



# BOARD OF SUPERVISORS County of Dane

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## County Board Statement Regarding Human Services Finalist Withdrawal

"Last month, some County Board Supervisors met with the two final candidates for Human Services Director," said **Chair Patrick Miles**. "At the conclusion of that meeting, Amy Everett explicitly stated that she was available to answer any additional questions and sent a followed-up email reinforcing that offer. County Supervisor Heidi Wegleitner emailed Ms. Everett asking to ask some questions regarding a former employer of the candidate, Mind Springs Health & West Springs Hospital. The County Executive's office arranged a meeting."

"I am very surprised by the tone of the County Executive's recent statement," Miles said. "There is a formal appointment process that concludes with the County Board voting on approval of the Dane County Human Services Director. Ahead of the public appointment process, a Board member directly and privately asked a candidate about her former employer's public struggles that persisted through her time of employment. That is the respectful action of a board member performing due diligence. The Human Services Director will face tough questions in their role, given the complexity and importance of that department. If the act of asking these questions truly led to the candidate's decision to rescind, they may have found this position very challenging."

"I appreciated that the County Executive's office set up the opportunity for me to have my questions answered about Mind Springs," said **Supervisor Heidi Wegleitner, Chair of the Health and Human Needs Committee**. "As the lead sponsor of the appointment resolution, I needed to be prepared for inquiries regarding her experience. I was satisfied with the answers, which I conveyed to Ms. Everett. I am shocked by her decision to rescind her acceptance, and I'm disappointed in the misleading and destructive statement released tonight by the County Executive."

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