

To the Leelanau County Board of Commissioners

October 12, 2021

Dear County Commissioners:

I am a resident of Elmwood Township living in Cedar Creek Commons. I am writing to you today about two items on your agenda for tonight's discussion of the county budgets. First, I ask that you support the Benzie/Leelanau Health Department fully and publicly. The Health Department is run by professionals and watches out for the personal and environmental health of all residents, not just those with certain opinions. Case in point: science has shown that masking is effective in preventing the spread of the coronavirus. Your mask protects me and others; mine protects you and others. Don't penalize the Health Department for issuing a mandate to protect our children, their teachers, their families.

Secondly, I am appalled at the sudden decision to create two new paid positions within the county government, without a proper rationale or decision making process. This commission is making decisions behind closed doors and behind the backs of county residents. Please be more transparent and follow proper democratic procedures in your decision making. I think it is financially irresponsible for the commissioners to create two new positions without proper study and justification. Please reject this proposal.

Thanks you.

Sincerely,

Alison Heins, 12022 S. Elk Run Drive, Traverse City, Elmwood Township