

TITLE 4

MUNICIPAL PERSONNEL

CHAPTER

1. SOCIAL SECURITY--CITY PERSONNEL.
2. VACATION, HOLIDAYS, AND SICK LEAVE.
3. MISCELLANEOUS REGULATIONS--CITY PERSONNEL.
4. INFECTIOUS DISEASE CONTROL POLICY.
5. CODE OF ETHICS.

CHAPTER 1

SOCIAL SECURITY--CITY PERSONNEL

SECTION

- 4-101. Policy and purpose as to coverage.
- 4-102. Necessary agreements to be executed.
- 4-103. Withholdings from salaries or wages.
- 4-104. Appropriations for employer's contributions.
- 4-105. Records to be kept and reports made.
- 4-106. Exclusions.
- 4-107. Exclusion of election workers and election officials.

4-101. Policy and purpose as to coverage. It is hereby declared to be the policy and purpose of the City of Red Boiling Springs, to provide for all eligible employees and officials of the city, whether employed in connection with a governmental or proprietary function, the benefits of the system of federal old age and survivors insurance. In pursuance of said policy, and for that purpose, the city shall take such action as may be required by applicable state and federal laws or regulations. (1980 Code, § 1-701)

4-102. Necessary agreements to be executed. The mayor is hereby authorized and directed to execute all the necessary agreements and amendments thereto with the state executive director of old age insurance, as agent or agency, to secure coverage of employees and officials as provided in the preceding section. (1980 Code, § 1-702)

4-103. Withholdings from salaries or wages. Withholdings from the salaries or wages of employees and officials for the purpose provided in the first section of this chapter are hereby authorized to be made in the amounts and at such times as may be required by applicable state or federal laws or regulations,

and shall be paid over to the state or federal agency designated by said laws or regulations. (1980 Code, § 1-703)

4-104. Appropriations for employer's contributions. There shall be appropriated from available funds such amounts at such times as may be required by applicable state or federal laws or regulations for employer's contributions, and the same shall be paid over to the state or federal agency designated by said laws or regulations. (1980 Code, § 1-704)

4-105. Records to be kept and reports made. The city clerk shall keep such records and make such reports as may be required by applicable state and federal laws or regulations. (1980 Code, § 1-705)

4-106. Exclusions. There is hereby excluded from this chapter any authority to make any agreement with respect to any position or any employee or official now covered or authorized to be covered by any other ordinance creating any retirement system for any employee or official of the city. (1980 Code, § 1-706)

4-107. Exclusion of election workers and election officials. The City of Red Boiling Springs elects to exclude from its coverage group under the Federal System of Old Age, Survivors, Disability, Health Insurance, services performed by election workers and election officials if the remuneration paid for such services in a calendar year is less than \$1,000 for services performed on or after January 1, 1995 ending on or before December 31, 1999, and the adjusted amount determined under Section 218(c)(8)(B) of the Social Security Act for any calendar year commencing on or after January 1, 2000, with respect to services performed during any such calendar year; the exclusion to be effective in and after the calendar year a state's modification is mailed, or delivered by other means, to the appropriate federal official. The mayor is hereby authorized and directed to execute an amendment to the city's agreement with the Old Age and Survivors Insurance Agency of the State of Tennessee in order to effect such exclusion. (Ord. #214, Jan. 1995)

CHAPTER 2

VACATION, HOLIDAYS, AND SICK LEAVE

SECTION

4-201. Vacation leave.

4-202. Holidays.

4-203. Sick leave.

4-204. Bereavement.

4-201. Vacation leave. All full-time employees who have worked for the city for at least one year shall be given five days of vacation leave with pay. Such vacation leave shall be taken at a time approved by the mayor or such other officer as he may designate. (1980 Code, § 1-808)

4-202. Holidays. All full-time employees shall be given a day off with pay, on the following holidays:

New Years Day;

Martin Luther King Jr. Day/Presidents Day;

Memorial Day;

Independence Day;

Labor Day;

Veteran's Day;

Thanksgiving Day and the day after Thanksgiving Day;

Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.

Provided however, the employees must work at least four (4) hours on the work day before and the work day after the holiday, unless otherwise excused by his supervisor.

When a legal holiday falls on a Saturday, the offices will be closed the preceding Friday. When the holiday falls on a Sunday, the following Monday shall be observed. (1980 Code, § 1-809, as amended by Ord. #00-2, Feb. 2000, Ord. #03-7, Sept. 2003, and Ord. #08-9, Dec. 2008)

4-203. Sick leave. All full time employees shall be given one day of sick leave with pay for each month of work for the city. In the event the employee has not taken all of his or her accumulated sick leave days by the end of each calendar year, the employee shall be paid at the rate of his or her regular daily wage for each day of accumulated sick leave not used.

