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To: Board of Commissioners

From: Chet Janik

Date: March 15, 2022

Subject: Points of Pride

LEELANAU COUNTY “TOP TEN”
POINTS OF PRIDE FOR 2021-22

- The Commissioners have taken a proactive approach with the allocation of the \$4.2 million allocated to Leelanau County from the American Rescue Plan Act and is the only county in Northern Michigan to date that has solicited input and proposals from its citizens
- The Land Bank Fast Track Authority formed a partnership in 2021 with the Habitat for Humanity to build six homes in Maple City for local eligible families
- The Commissioners are in the process a developing a partnership with Point Broadband, LLC, that will greatly expand broadband coverage. There is also dialogue with several other Internet Service Providers interested in providing services
- A contract is in the final stages to construct a new communication tower on the Government Center campus that will enhance cellular communication coverage and other options for residents. The potential of building additional towers in other parts of the County is being explored, with the same goal of expanding communication
- The Cherry Capital Airport is jointly owned by Leelanau County and the Commissioners worked closely with the Grand Traverse County Commissioners to develop a new governance model that will provide greatly flexibility, as well as reduce potential liability to the County

- The Senior Services Department continues to serve approximately 2,500 residents on an annual basis, ranging from in-home health care assistance, unmet financial needs, and social activities. Employees continued to distribute food to the needy on a weekly basis. A Care Coordinator and an Aging Well Resources Coordinator were added to the department
- The County is financially stable and has been aggressive in dealing with its long-term liability issues. Leelanau County once again received a “clean” audit and was recognized as being one of the “best-managed counties” in Michigan. The County has no Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB) liability, which is a rarity in Michigan
- All of the employee labor contracts were recently ratified for an additional three years. Once again, there were no successful lawsuits or grievances against the County
- The County’s Commission meetings continued to be broadcast live on YouTube and the video recordings of the meetings are available for later viewing by the public on the County website
- A facilities management plan has been developed which will allow for a more proactive maintenance approach to dealing with issues related to the County’s buildings & grounds