

To the Board of Commissioners of Leelanau County
Letter Submitted by Rod & Sue Jones

October 12, 2021

Re: Health Department Funding and Creation and Hiring of Human Resources
Director and Finance Director

We are Rod & Sue Jones, Leelanau County residents who believe in representative democracy. We are writing to express our concerns regarding two of the issues that you are currently considering - the funding of our Health Department and the creation of two new county departments.

On funding the health department – please do not reduce funding of the health department whose staff have worked tirelessly to bring us the best information and science available, all for the health and well-being of the residents of Leelanau County. Their efforts to keep us safe and healthy have been especially successful throughout the pandemic and should be fully supported both publicly and financially. **It's just common sense that in health matters, we should look to the medical professionals for sound, well-reasoned, and well-researched guidance, not to the Board of Commissioners of Leelanau County.**

Creating two new departments – In the past, Leelanau County Commissioners have expressed interest in less government and reduced taxes. Why do we need to hire a Human Resource Director and a Finance Director? Is something broken that needs to be fixed? What is the desired outcome? Have all avenues been pursued to resolve existing problems? What are those problems? Please hold off on creating the two new departments until the above questions have been considered. A healthy debate in a public setting might lead to some changes within the existing departments without the expensive, and potentially wasteful, use of our tax dollars.

Thank you,

Rod and Sue Jones
Elmwood Township