

# **Dickey County**

Ellendale, North Dakota

## **Audit Report**

For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

Office of the State Auditor
Division of Local Government

## **Dickey County**

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County Officials and Audit Personnel December 31, 2018

#### **COUNTY OFFICIALS**

Joel Hamar Commissioner - Chairman
Marke Roberts Commissioner - Vice Chairman

Thor Sand Commissioner
Dean Simek Commissioner
John Hokana Commissioner

Wanda Sheppard
Gail Veland
Chris Estes
Deb Anderson
Gary Neuharth/Jeff Glynn
Auditor
Treasurer
Sheriff
Recorder
State's Attorney

#### **AUDIT PERSONNEL**

Craig Hashbarger, CPA, CIA, CFE Audit Manager Sheri Berogan/Alex Bakken, CPA Audit In-Charge

STATE AUDITOR JOSHUA C. GALLION Phone (701) 328-2241



Local Government Division FARGO OFFICE MANAGER – CRAIG HASHBARGER Phone (701)239-7250

### STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

FARGO OFFICE BRANCH 1655 43<sup>RD</sup> STREET SOUTH, SUITE 203 FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA 58103

#### **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

Board of County Commissioners Dickey County Ellendale, North Dakota

#### **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Dickey County, Ellendale, North Dakota, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2018, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Dickey County's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

#### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

#### **Opinions**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Dickey County, Ellendale, North Dakota, as of December 31, 2018, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### Other Matters

#### Required Supplementary Information

Management has omitted the *management's discussion and analysis* that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the *budgetary comparison information, pension & OPEB schedules, and the notes to the required supplementary information* as listed in the table of contents be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

#### Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise Dickey County's basic financial statements. The *schedule of fund activity arising from cash transactions* is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The schedule of fund activity arising from cash transactions is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the schedule of fund activity arising from cash transactions is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

#### Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated August 8, 2019 on our consideration of Dickey County's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Dickey County's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

/S/

Joshua C. Gallion State Auditor

Fargo, North Dakota August 8, 2019

		Governmen	tal Activ	ties
	(	Primary Government		Component Units
ASSETS	•	4 000 574	•	0.070.000
Cash and Investments	\$	4,382,571	\$	3,272,863
Accounts Receivable		14,721		2,295
Intergovernmental Receivable Road Receivables		258,000 25,948		59,113
Other Asset		23,940		317
Loans Receivable		_		43,323
Taxes Receivable		62,978		4,335
Special Assessment Receivable		-		3,872,990
Capital Assets, Net		14,038,455		6,848,158
Total Assets	_\$	18,782,673	\$	14,103,394
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES				
Derived from Pension and OPEB	\$	1,288,573	\$	149,532
				·
Total Assets & Deferred Outflows of Resources	\$	20,071,246	\$	14,252,926
LIABILITIES				
Accounts Payable	\$	18,605	\$	461
Salary and Benefits Payable		12,503		-
Grants Received in Advance		61,800		-
Interest Payable		3,742		35,662
Long-Term Liabilities				
Due Within One Year				
Long Term Debt		215,169		310,338
Compensated Absences Payable		8,831		825
Due After One Year		700 100		<b>=</b> 000 004
Long Term Debt		702,102		5,629,801
Compensated Absences Payable		79,482		7,426
Net Pension and OPEB Liability		3,183,193		335,400
Total Liabilities	_\$	4,285,427	\$	6,319,913
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES				
Taxes Received in Advance	\$	895,335	\$	161,906
Derived from Pension and OPEB		207,690		23,527
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	_\$	1,103,025	\$	185,433
Total Liabilities & Deferred Inflows of Resources	\$	5,388,452	\$	6,505,346
NET POSITION				
Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$	13,121,184	\$	6,732,550
Restricted	·	-, , -	*	-, - ,
Highways and Bridges		987,546		-
Culture and Recreation		-		4,318
Conservation of Natural Resources		67,798		796,906
Emergencies		436,939		-
Economic Development		-		231,182
Unrestricted				(17,376)
Total Net Position	\$	14,682,794	\$	7,747,580

