

**LEELANAU COUNTY  
2025 BUDGET RULES**

1. Department heads and/or elected officials are responsible for assuring that expenditures do not exceed approved budget(s) for their respective departments, and may authorize expenditures up to \$4,500.00 per item. Payment for all expenditures, however, is subject to approval by the Board of Commissioners through the regular monthly claim's payment process.
2. Capital purchases in excess of \$5,000.00 shall be tagged and added to the county's fixed asset inventory. The department head and/or elected official are responsible for this requirement to occur after coordination of payment by the ~~Accounting~~/Finance Department.
3. The County Administrator/~~Chief Financial Officer (CFO)~~, on behalf of all departments, is responsible for procuring all capital items and/or service contracts in excess of \$10,000.00 according to county purchasing procedures and subject to proper advertising with all bids to be awarded by the Board of Commissioners at a regularly scheduled meeting.
4. The Finance Director shall be responsible for assuring that any transfer or expenditure in excess of an approved departmental budget is made only after approval of the Board of Commissioners and that all transfers or expenditures are charged to an approved departmental budget.
5. The Finance Director shall be responsible for assuring departmental budgets are charged for salaries and wages in accordance with the adopted Authorized Staffing Levels for their respective budgets.
6. The approved Authorized Staffing Level contained in the budget shall limit the number of employees who can be employed and no funds are appropriated for any position or employee not on the Authorized Staffing Level. Further, the Board of Commissioners expressly prohibits department heads from utilizing personal service contracts to circumvent the intent of the Board of Commissioners in its action establishing Authorized Staffing Levels. The Board of Commissioners must specifically approve any deviations.
7. Certain positions contained in the Authorized Staffing Level which are supported in some part by a grant, cost-sharing, or other source of outside funding, are only approved contingent upon the county receiving the anticipated revenues. In the event outside funding is not received, or the county is notified that funding will not be received, then said positions shall be considered not funded and removed from the Authorized Staffing Level.
8. The Finance Director shall be responsible for assuring that allotments to other agencies in excess of 25% of the approved annual budget in any calendar quarter are made only after the County Board of Commissioners has approved them.

9. The Finance Director shall prepare and submit a monthly Budget Transfer and Expenditure Control Report to the Board of Commissioners prior to the regular monthly board meeting. The Finance Director shall prepare the appropriate paperwork and submit it to the Board of Commissioners prior to the regular monthly board meeting. This report shall be in a format as prescribed by the Board of Commissioners and shall be reconciled to the County Treasurer’s monthly Trial Balance.
10. Any budget amendments or transfers of funds shall only occur after ~~written recommendation~~ approval of the Regular ~~Executive Board and after being approved by the~~ Board of Commissioners, ~~approval~~ by resolution.
11. Pursuant to county policy, vendors who enter into a service contract with the county shall furnish a certificate of insurance, unless waived, in acceptable form as determined by the Board of Commissioners and file the certificate with the County Clerk prior to the commencement of any work or delivery of service or product.
12. All invoices, travel vouchers and payment requests must be submitted to the ~~Accounting/~~Finance Department for processing of payment on a timely basis, within the quarter the request was made.
13. All mileage for county owned vehicles will be charged to the account 940 Rental Charges in each respective budget using county owned vehicles. The Motor Pool Fund 661 will be credited with the mileage charges for county owned vehicles. Any purchases of county owned vehicles would be charged to the Motor Pool Fund 661. All repair and maintenance charges on county owned vehicles shall be charged to the respective budgets using county owned vehicles.
14. All purchases (including capital items and professional services) shall use the following guidelines as established by the Board of Commissioners:

Total Purchase Amount	Purchasing Process	Approving Entity
Up to \$999.99	Receipt	Department Head/Elected Official
\$1,000.00 to \$4,499.99	Three Verbal Quotes	Department Head/Elected Official
\$4,500.00 to \$9,999.999	Three Written Quotes, Contract and Budgeted	Department Head/Elected Official/County Administrator/ <del>CFO</del> County Administrator/ <del>CFO</del> may request BOC approval
\$10,000.00 and above	Competitive bid (sealed bids, proposals or qualifications). Minimum of three bids encouraged. State bids may be utilized when applicable.	Department Head/Elected Official/County Administrator/ <del>CFO</del> , Board of Commissioners approval

The Board of Commissioners through regular monthly committee process will review all claims for potential payment.

15. Competitive bidding may be waived by the County Board of Commissioners by an affirmative vote if the purchase is from or jointly with another unit of government, when an emergency exists, or when the public is best served without obtaining bids. It will be the responsibility of the Department Head and County Administrator/~~CFO~~ to provide the rationale for the waiver. Waiving of the competitive bidding process shall be obtained prior to seeking proposals.
16. The County Administrator/~~CFO~~ is authorized to execute only contract/agreements that are within the spending authority as outlined above.
17. All donations received in excess of \$500.00 on behalf of Leelanau County shall be approved by the Board of Commissioners. The County Administrator shall provide monthly written reports outlining all donations received.
  - a) Any non-cash donations, tangible goods and/or mercantile with an approximate value of over \$250.00 donated to Leelanau County shall be approved by the Board of Commissioners prior to acceptance.
  - b) Any proactive fundraising effort, as well as fundraising activity administered through an external organization or vendor, must have prior Board approval, a stated end date and a specific restricted goal. If there is an associated administrative fee associated with the fundraising method, there must also be Board approval of the fee. If an external organization or vendor is utilized, proper controls over the account must be established by the Leelanau County Treasurer and Finance Director. When cumulative funds are received and exceed \$500.00, they will be transferred from Trust and Agency to a special fund and held pursuant to Board Policy and Budget Rules. Once a special fund is created for the stated purpose, transfers may be for lesser amounts.
18. Per diem rates will be as follows:
  - \$120.00/ Full Day
  - \$70.00/One Half Day
19. The Board of Commissioners shall pay claims made against Leelanau County once per month after approval. Payments for post audit claims shall be authorized only under the following circumstances, for items within the approved budget:
  - a) Implementation of any and all provisions of collective bargaining agreements and other compensation plans adopted by the Board of Commissioners including payroll, related county and employee taxes, and withholding payments.
  - b) Payment of premiums on insurance policies and self-insurance pool fees including, but not limited to, health insurance, life insurance, dental insurance, unemployment insurance and others.
  - c) Payments provided for within the provisions of any and all contracts and grants authorized by and approved by the Board of Commissioners or County Administrator under Item 15.

- d) Replenishment of imprested funds within the various departments to the extent provided in departmental budgets.
- e) Postage to the extent provided in departmental budgets.
- f) Jury, witness and attorney fees by order of the Circuit Court, District Court, and Probate Court.
- g) Any invoices providing for a discount if paid within a specified period provided such invoices shall not be paid in such time period will allow consideration by the Board of Commissioners without loss of discount and, further, provided that they have been budgeted in the departmental budget. Additionally, any invoices not paid within a specified period, will be assessed a late payment penalty provided that they have been budgeted in the departmental budget.
- h) Any and all fuel charges.
- i) Any and all utility billings.
- j) Travel advances, registration, and mileage reimbursement to the extent provided in departmental budgets.
- k) Department of Health and Human Services payments.
- l) State of Michigan payments.
- m) Any emergency claim as authorized by the County Administrator requiring payment prior to the next Board of Commissioners meeting.
- n) Any other payments prescribed by law.
- o) Refunds.