

Janel Heinrich, MPH, MA, Director

Healthy people. Healthy places.

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Date:

March 24, 2014

To:

Sharon Corrigan, Chair

Personnel and Finance Committee

From:

Janel Heinrich, Director

Public Health-Madison and Dane County

Subject:

Approval to Fill Positions

County Ordinance 29, 52(16) requires that the Personnel and Finance Committee approve filling positions that are new or have been vacant for longer than six months. I am asking for approval to fill a 1.0 FTE Public Health Analyst—Data (position # 2987) and a 1.0 FTE Public Health Planner—Policy (position # 2770), both of which are included in our 2014 Adopted Operating Budget. Freeze appeals for both positions have been approved by the County Executive.

As planned for in our 2014 budget, we have created a new division called Policy, Planning and Evaluation. This reflects the continued transition of our local health department and is aligned with the mandates and transformation described in the National Prevention Strategy (another product of the Affordable Care Act that prioritizes prevention and identifies ways to work with clinical care, public health, community services providers). It also reflects the accreditation requirements that I expect will become a mandate to receive funding in the future.

What is the nature of the work or what is the essential function of these positions? The Public Health Analyst—Data (position # 2987) analyzes, synthesizes, and communicates research and other information relevant for improving city and county public health. The primary role is to make complex data useful and accessible for decision-making in public policy, systems improvement, and planning.

The Public Health Planner—Policy (position # 2770) helps shape public health priorities based on evidence-based policy and prevention strategies. This position is also responsible for analyzing and evaluating community and environmental health issues and assisting with the development, implementation, and evaluation of department practice and prevention priorities.

How have these functions been fulfilled during the vacancy? These are new areas for Public Health—Madison and Dane County. These are both new positions.

What will the impact be on the department's function and mission if the position remains vacant? Both positions will be essential in working with PHMDC programs and partners in identifying ways that we will create a 'culture of health' for Dane County as well as supporting the development of a County plan to address the root causes of racial inequity and develop an equity impact model to inform policies and practices that consider equity impacts in county government plans and decisions.

Please let me know if you need any additional information.