

Leelanau County

A government changing to serve its people



Flags were flying, guns shot and speeches spoken at the dedication of the Veterans Memorial Plaza in 2010. The handsome plaza includes the names of many county veterans, including those who made the supreme sacrifice.

Leelanau County, established in 1863, is one of 83 counties in the state of Michigan. It is governed by seven commissioners who collectively make up the County Board of Commissioners. The County Board retains both executive and legislative powers not reserved under state law for other county elected officials such as the clerk and sheriff.

On Aug. 3, 2004, voters decided in an election to move the County seat from Leland to a parcel in Suttons Bay Township between the communities of Suttons Bay and Lake Leelanau. Moving the seat placed county offices and courts near the county Law Enforcement

Center, which had moved out of Leland two years earlier.

On May 18, 2008, Leelanau County officially dedicated a 68,000 square-foot Government Center. Built for \$10.6 million, the structure combined all county offices at one location. Some offices had been forced out of the county courthouse building in Leland due to space constraints.

On Aug. 14, 2010, the Veterans Memorial Plaza was dedicated in a level area along the entrance road to the center. The Plaza was partially paid with private donations, and includes a plaque with the names of county veterans who died in battle that is attached to a granite boulder.

The memorial was originally set in front of the courthouse in Leland.

The Leelanau County Government Center is located at 8527 E. Government Center Dr., Suttons Bay 49682. Access to the jail and county seat is located from a service drive connecting to M-204. The toll free phone number is 1-866-256-9711.

Most county offices are open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, while a few offices are open from 8 p.m. to 4 p.m. Call ahead of time to be sure the office will be open when you arrive. The government center is closed for holidays, including Martin Luther King Day and Columbus Day.

Floor maps, Leelanau County Government Center

