

From: Jeff Weigand

Subject: Dane County Executive Race - Who are you voting for?

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Hi Everyone!

This November is shaping up to be an election for the history books. Not only will we have choices for President, US Senate, Congress and the State Legislature, we also have the unique opportunity to cast a vote for Dane County Executive. This is unique as County Executive positions are “nonpartisan” so typically these elections take place in April. Because former County Executive Joe Parisi retired in the middle of his term, there was a special election called to fill the remainder of his term. The winner of the November election will have to run again in April to serve a new full term.

Many people have asked me who I will be voting for. Sadly, conservatives/independents don't have a great option. The two candidates, Melissa Agard and Dana Pellebon are both outspoken, unashamed liberals. Over the last couple years, I've gotten to know both of them in unique ways.

I served with Dana Pellebon for 2 years on the Dane County Board. Her tenure on the board was marked by some of the worst public policy I have ever seen. She voted for millions in tax increases, declared Dane County a “Transgender Sanctuary” for children, fought and killed efforts to combat human trafficking, championed efforts to shrink the size of the new jail we are building, openly called me and others who don't see eye to eye with her racists and was almost always behind every radical, insane and crazy idea the Dane County Board pursued. Thankfully she is no longer on the

board and the last 6 months have seen a dramatic change in the board's pursuits.

Melissa Agard has been in and around Dane County politics for many years, most recently serving as the Senate Minority Leader in the State Senate. She is very liberal and has championed the legalization of Marijuana and supported just about every liberal talking point imaginable. While I don't see eye to eye with her on many issues, I was encouraged when she reached out and asked to talk over coffee. We sat and chatted for over an hour. She asked me some of the things I was hoping to achieve while serving on the board and volunteered that she "Isn't running to be the Mayor of Madison" and vowed to not ignore the over 50% of Dane County's population that lives outside the city of Madison. Only time will tell if she holds to that statement, but I'm encouraged that she would at least say the words.

While the choices aren't great, I am without a doubt casting my vote for Melissa Agard. Not only has she demonstrated her ability to talk and listen to someone she disagrees with, but she is also openly and candidly talking about the non-Madison parts of Dane County. It's been far too long since we have had a true Dane County Executive. Joe Parisi and other past executives seemed to only focus their time, energy and money on Madison and its many problems. We need someone who will listen to us even when she doesn't agree with us. That's why I'm voting for Melissa.

I hope you found this information helpful. Please feel free to share this e-mail with others who may find this helpful.

Thanks,

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20<sup>th</sup> District