Five (5) accumulated days of sick leave may be carried over to the following year. Employees may not borrow against future sick leave but shall be allowed the transfer of earned sick leave to another employee when an employee's special need arises. Such transfers must be approved, in each case, by the Red Boiling Springs City Council. An employee, upon exhausting all earned sick leave, may use earned annual leave or take a leave without pay. (1980 Code, § 1-812, as amended by Ord. #07-2, April 2007)

4-204. Bereavement. All full-time employees shall be given time off when there is a death in the immediate family of said employee. When the death occurs on a weekend two (2) days off shall be allowed. If the death occurs through the week three (3) days off shall be allowed. Immediate family includes spouse, parents, children, grandchildren, brothers, sisters, grandparents, uncles, and aunts. (as added by Ord. #06-10, Jan., 2007)

CHAPTER 3

MISCELLANEOUS REGULATIONS--CITY PERSONNEL¹

SECTION

- 4-301. Business dealings.
- 4-302. Outside employment.
- 4-303. Use of municipal time, facilities, etc.
- 4-304. Use of position.
- 4-305. Strikes and unions.
- 4-306. Equal employment opportunity.
- 4-307. Salary.
- 4-308. Overtime.
- 4-309. Employment applications.
- 4-310. Separations and disciplinary actions.

4-301. Business dealings. Except for the receipt of such compensation as may be lawfully provided for the performance of his municipal duties, it shall be unlawful for any municipal officer or employee to be privately interested in, or to profit, directly or indirectly, from business dealings with the city. (1980 Code, § 1-801)

4-302. Outside employment. No full-time officer or employee of the city shall accept any outside employment without written authorization from the mayor. The mayor shall not grant such authorization if the work is likely to interfere with the satisfactory performance of the officer's or employee's duties, or is incompatible with his municipal employment, or is likely to cast discredit upon or create embarrassment for the city. (1980 Code, § 1-802)

4-303. Use of municipal time, facilities, etc. No municipal officer or employee shall use or authorize the use of municipal time, facilities, equipment, or supplies for private gain or advantage to himself or any other private person or group. Provided, however, that this prohibition shall not apply where the city council has authorized the use of such time, facilities, equipment, or supplies, and the city is paid at such rates as are normally charged by private sources for comparable services. (1980 Code, § 1-803)

4-304. Use of position. No municipal officer or employee shall make or attempt to make private purchases, for cash or otherwise, in the name of the city, nor shall he otherwise use or attempt to use his position to secure

¹Charter reference

Political activity by employees: § 3.10.

unwarranted privileges or exemptions for himself or others. (1980 Code, § 1-804)

4-305. Strikes and unions. No municipal officer or employee shall participate in any strike against the city, nor shall he join, be a member of, or solicit any other municipal officer or employee to join any labor union which authorizes the use of strikes by government employees. (1980 Code, § 1-805)

4-306. Equal employment opportunity. No person shall be employed, promoted, demoted, or discharged, or in any way favored or discriminated against because of race, color, creed, national origin, sex, ancestry, age, religious belief, or handicapped status. (1980 Code, § 1-806)

4-307. Salary. The salary of the city clerk, the chief of police, and all department heads shall be fixed by motion. The beginning salary of all other employees shall be fixed at the minimum hourly wage provided by federal law unless otherwise provided by the city council. All employees who begin working at the minimum wage shall automatically receive a raise of fifteen cents (\$.15) per hour after working for one month, and an additional raise of twenty-five cents (\$.25) per hour after working for six consecutive months. Any additional raises will be fixed by the city council by motion. (1980 Code, § 1-807)

4-308. Overtime. Employees shall be paid one and one-half times their regular hourly wages for all overtime hours except for department heads. No employee, except department heads, shall work more than forty hours per week unless approved by his or her supervisor, or in case of an emergency. (1980 Code, § 1-810)

4-309. Employment applications. All persons seeking appointment or employment by the city shall complete and sign a standard application form as provided by the city giving at least the following information about the applicant: full name, address, social security number, driver's license number, date of birth, education, employment history for the previous five years, any experience or special training for the position sought and whether he or she has ever been convicted of any criminal offense and if so, the full details thereof. The complete application shall become the property of the city and shall be made a permanent record kept by the city. (1980 Code, § 1-811)

4-310. Separations and disciplinary actions. The following items (1) through (10) shall not be applicable to the police department personnel, the procedures set forth in the police Rules and Procedures Manual of the Police Department shall govern police personnel.