			Progr	am Revenu	ıes	Net (Expense) Changes in I		
			0	perating	Capital	Government	al A	ctivities
		Charges for		rants and	Grants and	Primary		omponent
Functions/Programs	Expenses	Services	Cor	ntributions	Contributions	Government		Units
Primary Government								
General Government	\$ 1,638,062	\$ 191,196	\$	33,130	\$ -	\$ (1,413,736)	\$	-
Public Safety	674,596	141,232		-	-	(533,364)		-
Highways and Bridges	2,946,974	237,926		633,139	75,820	(2,000,089)		-
Flood Repair	126,945	-		195,263	-	68,318		-
Health and Welfare	953,914	16,682		755,081	-	(182,151)		-
Culture and Recreation	140,193	-		-	-	(140,193)		-
Conserv. of Natural Resources	50,910	24,514		1,173	-	(25,223)		-
Emergencies	8,477	-		-	-	(8,477)		
Interest on Long-Term Debt	15,149	-		-	-	(15,149)		
Total Primary Government	\$ 6,555,220	\$ 611,550	\$ -	1,617,786	\$ 75,820	\$ (4,250,064)	\$	
Component Units	\$ 1,266,219	\$ 493,115	\$	506,679	\$ 42,513		\$	(223,912)
	General Reve							
	Property Taxe					\$ 2,839,583	\$	243,411
	Non Restricted					616,119		392
	Gain on Dispo		l Ass	ets		132,306		-
	Earnings on In	vestments				53,142		3,993
	Miscellaneous	Revenue				5,283		45,976
	Total General	Revenues				\$ 3,646,433	\$	293,772
	Change in Net	Position				\$ (603,631)	\$	69,860
	Net Position -	January 1				\$ 15,286,425	\$	7,677,720
	Net Position -	December 3	1			\$ 14,682,794	\$	7,747,580

		Major I	Fun	ds			Total					
				Special	•	Nonmajor	Go	overnmental				
		General	F	Revenue		Fund		Funds				
ASSETS								_				
Cash and Investments	\$	1,741,232	\$2	2,635,945	\$	5,394	\$	4,382,571				
Taxes Receivable		37,933		25,045		-		62,978				
Accounts Receivable		14,430		291		-		14,721				
Intergovernmental Receivable		127,263		130,737		-		258,000				
Road Receivables		-		25,948		-		25,948				
Total Assets	\$	1,920,858	\$2	2,817,966	\$	5,394	\$	4,744,218				
LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES Liabilities												
Accounts Payable	\$	5,853	\$	12,752	\$	_	\$	18,605				
Salaries and Benefits Payable	Ψ	3,928	Ψ	8,575	Ψ	-	Ψ	12,503				
Grants Received in Advance		-		61,800		_		61,800				
Total Liabilities	\$	9,781	\$	83,127	\$	-	\$	92,908				
Deferred Inflows of Resources												
Taxes Receivable	\$	37,933	\$	25,045	\$	_	\$	62,978				
Road Receivables	Ψ	-	Ψ	25,948	Ψ	_	Ψ	25,948				
Taxes Received in Advance		544,169		346,913		4,253		895,335				
		0,		0.0,0.0		.,		333,333				
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	\$	582,102	\$	397,906	\$	4,253	\$	984,261				
Total Liabilities & Deferred Inflows	\$	591,883	\$	481,033	\$	4,253	\$	1,077,169				
Fund Dalanasa												
Fund Balances Committed												
County Improvement	\$		\$	11,455	\$	_	\$	11,455				
Restricted	Ψ	-	Ψ	11,433	Ψ	-	Ψ	11,433				
General Government		_		540		_		540				
Public Safety		_		86,318		_		86,318				
Highways and Bridges		_		1,495,989		_		1,495,989				
Flood Repair		_		69,327		_		69,327				
Health and Welfare		_		81,291		_		81,291				
Conservation of Natural Resources		_		107,654		_		107,654				
Emergencies		_		484,359		_		484,359				
Debt Service		-		-		1,141		1,141				
Unassigned		1,328,975		-		-		1,328,975				
Total Fund Balances	\$	1,328,975	\$2	2,336,933	\$	1,141	\$	3,667,049				
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of												
Resources and Fund Balances	\$	1,920,858	\$2	2,817,966	\$	5,394	\$	4,744,218				

Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet – Governmental Funds to the Statement of Net Position December 31, 2018

