br>20 hrs)                             | Part-time (less than 20 hours) employee is a person who is<br>employed on a fixed schedule of less than 1039 hours in a<br>year.  | OBRA, no health<br>insurance, pro-rated<br>annual, sick, and<br>holiday, etc. | Budget<br>BCC<br>JEC  |
| Temporary and<br>Seasonal WCC<br>5.211 and NRS<br>245.216   | When services to be performed are required for a<br>limited term of not to exceed six (6) months, the<br>appointing authority shall indicate the probable duration<br>of employment on the request for certification.   | Non-benefits eligible   | Budget  |
| Intermittent Hourly<br>WCC 5.0475                           | Intermittent hourly employee means a person who is <u>not</u><br>employed on a fixed schedule and does not exceed 1039<br>hours in a fiscal year. Paid at an hourly rate.   | Non-benefits eligible   | Budget<br>BCC<br>JEC  |
| Funded Positions with<br>a duration longer than<br>6 months | Positions funded with "stop dates" which extend for more<br>than six (6) months but of limited duration are considered<br>regular (Full time/Part time) positions.  | See Full Time and/or<br>Part Time above                                       | Budget<br>BCC<br>JEC  |
| Overfill<br>Appointments<br>WCC 5.210                       | A new employee may overlap with an incumbent for up to six<br>weeks. The new employee moves into the permanently<br>established position upon expiration of the period of time of<br>the overfill appointment or sooner if the resigning employee<br>vacates the position. An overfill appointment does not<br>increase the number of continuing position FTEs. | PERS, health<br>insurance, sick,<br>annual and holiday,<br>etc.               | Budget<br>County Manager and/or<br>Assistant County Manager<br>(approval forwarded to<br>Human Resources) |