(1) **Types of separations.** All separations of employees from positions with the city government shall be designated as one (1) of the following types

and shall be accomplished in the manner indicated: resignations, lay-offs, disability, death, retirement, and dismissal. At the time of separation and prior to final payment, all records, assets, and other items of city property in the employee's custody must be transferred to the department. Any amount due because of shortages shall be withheld from the employee's final compensation.

(2) Resignation. In the event an employee decides to leave the city government's employ, a two (2) week written notice shall be given to his/her supervisor so that arrangements for a replacement can be made. In such a case employees will be expected to return any/or all city government equipment assigned. An unauthorized absence from work a period of three (3) consecutive working days may be considered by the department head as a resignation.

If a former employee returns to city government employment, their status of seniority, pay, leave, etc. will be the same as any new employee beginning work for the first time.

(3) Lay-off. The mayor, upon approval from the city council may lay off an employee in the city government service when he/she deems it necessary by reason of shortage of funds, the abolition of a position, or other material changes in the duties or organization of the employee's position, or for related reasons that are outside the employer's control and that do not reflect discredit upon the service of the employee.

The duties performed by an employee laid-off may be assigned to other employees already working who hold positions in the appropriate class. Temporary employees shall be laid-off prior to the lay-off of probationary or regular employees. The order of lay-off shall be in reverse order to total continuous time served upon the date established for the lay-off to become effective.

(4) Disability. An employee may be separated for disability when he/she cannot perform required duties because of physical or mental impairment. Action may be initiated by the employee or the city, but in all cases it must be supported by medical evidence acceptable to the city council. The city government may require an examination at its expense and performed by a licensed physician of its choice.

(5) Retirement. Whenever an employee meets the conditions set forth in the retirement system's regulations, he/she may elect to retire and receive all benefits earned under the appropriate retirement system.

(6) Death. Separation shall be effective as of the date of death of an employee. All compensation due in accordance with these rules shall be paid to the estate of the employee, except for such sums as by law must be paid to the surviving spouse.

(7) Disciplinary action. Whenever an employee's performance, attitude, work habits or personal conduct fall below a desirable level, supervisors shall inform employees promptly and specifically of such lapses and shall give them counsel and assistance. If appropriate reasonable period of time for improvement may be allowed disciplinary action. In some instances, a

specific incident in and of itself may justify severe initial disciplinary action; however, the action depends on the seriousness of the incident and the whole pattern of the employee's past performance and conduct. The types of disciplinary actions are:

- (a) Oral reprimand;
- (b) Written reprimand;
- (c) Suspension;
- (d) Dismissal.

(8) Oral reprimand. Whenever an employee's performance, attitude, work habits, or personal conduct fall below a desirable level, the supervisor shall inform the employee promptly and specifically of such lapses and shall give him/her counsel and assistance. If appropriate and justified, a reasonable period of time for improvement may be allowed before initiating disciplinary actions.

(9) Written reprimand. In situations where an oral warning has not resulted in the expected improvement, or when more severe initial action is warranted, a written reprimand may be sent to the employee, and a copy shall be placed in the employee's personnel folder.

(10) Suspension. An employee may be suspended with or without pay by the mayor.

(11) Dismissal. The city council may dismiss an employee for just cause. Reasons for dismissal may include, but shall not be limited to: misconduct, negligence, incompetence, insubordination, unauthorized absences, falsification of records, violation of any of the provisions of the charter, ordinances, or these rules.

If the employee request a hearing on the proposed action, the mayor shall promptly set a date and time for the hearing before the council. The decision of the board of mayor and council shall be final. (as added by Ord. #10-3, June 2010)

CHAPTER 4

INFECTIOUS DISEASE CONTROL POLICY

SECTION

- 4-401. Purpose.
- 4-402. Coverage.
- 4-403. Administration.
- 4-404. Definitions.
- 4-405. Policy statement.
- 4-406. General guidelines.
- 4-407. Hepatitis B vaccinations.
- 4-408. Reporting potential exposure.
- 4-409. Hepatitis B virus post-exposure management.
- 4-410. Human immunodeficiency virus post-exposure management.
- 4-411. Disability benefits.
- 4-412. Training regular employees.
- 4-413. Training high risk employees.
- 4-414. Training new employees.
- 4-415. Records and reports.
- 4-416. Legal rights of victims of communicable diseases.

4-401. Purpose. It is the responsibility of the City of Red Boiling Springs to provide employees a place of employment which is free from recognized hazards that may cause death or serious physical harm. In providing services to the citizens of the City of Red Boiling Springs, employees may come in contact with life-threatening infectious diseases which can be transmitted through job related activities. It is important that both citizens and employees are protected from the transmission of diseases just as it is equally important that neither is discriminated against because of basic misconceptions about various diseases and illnesses.