Total Fund Balances for Governmental Funds			\$ 3,667,049
Total net position reported for government activities in the statement of net position is different because:			
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and are not reported in the governmental funds.			14,038,455
Certain receivables will be collected after year-end, but are not available soon enough to pay for the current period's expenditures and therefore are reported as deferred revenues in the funds.			
Property Taxes Receivable Road Receibables	\$	62,978 25,948	88,926
Deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions and OPEB are applicable to future periods and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.			
Deferred Outflows Related to Pensions and OPEB  Deferred Inflows Related to Pensions and OPEB	\$	1,288,573 (207,690)	1,080,883
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and accordingly are not reported as fund liabilities. Interest on long-term debt is not accrued in governmental funds, but rather is recognized as an expenditure when due. All liabilities-both current and long-term are reported in the statement of net position.			
Long-Term Debt Interest Payable	\$	(917,271) (3,742)	
Net Pension and OPEB Liability		(3,183,193)	(, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
Compensated Absences Payable	_	(88,313)	 (4,192,519)
Total Net Position of Governmental Activities			\$ 14,682,794

	Major	Funds				Total
		Special	- N	onmajor	Go	vernmental
	General	Revenue		Fund		Funds
Revenues						
Taxes	\$ 1,804,129	\$ 1,020,044	\$	2,447	\$	2,826,620
Licenses, Permits and Fees	54,382	-	*	_,	*	54,382
Intergovernmental	513,335	1,720,570		_		2,233,905
Charges for Services	136,815	426,077		_		562,892
Fines and Forfeits	-	.20,0		_		-
Interest Income	53,142	_		_		53,142
Miscellaneous	-	5,284		_		5,284
Wilder and the second s		0,201		_		0,201
Total Revenues	\$ 2,561,803	\$ 3,171,975	\$	2,447	\$	5,736,225
Expenditures						
Current						
General Government	\$ 1,490,767	\$ 3,435	\$	_	\$	1,494,202
Public Safety	435,581	171,648	,	-	•	607,229
Highways	1,790	2,809,977		-		2,811,767
Flood Repair	_	128,667		_		128,667
Health and Welfare	400	840,092		_		840,492
Culture and Recreation	136,609	-		_		136,609
Conserv. of Natural Resources	-	237,748		_		237,748
Debt Service		_0:,::0		_		_0.,
Principal	179,288	16,770		_		196,058
Interest and Fees	13,216	2,150		_		15,366
	,	_,				,
Total Expenditures	\$ 2,257,651	\$ 4,210,487	\$	-	\$	6,468,138
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues						
Over Expenditures	\$ 304,152	\$ (1,038,512)	\$	2,447	\$	(731,913)
						_
Other Financing Sources (Uses)						
Lease Financing	\$ -	\$ 195,437	\$	-	\$	195,437
Bond Drawdown Proceeds	-	61,473		-		61,473
Sale of Assets	6,000	122,750		-		128,750
Transfers In	3,643	697,352		-		700,995
Transfers Out	(609,375)	(88,327)		(3,293)		(700,995)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	\$ (599,732)	988,685	\$	(3,293)	\$	385,660
Net Change in Fund Balances	\$ (295,580)	\$ (49,827)	\$	(846)	\$	(346,253)
Fund Palance January 1	¢ 1604555	¢ 2 206 760	Ф	1 007	æ	4 012 202
Fund Balance - January 1	\$ 1,624,555	\$ 2,386,760	\$	1,987	\$	4,013,302
Fund Balance - December 31	\$ 1,328,975	\$ 2,336,933	\$	1,141	\$	3,667,049

Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities

For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

Net Change in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds			\$ (346,253)
The change in net position reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities is different because:			
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense.			
Current Year Capital Outlay	\$	437,396	
Current Year Depreciation Expense		(408,121)	29,275
In the statement of activities, only the gain on disposal of capital assets is reported, whereas in the governmental funds, the proceeds from the sale increase financial			
resources.	φ	122 206	
Gain on Sale of Capital Assets	\$	132,306	0.550
Sale of Capital Assets	-	(128,750)	3,556
The proceeds of debt issuances are reporting as other financing sources in governmental funds and thus contribute to the change in fund balance. In the statement of net position, issuing debt increases long-term liabilities and does not affect the statement of activities. Repayment of debt principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position.  Bond Proceeds Capital Lease Financing	\$	(61,473) (195,437)	(44-44-1)
Repayment of Debt	-	196,058	(60,852)
The net pension liability and related deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources are reported in the government wide statements; however, activity related to these pension items do not involve current financial resources, and are not reported in the funds.			
Increase in Net Pension Liability and OPEB	\$	(283, 242)	
Decrease in Deferred Intflows of Resources Related to Pensions and OPEB		(9,253)	
Increase in Deferred Outflows of Resources Related to Pensions and OPEB		(82,759)	(375,254)
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current			
financial resources and are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.			
Decrease in Compensated Absences Liability	\$	276	
Decrease in Retainage Payable		138,166	
Decrease in Interest Payable		217	138,659
Some revenues reported on the statement of activities are not reported as revenues in the governmental funds since they do not represent available resources to pay current expenditures.			
Increase in Taxes Receivable	\$	12,962	
Decrease in Road Receivables		(5,724)	 7,238
Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities			\$ (603,631)

