



**Background:** Due to reductions in gas tax and other revenues, the Department of Transportation and Public Works (TPW) has deleted thirty-six (36) positions in the last year. Seventeen (17) of the deleted positions were made possible due to long term employees choosing early retirement in order to save positions for less senior staff. The retirees represent a combined total of 441 years of experience and service to the people of Sonoma County.

William Riley – 36 years of service - Bill started with the department in 1973 and promoted through the ranks to the position of Engineering Technician IV. Bill managed the County of Sonoma Materials Testing Lab. Due to Bill's diligence and standards of excellence, the lab is capable of performing soils and material tests quickly and concisely – allowing for quality testing without delays to capital projects. Bill is one of the unsung TPW heroes that work hard behind the scenes to ensure the safety of the citizens of Sonoma County.

Ed Olsen – 32 years of service – Ed was hired in 1977 and promoted through the ranks to the position of Engineering Technician IV. Ed managed the traffic signal system within the unincorporated county. Ed's story was recently published in the Sonoma County Reporter (September 2009). Many a night, Ed has responded to calls for emergency repairs for signals damaged by storms or vehicle accidents.

Jeff Ross – 32 years of service – hired in 1977 as a Maintenance Worker. Jeff promoted to Maintenance Worker III (heavy equipment operator) in 1989 and to Maintenance Supervisor in 1999. Jeff worked many years as Supervisor in the Cotati Road yard.

Jay Eldridge – 30 years of service – Jay was hired in 1979 as a Maintenance Worker and was promoted to Supervisor in 1990. Jay has supervised in several areas during his tenure and has spent the last few years traveling to work in Annapolis each day.

James Love – 29 years of service – Jim was hired in 1979 and promoted to Maintenance Worker III in 1983. Jim worked 25 years at the Cotati Yard and most recently worked out of the Santa Rosa Yard.

Keith Godsey – 29 years of service – Keith was hired in 1980 and promoted to Senior Engineering Programmer in 1986. Keith was an integral part in establishing road engineering, traffic accident, refuse tracking, and cost accounting programs which were used by the department for decades. Keith worked many evenings and weekends in order to back up systems and run updates to programs when it would least affect the efficiencies of department staffers.

Robert Ahders – 27 years of service - Bob was hired in 1982 and promoted to Maintenance Worker III in 1989. Bob most recently worked out of the Santa Rosa Yard running one of the street sweepers used for NPDES.

Ken Giovannetti – 27 years of service – Hired in 1982 as a Civil Engineer, Ken was promoted to Senior Civil in 1987 and to Engineering Division Manager in 1999. As a Senior Civil, Ken's responsibilities included working with various funding agencies for capital and operations funding, as well as, project management. As a Division Manager, Ken managed the Road Maintenance Section and later worked on traffic and land use issues.

David Wallace – 27 years of service – Dave was hired as a Civil Engineer, promoting to Senior Civil in 1987. Dave managed the Traffic Section of Public Works. His responsibilities included design and maintenance of the traffic systems within the unincorporated county.

Jesse Foster – 26 years of service – Jesse was hired in 1983 and promoted to Engineering Technician IV in 1999. Jesse was our drainage specialist. His responsibilities included inspection of drainage issues, designing solutions to the problem, and directing construction of the drainage system improvements.

Raul Romero – 26 years of service – Raul was hired in 1983 as a Maintenance Worker. Raul has worked with the road crews for many years, with the last several years being a supervisor for inmate crews doing litter pickup and cleanup of illegal dump sites.

Don Scott – 25 years of service – Don was hired in 1984 as a Right of Way Agent II and was promoted to Supervising Right of Way Agent in 1991. Don was instrumental in the acquisition of hundreds of property easements required for road capital and maintenance projects.

Blaine Russell – 22 years of service – Blaine had first worked for the Ag Commissioner and TPW in the early 80's. He returned to TPW in 1987 as a Senior Vegetation Sprayer and established our vegetation control systems. In 2007, after many years of training and obtaining certifications in the field of vegetation control, Blaine was promoted to Vegetation Control Advisor.

Ken Gingrich – 20 years of service – Ken was hired in 1987 as a Maintenance Worker. In his tenure with the department, Ken became the go-to guy for training new staffers and extra-help workers.

Brian Todd – 20 years of service – Hired in 1990, Brian promoted through the ranks to Civil Engineer in 2004. For the last several years, Brian was the Department's liaison to Office of Emergency Services and FEMA.

David Lewis – 18 years of service – Hired in 1991 as the Right of Way Section Manger, Dave was leader of our right of way team as they worked on major projects like Stony Point Road Improvements, Santa Rosa Avenue, Sebastopol Road Widening and Hwy. 12 Sideway Improvements.

Vic Carberry – 15 years of service – Vic was hired in 1994 as an Account Clerk. Vic quickly moved through the ranks to become a Department Analyst working with Sonoma County Airport and being the resident cable franchise expert. In 2006, Vic was promoted to Administrative Services Officer and administered TPW's large and varied budget units.

**Recommendation:** Adopt resolutions commending seventeen (17) long term employees of the Department of Transportation and Public Works, for a combined total of 441 years of service to the citizens of Sonoma County.

**Attachments:** Gold Resolutions (17)

**On File With Clerk:** None

**CLERK OF THE BOARD USE ONLY**

**Board Action (If other than "Requested")**

**Vote:**