The purpose of this policy is to establish a comprehensive set of rules and regulations governing the prevention of discrimination and potential occupational exposure to Hepatitis B Virus (HBV), the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), and Tuberculosis (TB).

4-402. Coverage. Occupational exposures may occur in many ways, including needle sticks, cut injuries or blood spills. Several classes of employees are assumed to be at high risk for blood borne infections due to their routinely increased exposure to body fluids from potentially infected individuals. Those high risk occupations include but are not limited to:

- (1) Paramedics and emergency medical technicians;
- (2) Occupational nurses;
- (3) Housekeeping and laundry workers;

- (4) Police and security personnel;
- (5) Firefighters;
- (6) Sanitation and landfill workers; and
- (7) Any other employee deemed to be at high risk per this policy and an exposure determination.

4-403. Administration. This infection control policy shall be administered by the mayor or his/her designated representative who shall have the following duties and responsibilities:

- (1) Exercise leadership in implementation and maintenance of an effective infection control policy subject to the provisions of this chapter, other ordinances, the city charter, and federal and state law relating to OSHA regulations;
- (2) Make an exposure determination for all employee positions to determine a possible exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials;
- (3) Maintain records of all employees and incidents subject to the provisions of this chapter;
- (4) Conduct periodic inspections to determine compliance with the infection control policy by municipal employees;
- (5) Coordinate and document all relevant training activities in support of the infection control policy;
- (6) Prepare and recommend to the city council any amendments or changes to the infection control policy;
- (7) Identify any and all housekeeping operations involving substantial risk of direct exposure to potentially infectious materials and shall address the proper precautions to be taken while cleaning rooms and blood spills; and
- (8) Perform such other duties and exercise such other authority as may be prescribed by the city council.

4-404. Definitions. (1) "Body fluids" - fluids that have been recognized by the Center for Disease Control as directly linked to the transmission of HIV and/or HBV and/or to which universal precautions apply: blood, semen, blood products, vaginal secretions, cerebrospinal fluid, synovial fluid, pericardial fluid, amniotic fluid, and concentrated HIV or HBV viruses.

(2) "Exposure" - the contact with blood or other potentially infectious materials to which universal precautions apply through contact with open wounds, non-intact skin, or mucous membranes during the performance of an individual's normal job duties.

(3) "Hepatitis B Virus (HBV)" - a serious blood-borne virus with potential for life-threatening complications. Possible complications include: massive hepatic necrosis, cirrhosis of the liver, chronic active hepatitis, and hepatocellular carcinoma.

(4) "Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV)" - the virus that causes acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS). HIV is transmitted through

sexual contact and exposure to infected blood or blood components and perinatally from mother to neonate.

(5) "Tuberculosis (TB)" - an acute or chronic communicable disease that usually affects the respiratory system, but may involve any system in the body.

(6) "Universal precautions" - refers to a system of infectious disease control which assumes that every direct contact with body fluid is infectious and requires every employee exposed to direct contact with potentially infectious materials to be protected as though such body fluid were HBV or HIV infected.

4-405. Policy statement. All blood and other potentially infectious materials are infectious for several blood-borne pathogens. Some body fluids can also transmit infections. For this reason, the Center for Disease Control developed the strategy that everyone should always take particular care when there is a potential exposure. These precautions have been termed "universal precautions."

Universal precautions stress that all persons should be assumed to be infectious for HIV and/or other blood-borne pathogens. Universal precautions apply to blood, tissues, and other potentially infectious materials. Universal precautions also apply to semen, (although occupational risk or exposure is quite limited), vaginal secretions, and to cerebrospinal, synovial, pleural, peritoneal, pericardial and amniotic fluids. Universal precautions do not apply to feces, nasal secretions, human breast milk, sputum, saliva, sweat, tears, urine, and vomitus unless these substances contain visible blood.

4-406. General guidelines. General guidelines which shall be used by everyone include:

(1) Think when responding to emergency calls and exercise common sense when there is potential exposure to blood or other potentially infectious materials which require universal precautions.

(2) Keep all open cuts and abrasions covered with adhesive bandages which repel liquids.

(3) Soap and water kill many bacteria and viruses on contact. If hands are contaminated with blood or other potentially infectious materials to which universal precautions apply, then wash immediately and thoroughly. Hands shall also be washed after gloves are removed even if the gloves appear to be intact. When soap and water or handwashing facilities are not available, then use a waterless antiseptic hand cleaner according to the manufacturers recommendation for the product.

(4) All workers shall take precautions to prevent injuries caused by needles, scalpel blades, and other sharp instruments. To prevent needle stick injuries, needles shall not be recapped, purposely bent or broken by hand, removed from disposable syringes, or otherwise manipulated by hand. After they are used, disposable syringes and needles, scalpel blades and other sharp

items shall be placed in puncture resistant containers for disposal. The puncture resistant container shall be located as close as practical to the use area.

