From: Dane County AFSCME
To: Krohn, Margaret

Subject: Fwd: Employee Group Representatives Denounce Racist Attacks on County Board Supervisors

Date: Monday, May 1, 2023 5:26:28 PM

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Hello - Could you please include the below email with the meeting minutes for tonight's Personnel & Finance meeting? Thank you.

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Dane County AFSCME < danecountyafscme@gmail.com>

Date: Mon, May 1, 2023 at 5:21 PM

Subject: Employee Group Representatives Denounce Racist Attacks on County Board

Supervisors

To: < county board recipients@countyofdane.com>

Dear County Board Supervisors:

Our Employee Groups represent the majority of Dane County employees at Dane County Department of Human Services across five AFSCME Locals: Local 705 (CNAs, Janitors), Local 720 (Clerical, Paraprofessional and Administrative support), Local 895 (RNs and Health Care Professionals), Local 1871 (Professionals) and Local 2634 (Social Workers).

The past few weeks have left us shocked and saddened by the derogatory remarks, racial slurs, and hate speech directed towards County Board Supervisors, who are simply attempting to make an informed decision on this nomination. It is a critical decision which will no doubt have a significant impact on the lives of our most vulnerable Dane County residents for years to come. Civil servants within the Department of Human Services want to make Dane County a more equitable place to live for all, regardless of race, ethnicity, social status, gender identity, immigration status, religion, political affiliation or any other status. And we are particularly disheartened by the toll this rhetoric and behavior is taking on the Black Caucus. We have no doubt that Supervisors Kigeya, Pellebon and Gray have approached this

decision with an objective lens, just as we do as civil servants within the Department. As Chair of the Personnel & Finance Subcommittee on Equity, Recruitment and Retention, Supervisor Kigeya has shown admirable leadership when confronting the daunting task of ensuring our county workforce is equitable and representative of the community we serve. Supervisors Pellebon and Gray likewise have demonstrated selflessness and courage when tackling the persistent issue of racial disparities within Dane County.

So on behalf of our Dane County AFSCME Employee Group Representatives, we condemn all forms of hate speech and racial slurs. To Supervisors Kigeya, Gray and Pellebon - and all elected officials who continue to move us forward even in the face of disparaging rhetoric - we hear you, we thank you, and we stand with you in solidarity.

AFSCME Locals 65, 705, 720, 895, 1871 and 2634, AFL-CIO