



Office of the County Board
Dane County Board of Supervisors
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Supervisor Miles, Chair
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May 3, 2024

TO: Dane County Board of Supervisors
Dane County Clerk
Interested Parties

FROM: County Board Chair Patrick Miles

RE: Appointment of Erin Welsh to District 7 Vacancy

On Thursday, May 2, 2024, I held a public hearing in District 7 at Wingra School to hear from applicants on the vacancy due to the resignation of Supervisor Cecely Castillo.

Three individuals applied for the appointment Lee Leigh, Ronan Rataj, and Erin Welsh

Lee Leigh is a court reporter who works at the Dane County Courthouse. They described their top issues for the district as including affordable housing, criminal justice reform, increasing communication and transparency for constituents on county issues and addressing racial equity issues. They are also an active LGBTQ+ advocate in our community who works to make safe spaces for people and promotes bodily autonomy.

Ronan Rataj is a University of Wisconsin-Madison student who previously served in the Dane County Youth Governance Program. He described his top issues for the district are natural resources issues, affordable housing and criminal justice.

Erin Welsh is an attorney who works as the Deputy Director of the Office of Crime Victim Services. She described her top issues for the district as including affordable housing, mental health and crisis intervention, protecting our parks and sustaining our natural resources.

Three qualified and invested applicants present last night who would each bring their unique perspective and skills to the Board. I am appointing Erin Welsh to fill the District 7 vacancy on the County Board. I believe she brings important skills and experience to the Board which will prove valuable as we face the opportunities and challenges this term. I ask for and encourage your support for Erin Welsh's appointment.