



Rick ✓
ROSE
Dane County Board



It's been a year since you supported my successful election as a first term Dane County Supervisor for District 16, and what a year it's been. I couldn't have done it without the support of 15,000 vocal and caring constituent neighbors, fellow like-minded, good-hearted Supervisors, and above all...you! I am here to represent your voice and the things that matter to you in our county. To put things in context, our county is the size of the State of Wyoming, and we are heard on the national front. So, your support goes a long way.

There has been so much we have accomplished as a team and, yet, still so much more to do on the horizon. You have been there for me all along the way. Do know that I walk along with you on our journey to keep our county on track in some areas, stay the course in others, and pave the way to a bright future for us all.

Here's what we have accomplished from April 5th, 2022, to today.

I was appointed and have served proudly on:

- **Public Protection and Judiciary Committee**
- **University of Wisconsin Extension**
- **Area Agency on Aging Board and its Legislative and Advocacy Subcommittee**
- **Equal Opportunity Commission**

I have co-sponsored over 70 pieces of legislation and ordinance amendments, all of which passed, leaving me with a 100% success record on the Board to date. These included:

- **Dane County Conservation Fund Grant Award to Ice Age Trail Alliance (Lange)**

- **Authorizing Wisconsin Department of Justice Grant Funding for a Safe Neighborhoods Project**
- **Dane County Conservation Fund Grant Award to the Madison Area Food Pantry Gardens, Inc. (Elizabeth Pope and Pope Family Trust)**
- **Awarding a Collective Bargaining Agreement to the Building & Construction Trades Council of South-Central Wisconsin**
- **Authorizing Grant Funding for the Sheriff's Office Hazard Devices Unit to Purchase Bomb Technician Response Equipment**
- **Awarding Major Contracts for Food Pantry Aid ARP Grant DCDHS – EAWS Division**
- **Affirming the 2022 Affordable Housing Development Fund Awards DCDHS – HAA Division**
- **Support of Access to Abortion Care**
- **Establishing an Equity Food Program for 2022**

A defining moment within my first 6 months of service was co-sponsoring a Resolution authored by my colleague, Sup. Joers, to fund the Dane County Sheriff Office's "Gifts for Guns" event as a response to the July 4th Highland Park, IL shooting. When it was discovered that the accused shooter headed to Madison immediately after the mass murder and planned a similar event in our community, we saw a need to let our community know we cared and would take protective action. 577 weapons, including a crossbow, and 380 lbs. of ammunition were surrendered by over 250 vehicles which passed through in the 4 hours of the inaugural event.

I am taking the lead on wisely administering the opioid settlement dollars for our county. In November, I introduced the Harm Reduction and Prevention Act which builds upon Dane County's partnerships and invests hundreds of thousands of dollars into the community to distribute fentanyl testing strips, along with Narcan kits, and increase awareness about these deadly epidemics. It also created two new positions: a prevention coordinator focused on the LGBTQ+ community and a prevention specialist who will work with the local EMS agencies on opiate and fentanyl response initiatives in the coming years. The Act increased the current opiate recovery allocation of the county of \$1.6 million by \$750,000.



(Harm Reduction and Prevention Act Announcement, Dane County Executive's Office)

Additionally, alongside Sup. Eicher, former Board Chair, I co-sponsored an amendment in the 2023 budget to grant \$1 million dollars to a non-profit that is creating a \$15 million Permanent Supportive Recovery Housing pilot project in my District. This project will provide long-term support for approximately 70 persons dealing with substance use disorder (SUD). I could not be prouder of the work my neighbors are doing to help one another!

I authored proclamations which celebrated these great events:

- **LGBTQ Pride Month**
- **Disability Pride Month**
- **International Overdose Awareness Month**
- **Developmental Disability Month and World Down Syndrome Day**

I am also grateful to have been asked by my colleague, Sup. Collins, to deliver the proclamation for the Respect for Marriage Act, thanking US Senator Tammy Baldwin for her leadership on it. Fun fact, Tammy began her political career on the very same Board I sit on.

I hold the record for the greatest number of proclamations this year at a robust and healthy pace of one every other month. My Rick Rose for Dane County team (Alex, Skye, Doris, and Peggy) cares so much for this diverse community. It has been great to place into the spotlight and signal our support for non-profit organizations like Madtown Mamas, GiGi's Playhouse, Safe Communities and LGBT OutReach.

In March, we hosted a celebration of equal importance. As a Board, we recognized 34 county employees who have served our residents for over 25 years. This is no small feat in this day and age, and we thank folks like Carrie Braxton in the Tamara D. Grigsby Office for Equity and Inclusion, Brian Standing in Planning and Michelle Richardson from the Land and Water Resources Department.



(NaCO event in Denver, CO. with Supervisors Huelsemann, Pellebon, & Kigea).

I was selected to attend the NaCO (National County Association) Annual Conference this last summer in Denver, Co. along with 3 other Supervisors. We learned a lot and shared in best practices with nearly 5000 county officials in attendance. As part of 11 incoming freshmen Supervisors, I knew there was a need to prepare us to jump right into our work, so I organized the “Freshman Caucus” which meets every month or so to share ideas and direction.

I also organized two other initiatives for this group: a training on county government and how it works led by my friends at Wisconsin Counties Association (noteworthy since Dane County is the only 1 of 72 counties that isn’t a member, yet WCA heard my concerns and graciously taught us some valuable lessons) and an introduction to the state legislative session where we were allowed to set priorities and agendas with our County lobbyist, Carrie Springer.

In December, I was asked by Chair Miles and the County staff to spearhead and lead the County side of the 2022 City and County Combined Campaign to support local and national nonprofits who are doing important work to make our communities better. We beat last year’s total gifts by 4.5x (but who’s counting) and increased the number of participants by 25%. The County contributed \$96,821 to charities!

As we look to the future, I would like to remind you what we ran on and what earned me your support:

- **Build an understanding within District 16 of County Government and services. Not only how County Government can help you, but also how you can get involved in County Government.**
- **Create a safe, secure place for children and families in need.**
- **Reduce our jail population, address social discrepancies, and increase the efforts of restorative justice.**
- **Address the expansion and development of Dane County and the East side, specifically, and create thoughtful action plans to guide and direct that growth in a healthy, positive way.**

These tenants will drive me in the second half of my two-year term.

I am presently working with fellow Supervisors on strengthening our foster care system and on policy for protecting our trans friends and their families. I continue in my support of the Black Caucus as we forge into the most expensive capital project in our county's history: building a new jail with less beds and one less floor than anticipated and creating new beds for residents to receive the care they need in areas related to mental health and substance use! Using my day job experience of 30 years in communications and marketing, I have been invited by the County Board office to work on a public relations plan for the board.

These projects align with the four key tenets of my past campaign and will pave the way as I work my way to a second election in April 2024. Stay tuned!

The future remains bright in this County I love and call home. Thank you for making it a better place through continuing to support me, my team, and our joint campaign.

Happy Passover, Easter, and Spring.

Onward!

Rick

PS. Oh, and, I was able to be on the dais as Jimmy the Groundhog forecast a long winter in Sun Prairie, WI along with fellow Supervisors Eicher and Yang.

