

BAHLE'S OF SUTTONS BAY

*since 1876*

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Leelanau County Board of Commissioners  
Chet Janik, County Administrator  
8527 E Government Circle Drive, Suite 101  
Suttons Bay, MI  
49682

May 4, 2021

Re: Formation of a Lake Leelanau Preservation Board

Dear Chet;

As lifelong residents and business owners in Leelanau County we want to strongly express our support for the formation of a Lake Authority Board for the preservation of Lake Leelanau.

That our economy is so linked to our wonderful inland lakes is one very important reason for taking every effort to preserve Lake Leelanau. More importantly it is equally important to us personally. Lake Leelanau is a significant reason that we make this place home. Our extended families swim, sail, skate, fish, row and paddle this lake numerous times every year and in every season and have done so for our entire lives.

We also emphasize that it is much easier and cheaper to prevent a problem than to cure a problem. The present effort to control Eurasian watermilfoil may seem unnecessary to some but imagine the whole of the Lake Leelanau narrows choked with weed growth. No longer friendly to fishing, not passable by boat, and the near shore areas un-swimmable.

What would the impact be on our local economy much less our quality of life if a small group of volunteers had not taken action? That responsibility should now be passed to a more sustainable entity. It is now time to take action and create a Lake Preservation Board.

Please share our thoughts with all of the Commission Members.

Respectfully,

The image shows two handwritten signatures in blue ink. The signature on the left is for Rich Bahle and the signature on the right is for Chris Bahle. Both signatures are stylized and cursive.

Rich Bahle

Chris Bahle