

**From:** [Darlene Doorlag](#)  
**To:** [Clerk](#)  
**Subject:** Please Share this letter with all the BOC members and make it a part of the public record.  
**Date:** Sunday, September 19, 2021 12:48:42 PM

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My name is Darlene Doorlag. I live in Centerville Township and I am a member of the Leelanau County League of Women Voters and its subcommittee Early Childhood Needs and Services.

I am writing to address the comments made at a BOC meeting last week when four Commissioners voted to defund the Early Childhood Millage. Three of the Republican members on the board stated things such as nobody knew about the election and that we were trying to hide the election from the voters. The election was held in November when most voters who care know to vote.

Our ECNS subcommittee held a public forum on Oct 2, 2019 at the Sutton's Bay High School Auditorium entitled "Supporting Early Childhood Programs and Services in Leelanau County- Learn About the November Millage Proposal".

In addition we held numerous in person presentations around the county including for the Share Care Board, Leelanau Christian Neighbors Board, Leland Women's Civic Club, Northport Lions Club, Northport Women's Club, Omena Women's Club, Crackerbarrel Group in Northport, Leelanau Peninsula Economic Development Foundation, the Glen Lake Community at the Cherry Republic, Sutton's Bay Rotary Club, and the staff at Leland schools.

We also asked over 44 different organizations throughout the county to share millage information we provided with their membership. We had contact people assigned to each of these organizations to making personal contact by phone, or email, or in person.

Many of my subcommittee members also held their own in house meetings inviting friends and neighbors to presentations about the importance of this millage proposal.

In addition and very importantly was the outreach effort all the county public schools made by sending information to all their parents about the upcoming election.

With this information in front of you how can you three commissioners honestly say we were hiding the election, and no one even knew about it.

I strongly urge you to change course and vote this week to fully fund the Early Childhood millage that was passed by the voters. A millage that is providing services for over 1000 children and their families. No other program in our county exists that will provide services for our babies 0 to 3 years. Thank you.

Sincerely, Darlene Doorlag

Sent from my iPad