(5) The city will provide gloves of appropriate material, quality and size for each affected employee. The gloves are to be worn when there is contact (or when there is a potential contact) with blood or other potentially infectious materials to which universal precautions apply:

(a) While handling an individual where exposure is possible;

(b) While cleaning or handling contaminated items or equipment;

(c) While cleaning up an area that has been contaminated with one of the above;

Gloves shall not be used if they are peeling, cracked, or discolored, or if they have punctures, tears, or other evidence of deterioration. Employees shall not wash or disinfect surgical or examination gloves for reuse.

(6) Resuscitation equipment shall be used when necessary. (No transmission of HBV or HIV infection during mouth-to-mouth resuscitation has been documented.) However, because of the risk of salivary transmission of other infectious diseases and the theoretical risk of HIV or HBV transmission during artificial resuscitation, bags shall be used. Pocket mouth-to-mouth resuscitation masks designed to isolate emergency response personnel from contact with a victims' blood and blood contaminated saliva, respiratory secretion, and vomitus, are available to all personnel to provide or potentially provide emergency treatment.

(7) Masks or protective eyewear or face shields shall be worn during procedures that are likely to generate droplets of blood or other potentially infectious materials to prevent exposure to mucous membranes of the mouth, nose, and eyes. They are not required for routine care.

(8) Gowns, aprons, or lab coats shall be worn during procedures that are likely to generate splashes of blood or other potentially infectious materials.

(9) Areas and equipment contaminated with blood shall be cleaned as soon as possible. A household (chlorine) bleach solution (1 part chlorine to 10 parts water) shall be applied to the contaminated surface as a disinfectant leaving it on for a least 30 seconds. A solution must be changed and re-mixed every 24 hours to be effective.

(10) Contaminated clothing (or other articles) shall be handled carefully and washed as soon as possible. Laundry and dish washing cycles at 120° are adequate for decontamination.

(11) Place all disposable equipment (gloves, masks, gowns, etc...) in a clearly marked plastic bag. Place the bag in a second clearly marked bag (double bag). Seal and dispose of by placing in a designated "hazardous" dumpster. NOTE: Sharp objects must be placed in an impervious container and shall be properly disposed of.

(12) Tags shall be used as a means of preventing accidental injury or illness to employees who are exposed to hazardous or potentially hazardous conditions, equipment or operations which are out of the ordinary, unexpected or not readily apparent. Tags shall be used until such time as the identified hazard is eliminated or the hazardous operation is completed.

All required tags shall meet the following criteria:

(a) Tags shall contain a signal word and a major message. The signal word shall be "BIOHAZARD", or the biological hazard symbol. The major message shall indicate the specific hazardous condition or the instruction to be communicated to employees.

(b) The signal word shall be readable at a minimum distance of five (5) feet or such greater distance as warranted by the hazard.

(c) All employees shall be informed of the meaning of the various tags used throughout the workplace and what special precautions are necessary.

(13) Linen soiled with blood or other potentially infectious materials shall be handled as little as possible and with minimum agitation to prevent contamination of the person handling the linen. All soiled linen shall be bagged at the location where it was used. It shall not be sorted or rinsed in the area. Soiled linen shall be placed and transported in bags that prevent leakage.

The employee responsible for transported soiled linen should always wear protective gloves to prevent possible contamination. After removing the gloves, hands or other skin surfaces shall be washed thoroughly and immediately after contact with potentially infectious materials.

(14) Whenever possible, disposable equipment shall be used to minimize and contain clean-up.

4-407. Hepatitis B vaccinations. The City of Red Boiling Springs shall offer the appropriate Hepatitis B vaccination to employees at risk of exposure free of charge and in amounts and at times prescribed by standard medical practices. The vaccination shall be voluntarily administered. High risk employees who wish to take the HBV vaccination should notify their department head who shall make the appropriate arrangements through the Infectious Disease Control Coordinator.

4-408. Reporting potential exposure. City employees shall observe the following procedures for reporting a job exposure incident that may put them at risk for HIV or HBV infections (i.e., needle sticks, blood contact on broken skin, body fluid contact with eyes or mouth, etc...):

(1) Notify the Infectious Disease Control Coordinator of the contact incident and details thereof.

(2) Complete the appropriate accident reports and any other specific form required.

(3) Arrangements will be made for the person to be seen by a physician as with any job-related injury.

Once an exposure has occurred, a blood sample should be drawn after consent is obtained from the individual from whom exposure occurred and tested for Hepatitis B surface antigen (HBsAg) and/or antibody to human immunodeficiency virus (HIV antibody). Testing of the source individual should be done at a location where appropriate pretest counseling is available. Post-test counseling and referral for treatment should also be provided.

