

Survey Value?

To the editor:

"The Cultural Survey" that was conducted in December 2023 has revealed what? All that we know is what Mr. John Scholten, who conducted *"The Survey"*, has told us. The so-called *"raw data"* has not been released, notwithstanding repeated requests from Commissioners, and even The Enterprise (Ref Editorial 1/24/2024: *"Commissioners Need Raw Survey Data"*). *"The Survey"* may or may not have been professionally conducted, but Mr. Scholten's reporting is not. County Employees would like more money – who wouldn't? Mr. Scholten, however, chose to report ugly allegations by unidentified employees against Commissioner Melinda Lautner and County Clerk Michelle Crocker, using highly personal terms: *"Vicious"*, *"Vindictive"*, *"Meanspirited"*, which your reporter repeated many times in subsequent issues of The Enterprise. No other Commissioner was given such treatment, nor any other department head. It is interesting that Lautner & Crocker are each long-standing servants to the County, having been elected & re-elected for the past 25 years by the people who live here. Is this what we paid \$6500 for? Perhaps, The Enterprise would consider looking at *"The Survey"*, and the people responsible for it, more closely on our behalf.

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Michelle L. Crocker
Leelanau County Clerk