CHAPTER 217, Laws of 1981

AN ACT to amend 27.03 (2), 46.21 (2) (c), 59.07 (48), 63.02 (2) and 83.01 (1); and to create 59.031 (2) (bm) of the statutes, relating to unclassified appointments by the county executive in populous counties.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 27.03 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

27.03 (2) It may also appoint such other agents and employes as may be necessary to carry out its functions, and may remove them at pleasure, and make all rules and regulations concerning its work. In counties having a population of 500,000 or more a general manager of the park system shall be appointed by the county executive in the unclassified civil service for a term of 4 years or less to be concurrent with the term of the county executive and is subject to confirmation by the county board. An incumbent shall hold office until a new appointment is made by the county executive and confirmed by the county board, as provided in s. 59.031 (2) (bm). The person holding the position of general manager of the park system, under the classified civil service, on June 16, 1974, shall continue in that capacity under civil service status until his death, resignation or removal from the position at which time the title of the position shall be changed to "director of parks, recreation and culture".

SECTION 2. 46.21 (2) (c) of the statutes is amended to read:

46.21 (2) (c) The board shall appoint a director of institutions and departments pursuant to ss. 63.01 to 63.17. Such appointment shall be made on the basis of recognized and demonstrated public interest in and knowledge of the problems of public welfare, and with due regard to training, experience, executive and administrative ability and efficiency, and general qualifications and fitness for performing the duties of the office. Such director shall file an official oath and bond in such sum as shall be fixed by the county board of supervisors. Upon request of the board of public welfare, the county board of supervisors may create one or 2 positions of deputy director of institutions and departments. The person holding the position of director of institutions and departments, under the classified service, on June 16, 1974, shall continue in that capacity under civil service status until his death, resignation or removal from the position. Thereafter such director shall be appointed by the county executive in the unclassified civil service for a term of 4 years or less to be concurrent with the term of the county executive and is subject to confirmation by the county board. An incumbent may be fired at the will of the county executive and shall hold office until a new appointment is made by the county executive and confirmed by the county board, as provided in s. 59.031 (2) (bm).

SECTION 3. 59.031 (2) (bm) of the statutes is created to read:

59.031 (2) (bm) 1. Appoint the following persons:
   a. The director of parks, recreation and culture under s. 27.03 (1).
   b. The director of institutions and departments under s. 46.21 (2) (c).
   c. The director of the county department of administration under s. 59.07 (48).
   d. The director of personnel of the county civil service commission under s. 63.02 (2).
   e. The director of transportation under s. 83.01 (1).
2. Each appointment under subd. 1 is subject to the confirmation of the county board and is in the unclassified service, serving at the pleasure of the county executive and holding office until a new appointment is made by the county executive and confirmed by the county board. No prior appointee may serve longer than 6 months after the term for which he or she was appointed and confirmed expires, unless reappointed and reconfirmed. The term of each appointment is 4 years or less, concurrent with the term of the county executive.

SECTION 4. 59.07 (48) of the statutes is amended to read:

59.07 (48) DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION; POPULOUS COUNTIES. In counties having a population of 500,000 or more, create a department of administration, provide for the appointment by the county executive of a director of such department and assign such administrative functions to the department as it deems appropriate, subject to the limitations of this subsection. No such function shall be assigned to the department where the performance of the same by some other county office, department or commission is required by any provision of the constitution or statutes of this state, except that administrative functions under the jurisdiction of the county civil service commission or the county auditor may be so assigned notwithstanding sub. (20) and ss. 59.72, 59.84 and 63.01 to 63.17. The person holding the position of director of the department of administration, under the classified service, on June 16, 1974, shall continue in that capacity under civil service status until his death, resignation or removal from the position. Thereafter such director shall be appointed by the county executive in the unclassified civil service for a term of 4 years or less to be concurrent with the term of the county executive and is subject to confirmation by the county board. An incumbent shall hold office until a new appointment is made by the county executive and confirmed by the county board, as provided in s. 59.031 (2) (bm).

SECTION 5. 63.02 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

63.02 (2) Every commission may appoint a chief examiner who shall superintend any examinations held in the county under ss. 63.01 to 63.16 and perform such other duties as the commission may prescribe. The chief examiner shall be secretary of the commission, and, as such, shall cause the minutes of its proceedings to be taken in shorthand and fully transcribed. The original transcribed copy shall be the official minutes of such proceedings and shall be open and available for public inspection. The secretary shall preserve all reports made to the commission, keep a record of all examinations held under its direction and perform such other duties as the commission may from time to time prescribe. The salary of the chief examiner, unless a greater amount is set by the board of supervisors, shall not exceed $1,500. The commission may also appoint such clerical or other assistants as it may deem necessary and fix their salaries. All such appointments shall be made subject to ss. 63.01 to 63.16. The person holding the position of chief examiner, under the classified service, on June 16, 1974, shall continue in that capacity under civil service status until his or her death, resignation or removal from the position. Thereafter a director of personnel shall be appointed by the county executive in the unclassified civil service for a term of 4 years or less to be concurrent with the term of the county executive and is subject to confirmation by the county board. An incumbent shall hold office until a new appointment is made by the county executive and confirmed by the county board, as provided in s. 59.031 (2) (bm).

SECTION 6. 83.01 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

83.01 (1) ELECTION. The county board shall elect a county highway commissioner, but in lieu thereof may by resolution request the secretary of transportation to appoint a county highway commissioner. If the county board fails to elect a county highway commissioner or to make such request to the secretary of transportation, the county shall not participate in state allotments for highways. In counties having a population of 500,000 or more the county highway commissioner shall also be the director of public works. The
person holding the position of county highway commissioner and director of public works, under the classified service, on June 16, 1974, shall continue in that capacity under civil service status until death, resignation or removal from such position. Thereafter the county executive shall appoint as successor a director of transportation who shall assume the duties of county highway commissioner and director of public works. Such appointee shall serve for a term of 4 years or less to be concurrent with the term of the county executive and is subject to confirmation by the county board. An incumbent shall hold office until a new appointment is made by the county executive and confirmed by the county board, as provided in s. 59.031 (2) (bm).