4-409. Hepatitis B virus post-exposure management. For an exposure to a source individual found to be positive for HBsAg, the worker who has not previously been given the hepatitis B vaccine should receive the vaccine series. A single dose of hepatitis B immune globulin (HBIG) is also recommended, if it can be given within seven (7) days of exposure.

For exposure from an HBsAg-positive source to workers who have previously received the vaccine, the exposed worker should be tested for antibodies to hepatitis B surface antigen (anti-HBs), and given one dose of vaccine and one dose of HBIG if the antibody level in the worker's blood sample is inadequate (ie., 10 SRU by RIA, negative by EIA).

If the source individual is negative for HBsAg and the worker has not been vaccinated, this opportunity should be taken to provide the hepatitis B vaccine series. HBIG administration should be considered on an individual basis when the source individual is known or suspected to be at high risk of HBV infection. Management and treatment, if any, of previously vaccinated workers who receive an exposure from a source who refuses testing or is not identifiable should be individualized.

4-410. Human immunodeficiency virus post-exposure management. For any exposure to a source individual who has AIDS, who is found to be positive for HIV infection, or who refuses testing, the worker should be counseled regarding the risk of infection and evaluated clinically and serologically for evidence of HIV infection as soon as possible after the exposure. The worker should be advised to report and seek medical evaluation for any acute febrile illness that occurs within 12 weeks after the exposure. Such an illness, particularly one characterized by fever, rash, or lymphadenopathy, may be indicative of recent HIV infection.

Following the initial test at the time of exposure, seronegative workers should be retested 6 weeks, 12 weeks, and 6 months after exposure to determine whether transmission has occurred. During this follow-up period (especially the first 6 - 12 weeks after exposure) exposed workers should follow the U.S. Public Health service recommendation for preventing transmission of HIV. These include refraining from blood donations and using appropriate protection during sexual intercourse. During all phases of follow-up, it is vital that worker confidentiality be protected.

If the source individual was tested and found to be seronegative, baseline testing of the exposed worker with follow-up testing 12 weeks later may be performed if desired by the worker or recommended by the health care provider. If the source individual cannot be identified, decisions regarding appropriate follow-up should be individualized. Serologic testing should be made available by the city to all workers who may be concerned they have been infected with HIV through an occupational exposure.

4-411. Disability benefits. Entitlement to disability benefits and any other benefits available for employees who suffer from on-the-job injuries will be determined by the Tennessee Worker's Compensations Bureau in accordance with the provisions of T.C.A. 50-6-303.

4-412. Training regular employees. On an annual basis all employees shall receive training and education on precautionary measures, epidemiology, modes of transmission and prevention of HIV/HBV infection and procedures to be used if they are exposed to needle sticks or potentially infectious materials. They shall also be counseled regarding possible risks to the fetus from HIV/HBV and other associated infectious agents.

4-413. Training high risk employees. In addition to the above, high risk employees shall also receive training regarding the location and proper use of personal protective equipment. They shall be trained concerning proper work practices and understand the concept of "universal precautions" as it applies to their work situation. They shall also be trained about the meaning of color coding and other methods used to designate contaminated material. Where tags are used, training shall cover precautions to be used in handling contaminated material as per this policy.

4-414. Training new employees. During the new employee's orientation to his/her job, all new employee will be trained on the effects of infectious disease prior to putting them to work.

4-415. Records and reports. (1) Reports. Occupational injury and illness records shall be maintained by the infectious disease control coordinator. Statistics shall be maintained on the OSHA-200 report. Only those work-related injuries that involve loss of consciousness, transfer to another job, restriction of work or motion, or medical treatment are required to be put on the OSHA-200.

(2) Needle sticks. Needle sticks, like any other puncture wound, are considered injuries for recordkeeping purposes due to the instantaneous nature of the event. Therefore, any needle stick requiring medical treatment (i.e. gamma globulin, hepatitis B immune globulin, hepatitis B vaccine, etc...) shall be recorded.

(3) Prescription medication. Likewise, the use of prescription medication (beyond a single dose for minor injury or discomfort) is considered medical treatment. Since these types of treatment are considered necessary, and must be administered by physician or licensed medical personnel, such injuries cannot be considered minor and must be reported.

(4) Employee interviews. Should the city be inspected by the U.S. Department of Labor Office of Health Compliance, the compliance safety and health officer may wish to interview employees. Employees are expected to cooperate fully with the compliance officers.

4-416. Legal rights of victims of communicable diseases. Victims of communicable diseases have the legal right to expect, and municipal employees, including police and emergency service officers are duty bound to provide, the same level of service and enforcement as any other individual would receive.

