

Leelanau County Government,

I am submitting my resignation from my position as Assistant Finance Director with Leelanau County effective November 8, 2025.

Please know that my decision is in no way a reflection of the Finance Directors Leadership. I have appreciated the opportunity to work under Cathy's direction and have great respect for her professionalism, integrity, and commitment to maintaining sound financial practices. My experiences working with her and the Finance Department have been positive and supportive.

However, I can no longer continue under the unprofessional environment fostered by the County Administrator. The disregard for professional standards, financial transparency, and accountability has made it increasingly difficult to perform my duties effectively or with integrity.

Until leadership and the Board of Commissioners prioritizes the employees, competence and public service over control and politics the County will continue to suffer from poor governance and a loss of qualified staff who value ethical and professional conduct.

I will ensure all my responsibilities are transitioned smoothly prior to my departure. I want to sincerely thank you for your support and guidance — it has been a privilege working under your leadership despite the challenges created by upper administration..

Sincerely,
Mike Birkmeier

Assistant Finance Director

Leelanau County