Statement of Fiduciary Assets and Liabilities – Agency Funds December 31, 2018

ASSETS  Cash and Investments  Other Asset	\$ 1,735,672 10,513
Total Assets	\$ 1,746,185
LIABILITIES  Due to Other Governments  Benefits Payable	\$ 1,743,585 2,600
Total Liabilities	\$ 1,746,185

Combining Statement of Net Position – All Discretely Presented Component Units For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

100770	- F	Water Resource District	Dickey-Sargent Joint Water Resource District			Health District		Fair		Job evelopment Authority		Totals
ASSETS	Φ.	070.055	<b>ው</b>	1 001 157	Φ	400 000	Φ	FO 400	Φ	404.005	Φ	2 272 202
Cash and Investments	\$	879,655	<b>Þ</b>	1,961,457	Ъ	186,988	\$	50,498	\$	194,265	\$	3,272,863
Accounts Receivable		841 382		310		- 58,731		-		1,144 -		2,295 59,113
Intergovernmental Receivable Loans Receivable		302		-		30,731		_		43,323		43,323
Taxes Receivable		567		-		2,459		_		1,309		43,323
Special Assessment Receivable		1,154,392		2 710 500		2,459		-		1,309		3,872,990
Other Asset		1,134,392		2,718,598		317		_		_		3,672,990
Capital Assets, Net		1,224,063		5,526,236		97,859		_		_		6,848,158
Capital Assets, Net		1,224,003		3,320,230		91,009						0,040,130
Total Assets	\$	3,259,900	\$	10,206,601	\$	346,354	\$	50,498	\$	240,041	\$	14,103,394
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES												
Pension and OPEB Items	\$	-	\$	-	\$	149,532	\$	-	\$	_	\$	149,532
												· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Total Assets & Deferred Outflows of Resources	_\$	3,259,900	\$	10,206,601	\$	495,886	\$	50,498	\$	240,041	\$	14,252,926
LIABILITIES												
Accounts Payable	\$	_	\$	_	\$	461	\$	_	\$	_	\$	461
Interest Payable	*	9,669	Ψ	24,952	٠	-	Ψ	1,041	٠	_	Ψ	35,662
Long-Term Liabilities		-,		,				.,				,
Due Within One Year												
Long Term Debt		80,000		220,000		-		10,338		_		310,338
Compensated Absences		-		-		825		-		-		825
Due After One Year												
Long Term Debt		1,190,000		4,405,000		-		34,801		-		5,629,801
Compensated Absences		-		-		7,426		-		-		7,426
Net Pension and OPEB Liability		-		-		335,400		-		-		335,400
Total Liabilities	\$	1,279,669	\$	4,649,952	\$	344,112	\$	46,180	\$	-	\$	6,319,913
DEFERRED INFLOWS												
Pension and OPEB Items	\$	-	\$	-	\$	23,527	\$	-	\$	-	\$	23,527
Taxes Received in Advance		74,870		43,096		35,081		-		8,859		161,906
Total Liabilities & Deferred Inflows	\$	1,354,539	\$	4,693,048	\$	402,720	\$	46,180	\$	8,859	\$	6,505,346
NET POSITION												
	œ	1,108,455	Ф	5,526,236	Φ	97,859	¢	_	\$	_	\$	6,732,550
Net Investment in Capital Assets Restricted	Ф	1,106,455	Ф	5,526,236	Ф	97,009	Φ	-	Ф	-	Ф	0,732,550
Culture and Recreation		-		_		-		4,318		-		4,318
Economic Development		-		-		-		-		231,182		231,182
Conservation of Natural Resources		796,906		_		-		-		-		796,906
Unrestricted		<u> </u>		(12,683)		(4,693)						(17,376)
Total Net Position	\$	1,905,361	\$	5,513,553	\$	93,166	\$	4,318	\$	231,182	\$	7,747,580

Combining Statement of Activities – All Discretely Presented Component Units December 31, 2018

