Nedweski shifts direction on County Board

Last week, Kenosha County Board Supervisor, Amanda Nedweski (District 16), announced her resignation as Chair of the Human Services Committee.

During her time serving as chair of this committee, Nedweski collaborated with Director John Jansen and the Behavioral Health staff to shine a bright light on the fentanyl epidemic in Kenosha County and helped to get people trained in administering Narcan. Supporting the County's partnership with Lake Behavioral Health for Chapter 51 detainees has also been a particular highlight of her time leading the committee. Working with DCFS Director Ron Rogers and Child Support Manager Dustin Feeney to better understand the county's roles in these areas has provided valuable local insight to her service at the state level in the legislature. Supervisor Nedweski has accomplished her goals as the Chair of this committee, and she is ready to address other areas of concern for her constituents.

Going forward, Nedweski will adjust her focus to investigating and analyzing the fiscal side of government operations. Her private sector professional experience in corporate finance will be leveraged to identify opportunities for efficiencies and process improvement in county government. Fiscal responsibility and accountability to taxpayers are high priorities for the residents of District 16, and she is looking forward to shifting directions to serve them in that capacity for the second half of her term as an elected representative in county government.

Upon her announcement, Nedweski remarked "A primary reason that I ran for this office was out of concern for the local one-size-fits-all pandemic response that resulted in some negative unintended social and economic consequences for our community. I am particularly pleased to have contributed to changes within Kenosha County Public Health while I held the position as Chair of the Human Services Committee, and I look forward to continued service with this body as a member at large to further identify what worked and what could have been done better during the public health crisis."

However, the timing of this planned change was rushed due to increasing pressure from County Board Chairman Gabe Nudo. Supervisor Nedweski's vocal opposition to Chairman Nudo's stance on several proposed resolutions on the county board resulted in his repeated threats to revoke the very leadership position to which he appointed her in April of 2022.

In response, Nedweski stated, "It's disappointing that Chairman Nudo has chosen to take this dictatorial leadership approach, especially since it was him who actively recruited me to run for the county board. In electing me, District 16 voters voiced that they share my belief in decentralized government. It is my duty and responsibility as a representative to vote on behalf of residents in my district, not to blindly comply with demands to obey the chairman 'or else.'

Supervisor Nudo is supporting policy that would shift the balance of fair representation away from individual supervisors and into the sole role of the board chair. What is the purpose of having 23 supervisors if most of the authority is placed in the chairman's role? The chairman's position on these proposed changes in direct conflict with the principles of a democratic republic, and I will not be threatened into compromising my oath of office."