



Time for real debate, not personal attacks
October 6, 2009

County Board Chairman Lee Holloway made some remarkable statements in front of the County Board's Finance Committee on Monday. His comments about race seem to reflect an abandonment of an argument for an alternative budget from the County Board for a strategy of personal attacks on me.

In particular, he is upset that a picture of him is included in a flyer mailed by the group Citizens for Responsible Government (CRG). As you know, CRG is made up of the folks that were the leaders in the re-call movement in 2002 and they operate independent of any candidate or party.

The picture of Chairman Holloway is his official photo. It is not a negative picture or a picture that is changed in any way to make him look bad.

And the information (on the flyer that I saw) raises concerns about him and other members of the County Board being open to raising the property tax levy.

When people are worked up about something in Congress, they often use pictures of Speaker Nancy Pelosi and Senator Harry Reid. Years ago, when the state unions protested the Assembly Republican version of the budget, they used pictures of Speaker John Gard. This is what happens when someone is the head of a legislative body – they become the focal point for attention.

Now, instead of a real debate about the future of Milwaukee County, we have to talk about baseless statements that are unrelated to the merits of the county budget. I hope we can get back on track and have a real dialogue about our fiscal challenges and opportunities for 2010 and beyond.

Scott Walker
Milwaukee County Executive