				ı	Proc	gram Reven	LIGE		Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position										
				<u>'</u>	ΙΟξ	giaili ixeveii	ucs					Dickey-	Changes ii	IIVC	et i osition				
					C	perating		Capital		Water		Sargent					Job		
			CI	harges for	G	rants and	Gı	rants and	R	esource	J	oint Water	Health			De	evelopment		
Functions/Programs	E	xpenses	,	Services	Co	ntributions	Со	ntributions	[	District	R	es. District	District		Fair	-	Authority		Totals
Component Units																			
Water Resource District	\$	144,235	\$	-	\$	362,098	\$	22,412	\$	240,275	\$	-	\$ -	\$	-	\$	-	\$	240,275
Dickey-Sargent Joint Water Res. Dist.		306,722		-		90,072		20,101		-		(196,549)	-		-		-		(196,549)
Health District		593,614		421,568		54,406		-		-		-	(117,640)		-		-		(117,640)
Fair		106,572		24,666		-		-		-		-	-		(81,906)		-		(81,906)
Job Development Authority		115,076		46,881		103				-		-	-		-		(68,092)		(68,092)
Total Component Units	\$	1,266,219	\$	493,115	\$	506,679	\$	42,513	\$	240,275	\$	(196,549)	\$ (117,640)	\$	(81,906)	\$	(68,092)	\$	(223,912)
			Ge	eneral Re	/en	ues													
			Pr	operty taxe	es				\$	12,384	\$	-	\$ 116,415	\$	54,153	\$	60,459	\$	243,411
						rants and c	ontr	ributions		-		-	-		-		392		392
			Εa	arnings on	nve	stments				1,280		2,701	-		12		-		3,993
			Mi	scellaneou	s re	evenue				3,121		16,400	-		26,455		-		45,976
			То	tal Genera	l Re	evenues			\$	16,785	\$	19,101	\$ 116,415	\$	80,620	\$	60,851	\$	293,772
			Cł	nange in Ne	et P	osition			\$	257,060	\$	(177,448)	\$ (1,225)	\$	(1,286)	\$	(7,241)	\$	69,860
			Ne	et Position	- Ja	nuary 1			\$1	,648,301	\$	5,691,001	\$ 94,391	\$	5,604	\$	238,423		7,677,720
			Ne	et Position	- De	ecember 31			\$1	,905,361	\$	5,513,553	\$ 93,166	\$	4,318	\$	231,182	\$	7,747,580

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

#### **NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

#### **A. Reporting Entity**

The accompanying financial statements present the activities of Dickey County ("County"). The County has considered all potential component units for which it is financially accountable and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationships with the County are such that exclusion would cause its financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board has set forth criteria in GASB Statement No. 61 to be considered in determining financial accountability. These criteria includes appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body and (1) the ability of the County to impose its will on that organization or (2) the potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on the County.

Based on these criteria, the component unit discussed below is included within the County's reporting entity because of the significance of its operational or financial relationship with the County.

#### **Component Unit**

In conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial statements of the component units have been included in the financial reporting entity as discretely presented component units.

#### Discretely Presented Component Unit

The component unit column in the government wide financial statements includes the financial data of the County's component unit. This unit is reported in a separate column to emphasize that it is legally separate from the County.

Dickey County Water Resource District ("Water Resource District") - The County's governing board appoints a voting majority of the members of the Dickey County Water Resource District Board. The County has the authority to approve or modify the Water Resource District operational and capital budgets. The County also must approve the tax levy established by the Water Resource District.

Dickey-Sargent Joint Water Resource District ("Joint Water Resource District") – The Dickey-Sargent Joint Water Resource District was formed by the Sargent County Water Resource District and the Dickey County Water Resource District under the provisions of North Dakota Century Code section 61-16.1-11. Each County's water district board appoints 3 member to the joint board. Administration and record keeping for the joint board are maintained at the Dickey County Water Resource District office.

Dickey County Health District ("Health District")- The County's governing board appoints a voting majority of the members of the Dickey County Health District. The County has the authority to approve or modify the Health District's operational and capital budgets. The County's governing board must approve the tax levy established by Health District.

Dickey County Fair Association ("Fair")- The County's governing board appoints a voting majority of the members of the Dickey County Fair Association. The county has the authority to approve or modify the Fair Association's operational and capital budgets. The County's governing board must approve the tax levy established by the Fair Association.

