



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

DAVID CROWLEY

MILWAUKEE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Date: August 20, 2021

To: Marcelia Nicholson, Chairwoman, Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors

From: David Crowley, Milwaukee County Executive

Subject: Appointment of Amos Morris, Jr., to Director of the Milwaukee County Zoo

Pursuant to Wisconsin State Statute Sec. 59.17(2) and subject to confirmation by the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors, I am pleased to appoint Mr. Amos Morris Jr., to the position of Director of the Milwaukee County Zoo. The appointment length is four years, at which point it will be again subject to your confirmation.

Mr. Morris comes with thirty-three years of experience in zoo operations, organizational management, and animal management. He will serve the County Zoo well as we seek to maintain one of the top zoos in the nation for enrichment, education, and entertainment. Prior to coming to Milwaukee County, Mr. Morris served for three and a half years as the Deputy Director and Chief Operating Officer for the Fresno Chaffee Zoo. In the past, he also served as Director of the Mesker Park Zoo & Botanic Garden, and Executive Director of the Evansville Zoological Society in Indiana.

The Milwaukee County Zoo has never had Black leadership in its 126-year history and in the spirit of the first focus area of our strategic plan, intentional inclusion, we're proud to continue building a county government that is representative of the diverse array of talent our area has to offer.

In addition to his former roles in Indiana, Mr. Morris has held positions at the Pittsburg Zoo & PPG Aquarium, Roger William's Park Zoo in Rhode Island, and the Dallas Zoo. Mr. Morris is no stranger to breaking barriers, he was the first Black member of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums' (AZA) Board of Directors and the first Black Zoo Director of an AZA accredited zoo. Currently, he serves on the AZA Accreditation Commission.

I have every confidence that Mr. Morris will provide the leadership needed for Milwaukee County. I urge you to give this appointment your favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

David Crowley

Milwaukee County Executive



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cc: County Board of Supervisors
Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, Board of Supervisors
George Christenson, Milwaukee County Clerk
Amos Morris Jr.