

Please add to the official meeting record

January 11, 2022 Leelanau BOC Executive meeting

Commissioner Bunek, you stated at the previous Executive Committee meeting that you felt there was a definite quietness and solemnness to the meetings since the prayer was introduced. If your warm fuzzy feeling is proof God is answering the ministers prayers, may I suggest that you grant them another 3 minutes to pray for the sick and dying children around the world, who in spite of millions of anguished parental prayers, continue to die. Let's see if those prayers will be answered as well and really feel fuzzy about something good.

Commissioner Lautner stated the prayer issue has become a circus. Wikipedia defines a circus as; a company of performers who put on a diverse entertainment show that may include clowns. I would not describe this board in this manner even though it is fun to see the rationales used to justify decisions.

1) Bill Perkins term on the Solid Waste Council was ended in part because he was on it for a long time and to make room for someone else, (follows Board Policy). Commissioner Lautner was retained as Vice-Chair of this committee because she has held this position for a long time, and doing a good job in spite of someone else wanting it.

2) The prayer policy works because Commissioner Bunek feels the gentleness. I would hope the Enterprise will pick up on my suggested headline; **Warm Fuzzy Feelings Drive Policies**

3) Commissioner Bunek states the Traverse City Clergy can participate in the prayer if they choose to be a Chaplain for the Sheriff or one of the seven Fire Depts. in the County. There are 35 distinct Church categories listed for TC and 192 Clergy persons. Do the math on that idea...

4) Your rash decision to establish two new departments without study or justification is now unfolding for the public to see the results of no planning. The person doing some/much or all of the financial work in the Clerks office is moved from the Clerks office, receives a \$30,000 raise and the Clerk is now advertising to fill the vacated position at \$37,000 per year plus benefits!! Did not the financial work and some of the Clerks budget transfer with the promotion of Jennifer Zywicki?

5) The unfilled HR position is now being shopped around in other Departments to see if you can find enough work and funds for this new Department Head. This clearly reveals a gross lack of planning before authorizing the \$250,000 expenditure for two new departments.

6) You wasted hours of your time and the publics time to generate a fire storm against the Leelanau-Benzie Health Depts policy and position on wearing masks. You knew your vote would not and could not have any effect on the policy. You spent an enormous amount of time in your last Executive Meeting agonizing over the amount of time granted to the public for public comment, and yet you don't mind wasting time on things like this. Another case of showboating for the public.

7) Your decision to continue the Prayer Policy since it has only been in place since August is a weird rationale. Are you waiting for more proof from above that your Ministers pleas are being heard. Do you now have a way to quantify it so the public sees the benefits of this extremely divisive policy? Or are you merely waiting for the public to tire of commenting on this?

So when you think about a Circus, reflect on who the Ringmasters are. Think also about the fact you can empty part of the Big Top with 5 to 2 vote to eliminate the prayer policy....

Thank you

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