Dickey County Job Development Authority ("Job Development Authority") - The County's governing board appoints a voting majority of the members of the Dickey County Job Development Authority. The County has the authority to approve or modify the Job Development Authority's operational and capital budgets. The County's governing board must approve the tax levy established by the Job Development Authority. The Job Development Authority has the authority to issue bonded debt.

Component Unit Financial Statements: The financial statements of the aggregate discretely presented component units are presented in the County's basic financial statements. Complete financial statements of the component units can be obtained from the Dickey County Auditor/Treasurer Dickey County, PO Box 215, Ellendale, ND 58436-0215.

#### **B.** Basis of Presentation

Government-wide statements. The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the primary government, the County, and its component units. These statements include the financial activities of the overall government, except for fiduciary activities. Eliminations have been made to minimize the double-counting of internal activities. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other non-exchange transactions.

The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the County's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function and, therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include (a) fees and charges paid by the recipients of goods or services offered by the programs and (b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, interest, and non-restricted grants and contributions, are presented as general revenues.

Fund Financial Statements. The fund financial statements provide information about the County's funds, including its fiduciary funds. Separate statements for each fund category, *governmental* and *fiduciary*, are presented. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major governmental funds, each displayed in a separate column. All remaining governmental funds are aggregated and reported as nonmajor funds.

#### C. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentation

The government-wide and fiduciary fund financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

Governmental funds are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the County considers revenues to be available if they are collected within sixty days of the end of the current period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures, as well as expenditures related to compensated absences and claims and judgments, are recorded only when payment is due.

All revenues are considered to be susceptible to accrual and so have been recognized as revenues of the current period. Only the portion of special assessments receivable due within the current fiscal period is considered to be susceptible to accrual as revenue of the current period. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the County.

The County reports the following major governmental funds:

General Fund - This is the County's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the general government, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Special Revenue Fund - This fund accounts for financial resources that exist for special purposes. The major sources of revenues are a restricted tax levy and state/Federal grants/reimbursements.

Additionally, the County reports the following fund type:

Agency Funds. These funds account for assets by the County in a custodial capacity as an agent on behalf of others. The County's agency funds are used to account for property taxes collected on behalf of other governments.

#### D. Cash and Investments

Cash include amounts in demand deposits, money market accounts and short-term certificates of deposit. Cash includes certificates of deposit with maturities of 3 months or less.

The investments consist certificates of deposit with maturities of greater than 3 months.

#### E. Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property, plant, and equipment, are reported in the applicable governmental or business-type activities columns in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the government as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than \$3,000. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date of donation.

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets lives are not capitalized.

Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed. Interest incurred during the construction phase of capital assets is not capitalized.

Capital assets are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

Assets	Years
Buildings & Infrastructure	30 - 75
Vehicles & Equipment	7

#### F. Compensated Absences

Vacation leave is earned at the rate of 12 to 20 days per year depending on years of service. 15 days of vacation leave may be carried over from one year to the next. Any unused vacation in excess of one year's accrual of vacation days will be forfeited. Upon termination vacation benefits that have accrued through the last day of work will be paid. Employees accrue sick leave benefits at the rate of 12 days per year. Unused sick leave benefits will be allowed to accumulate to a limit of 30 days. Vacation and sick leave may not be used until a six- month probationary period is completed. Once an employee has reached their maximum accrued sick leave level, they are eligible to trade any additional sick leave awarded that year, at a rate of one day of vacation for three days of sick leave. This trade must occur within the calendar year in which the sick leave is earned.

#### **G. Long-Term Obligations**

In the government-wide financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the governmental activities statement of net position.

In the fund financial statements, the face amount of the debt is reported as other financing sources. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing sources. Issuance costs are reported as debt service expenditures.

#### H. Pension

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System (NDPERS) and additions to/deductions from NDPERS' fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by NDPERS. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

#### I. Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB)

For purposes of measuring the net OPEB liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB, OPEB expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System (NDPERS), and additions to/deductions from NDPERS' fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by NDPERS. For this purpose, benefit payments are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

#### J. Fund Balances

Minimum Fund Balance Policy. The County established a \$300,000 general fund carryover balance target to help with financial stability. The fund balance range is a part of the County's fiscal policies. This level provides sufficient unassigned resources to avoid short-term cash flow borrowing for the County. Unassigned general fund balance was \$1,328,975 at December 31, 2018.

Fund Balance Spending Policy. It is the policy of the County to spend restricted resources first, followed by unrestricted resources. It is also the policy of the Board to spend unrestricted resources of funds in the following order: committed, assigned and then unassigned.