(1) Officers assume that a certain degree of risk exists in law enforcement and emergency service work and accept those risks with their individual appointments. This holds true with any potential risks of contacting a communicable disease as surely as it does with the risks of confronting an armed criminal.

(2) Any officer who refuses to take proper action in regard to victims of a communicable disease, when appropriate protective equipment is available, shall be subject to disciplinary measures along with civil and, or criminal prosecution.

(3) Whenever an officer mentions in a report that an individual has or may have a communicable disease, he shall write "contains confidential medical information" across the top margin of the first page of the report.

(4) The officer's supervisor shall ensure that the above statement is on all reports requiring that statement at the time the report is reviewed and initiated by the supervisor.

(5) The supervisor disseminating newspaper releases shall make certain the confidential information is not given out to the news media.

(6) All requests (including subpoenas) for copies of reports marked "contains confidential medical information" shall be referred to the city attorney when the incident involves an indictable or juvenile offense.

(7) Prior approval shall be obtained from the city attorney before advising a victim of sexual assault that the suspect has, or is suspected of having a communicable disease.

(8) All circumstance, not covered in this policy, that may arise concerning releasing confidential information regarding a victim, or suspected victim, of a communicable disease shall be referred directly to the appropriate department head or city attorney.

(9) Victims of a communicable disease and their families have a right to conduct their lives without fear of discrimination. An employee shall not

make public, directly or indirectly, the identity of a victim or suspected victim of a communicable disease.

(10) Whenever an employee finds it necessary to notify another employee, police officer, firefighter, emergency service officer, or health care provider that a victim has or is suspected of having a communicable disease, that information shall be conveyed in a dignified, discrete and confidential manner. The person to whom the information is being conveyed should be reminded that the information is confidential and that it should not be treated as public information.

(11) Any employee who disseminates confidential information in regard to a victim, or suspected victim of a communicable disease in violation of this policy shall be subject to serious disciplinary action and/or civil/and/or criminal prosecution.

CHAPTER 5

CODE OF ETHICS¹

SECTION

- 4-501. Applicability.
- 4-502. Definition of "personal interest."
- 4-503. Disclosure of personal interest by official with vote.
- 4-504. Disclosure of personal interest in non-voting matters.
- 4-505. Acceptance of gratuities, etc.
- 4-506. Use of information.
- 4-507. Use of municipal time, facilities, etc.
- 4-508. Use of position or authority.
- 4-509. Outside employment.
- 4-510. Ethics complaints.
- 4-511. Violations.

¹State statutes dictate many of the ethics provisions that apply to municipal officials and employees. For provisions relative to the following, see the Tennessee Code Annotated (T.C.A.) sections indicated:

Campaign finance: Tennessee Code Annotated, title 2, ch. 10.

Conflict of interests: Tennessee Code Annotated, §§ 6-54-107, 108; 12-4-101, 102.

Conflict of interests disclosure statements: Tennessee Code Annotated, § 8-50-501 and the following sections.

Consulting fee prohibition for elected municipal officials: Tennessee Code Annotated, §§ 2-10-122, 124.

Crimes involving public officials (bribery, soliciting unlawful compensation, buying and selling in regard to office): Tennessee Code Annotated, § 39-16-101 and the following sections.

Crimes of official misconduct, official oppression, misuse of official information: Tennessee Code Annotated, § 39-16-401 and the following sections.

Ouster law: Tennessee Code Annotated, § 8-47-101 and the following sections.

4-501. Applicability. This chapter is the code of ethics for personnel of Red Boiling Springs. It applies to all full-time and part-time elected or appointed officials and employees, whether compensated or not, including those of any separate board, commission, committee, authority, corporation, or other instrumentality appointed or created by the municipality. The words "municipal" and "municipality" include these separate entities. (as added by Ord. #07-4, May 2007)

4-502. Definition of "personal interest." (1) For purposes of §§ 4-503 and 4-504, "personal interest" means:

(a) Any financial, ownership, or employment interest in the subject of a vote by a municipal board not otherwise regulated by state statutes on conflicts of interests; or

(b) Any financial, ownership, or employment interest in a matter to be regulated or supervised; or

(c) Any such financial, ownership, or employment interest of the official's or employee's spouse, parent(s), step parent(s), grandparent(s), sibling(s), child(ren), or step child(ren).

(2) The words "employment interest" include a situation in which an official or employee or a designated family member is negotiating possible employment with a person or organization that is the subject of the vote or that is to be regulated or supervised.

(3) In any situation in which a personal interest is also a conflict of interest under state law, the provisions of the state law take precedence over the provisions of this chapter. (as added by Ord. #07-4, May 2007)

4-503. Disclosure of personal interest by official with vote. An official with the responsibility to vote on a measure shall disclose during the meeting at which the vote takes place, before the vote and so it appears in the minutes, any personal interest that affects or that would lead a reasonable person to infer that it affects the official's vote on the measure. In addition, the official may recuse himself¹ from voting on the measure. (as added by Ord. #07-4, May 2007)

4-504. Disclosure of personal interest in non-voting matters. An official or employee who must exercise discretion relative to any matter, other than casting a vote, and who has a personal interest in the matter that affects or that would lead a reasonable person to infer that it affects the exercise of the discretion shall disclose, before the exercise of the discretion when possible, the interest on a form provided by and filed with the recorder. In addition, the

¹Masculine pronouns include the feminine. Only masculine pronouns have been used for convenience and readability.

official or employee may, to the extent allowed by law, charter, ordinance, or policy, recuse himself from the exercise of discretion in the matter. (as added by Ord. #07-4, May 2007)

4-505. Acceptance of gratuities, etc. An official or employee may not accept, directly or indirectly, any money, gift, gratuity, or other consideration or favor of any kind from anyone other than the municipality:

(1) For the performance of an act, or refraining from performance of an act, that he would be expected to perform, or refrain from performing, in the regular course of his duties; or

(2) That might reasonably be interpreted as an attempt to influence his action, or reward him for past action, in executing municipal business. (as added by Ord. #07-4, May 2007)

4-506. Use of information. (1) An official or employee may not disclose any information obtained in his official capacity or position of employment that is made confidential under state or federal law except as authorized by law.

(2) An official or employee may not use or disclose information obtained in his official capacity or position of employment with the intent to result in financial gain for himself or any other person or entity. (as added by Ord. #07-4, May 2007)

4-507. Use of municipal time, facilities, etc. (1) An official or employee may not use or authorize the use of municipal time, facilities, equipment, or supplies for private gain or advantage to himself.

(2) An official or employee may not use or authorize the use of municipal time, facilities, equipment, or supplies for private gain or advantage to any private person or entity, except as authorized by legitimate contract or lease that is determined by the governing body to be in the best interests of the municipality. (as added by Ord. #07-4, May 2007)

4-508. Use of position or authority. (1) An official or employee may not make or attempt to make private purchases, for cash or otherwise, in the name of the municipality.

(2) An official or employee may not use or attempt to use his position to secure any privilege or exemption for himself or others that is not authorized by the charter, general law, or ordinance or policy of the municipality. (as added by Ord. #07-4, May 2007)

4-509. Outside employment. An official or employee may not accept or continue any outside employment if the work unreasonably inhibits the performance of any affirmative duty of the municipal position or conflicts with any provision of the municipality's charter or any ordinance or policy. (as added by Ord. #07-4, May 2007)

4-510. Ethics complaints. (1) The city attorney is designated as the ethics officer of the municipality. Upon the written request of an official or employee potentially affected by a provision of this chapter, the city attorney may render an oral or written advisory ethics opinion based upon this chapter and other applicable law.

(2) (a) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the city attorney shall investigate any credible complaint against an appointed official or employee charging any violation of this chapter, or may undertake an investigation on his own initiative when he acquires information indicating a possible violation, and make recommendations for action to end or seek retribution for any activity that, in the attorney's judgment, constitutes a violation of this code of ethics.

(b) The city attorney may request the governing body to hire another attorney, individual, or entity to act as ethics officer when he has or will have a conflict of interests in a particular matter.

(c) When a complaint of a violation of any provision of this chapter is lodged against a member of the municipality's governing body, the governing body shall either determine that the complaint has merit, determine that the complaint does not have merit, or determine that the complaint has sufficient merit to warrant further investigation. If the governing body determines that a complaint warrants further investigation, it shall authorize an investigation by the city attorney or another individual or entity chosen by the governing body.

(3) The interpretation that a reasonable person in the circumstances would apply shall be used in interpreting and enforcing this code of ethics.

(4) When a violation of this code of ethics also constitutes a violation of a personnel policy, rule, or regulation or a civil service policy, rule, or regulation, the violation shall be dealt with as a violation of the personnel or civil service provisions rather than as a violation of this code of ethics. (as added by Ord. #07-4, May 2007)

4-511. Violations. An elected official or appointed member of a separate municipal board, commission, committee, authority, corporation, or other instrumentality who violates any provision of this chapter is subject to punishment as provided by the municipality's charter or other applicable law, and in addition is subject to censure by the governing body. An appointed official or an employee who violates any provision of this chapter is subject to disciplinary action. (as added by Ord. #07-4, May 2007)