Restricted Fund Balances. Restricted fund balances are shown by primary function on the balance sheet. Restricted fund balances are restricted by tax levies (enabling legislation) and by outside 3<sup>rd</sup> parties (state and federal governments for various grants & reimbursements).

Committed Fund Balances. Committed fund balance reported in the special revenue fund is committed by the governing board to be used for county improvements.

Unassigned Fund Balances. Unassigned fund balance is reported in the general fund and for negative fund balances at year-end.

#### **K. Net Position**

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the County's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

Net investment in capital assets is reported for capital assets less accumulated depreciation, as well as net of any related debt to purchase or finance the capital assets. These assets are not available for future spending.

Restrictions of net position in the statement of net position are due to restricted tax levies and restricted Federal & State grants/reimbursements.

Unrestricted net position is primarily unrestricted amounts related to the general fund and negative fund balances.

#### L. Interfund Transactions

In the governmental fund statements, transactions that constitute reimbursements to a fund for expenditures initially made from it that are properly applicable to another fund, are recorded as expenditures in the reimbursing fund and as reductions of expenditures in the fund that is reimbursed.

All other interfund transactions, except reimbursements, are reported as transfers.

In the government-wide financial statements, interfund transactions have been eliminated.

#### **NOTE 2: DEPOSITS**

#### **Custodial Credit Risk**

Credit risk is the risk associated with the failure of a depository institution, such that in the event of a depository financial institution's failure, the County would not be able to recover the deposits or collateralized securities that in the possession of the outside parties. The County does not have a formal policy regarding deposits that limits the amount it may invest in any one issuer.

In accordance with North Dakota Statutes, deposits must either be deposited with the Bank of North Dakota or in other financial institution situated and doing business within the state. Deposits, other than with the Bank of North Dakota, must be fully insured or bonded. In lieu of a bond, a financial institution may provide a pledge of securities equal to 110% of the deposits not covered by insurance or bonds.

Authorized collateral includes bills, notes, or bonds issued by the United States government, its agencies or instrumentalities, all bonds and notes guaranteed by the United States government, Federal land bank bonds, bonds, notes, warrants, certificates of indebtedness, insured certificates of deposit, shares of investment companies registered under the Investment Companies Act of 1940, and all other forms of securities issued by the State of North Dakota, its boards, agencies or instrumentalities or by any county, city, township, school district, park district, or other political subdivision of the state of North Dakota. Whether payable from special revenues or supported by the full faith and credit of the issuing body and bonds issued by another state of the United States or such other securities approved by the banking board.

At year ended December 31, 2018, the County's carrying amount of deposits totaled \$8,752,818, and the bank balances totaled \$8,835,078. Of the bank balances, \$1,034,323 was covered by Federal Depository Insurance. The remaining bank balances were collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's agent in the government's name.

At year ended December 31, 2018, the Dickey-Sargent Joint Water Resource District's carrying amount of deposits totaled \$586,270, and the bank balances totaled \$586,581. Of the bank balances, \$385,064 was covered by Federal Depository Insurance. The remaining bank balances were collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's agent in the government's name.

At year ended December 31, 2018, the Dickey County Fair's carrying amount of deposits and bank balances totaled \$50,498, all of which were covered by Federal Depository Insurance.

#### **NOTE 3: PROPERTY TAXES**

Property taxes are levied as of January 1. The property taxes attach as an enforceable lien on property on January 1. The tax levy may be paid in two installments: the first installment includes one-half of the real estate taxes and all the special assessments; the second installment is the balance of the real estate taxes. The first installment is due by March 1 and the second installment is due by October 15. A 5% discount is allowed if all taxes and special assessments are paid by February 15. After the due dates, the bill becomes delinquent and penalties are assessed.

#### **NOTE 4: UNCOLLECTED SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS**

Special assessments receivable consists of certified special assessments due to the Dickey-Sargent Joint Water Resource District (DSJWRD), and uncertified special assessments receivable, which represents a long-term receivable due to the DSJWRD for the Jackson Township drain project. Special assessments receivable also consists of certified special assessments due to the Dickey County Water Resource District (WRD), and uncertified special assessments receivable, which represents a long-term receivable due to the WRD for the Yorktown Maple Improvement District No. 3.

#### NOTE 5: JOB DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY LOANS RECEIVABLE

The Job Development Authority provides loans to businesses for either startup costs or expansion costs. The Development Authority receives applications from various businesses within the community and either approves or denies the applications based on majority board decision. The Job Development Authority had the following activity in loans outstanding for the year ended December 31, 2018:

	Ba	alance	Ne	ew Loans/	Pr	incipal	Balance					
Name/Business	Ja	nuary 1	-	Additions	Pa	yments	December 31					
Loans Receivable Total	\$	6,490	\$	44,000	\$	7,167	\$	43,323				

The Job Development Authority has also provided collateral of CD's to cover loans made to various businesses during the year ended December 31, 2018. The County reports the cash in the CD's, while the bank reports the loans receivable. Starion Financial and First State Bank is responsible for collecting loan payments and are ultimately responsible for uncollectible loans. The amount of the balances outstanding totaled \$14,432 at December 31, 2018.

#### **NOTE 6: CAPITAL ASSETS**

#### **Primary Government**

The following is a summary of changes in capital assets for the year ended December 31, 2018:

		Restated								
		Balance								Balance
Primary Government	,	January 1	Ir	ncreases	De	ecreases	Transfers		De	cember 31
Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated										
Land	\$	40,398	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	40,398
Construction in Progress		4,384,363		200,517		-	(4,53	31,771)		53,109
Total Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated	\$	4,424,761	\$	200,517	\$	-	\$ (4,53	31,771)	\$	93,507
Capital Assets, Being Depreciated										
Buildings	\$	2,179,199	\$	8,500	\$	-	\$	-	\$	2,187,699
Equipment		2,064,174		70,364		643,723		-		1,490,815
Vehicles		1,014,412		196,342		40,154		-		1,170,600
Infrastructure		8,072,330		-		-	4,53	31,771		12,604,101
Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated	\$	13,330,115	\$	275,206	\$	683,877	\$ 4,53	31,771	\$	17,453,215
Less Accumulated Depreciation										
Buildings	\$	750,910	\$	45,661	\$	-	\$	-	\$	796,571
Equipment		1,609,678		96,744		439,295		-		1,267,127
Vehicles		751,656		97,661		40,154		_		809,163
Infrastructure		467,351		168,055		-		-		635,406
Total Accumulated Depreciation	\$	3,579,595	\$	408,121	\$	479,449	\$	-	\$	3,508,267
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated, Net	\$	9,750,520	\$	(132,915)	\$	204,428	\$ 4,53	31,771	\$	13,944,948
Capital Assets - Net	\$	14,175,281	\$	67,602	\$	204,428	\$	-	\$	14,038,455

Depreciation expense was charged to functions/programs of the County as follows:

Primary Government	
General Government	\$ 38,969
Public Safety	31,669
Highways	312,758
Culture and Recreation	3,584
Conservation of Natural Resources	21,141
Total Depreciation Expense	\$ 408,121

#### **Water Resource District**

The following is a summary of changes in capital assets for the year ended December 31, 2018:

	Balance						Balance
Water Resource District	January 1	Increases		Decreases	Transfers	December 31	
Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated							
Construction in Progress	\$ 1,019,834	\$	187,025	\$ -	\$ (1,206,859)	\$	-
Intangible	12,860		20,435	-	-		33,295
Total Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated	\$ 1,032,694	\$	207,460	\$ -	\$ (1,206,859)	\$	33,295
Capital Assets, Being Depreciated							
Infrastructure	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 1,206,859	\$	1,206,859
Less Accumulated Depreciation							
Infrastructure	\$ -	\$	16,091	\$ -	\$ -	\$	16,091
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated, Net	\$ -	\$	(16,091)	\$ -	\$ 1,206,859	\$	1,190,768
Capital Assets - Net	\$ 1,032,694	\$	191,369	\$ -	\$ -	\$	1,224,063

#### **Joint Water Resource District**

The following is a summary of changes in capital assets for the year ended December 31, 2018:

		Balance						Balance	
Joint Water Resource District	J	lanuary 1	Increases		Decreases	Transfers	De	December 31	
Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated									
Land	\$	395,668	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$	395,668	
Intangible		46,833		-	-	-		46,833	
Total Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated	\$	442,501	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$	442,501	
Capital Assets, Being Depreciated									
Infrastructure	\$	5,295,557	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$	5,295,557	
Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated	\$	5,295,557	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$	5,295,557	
Less Accumulated Depreciation									
Infrastructure	\$	105,911	\$	105,911	\$ -	\$ -	\$	211,822	
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated, Net	\$	5,189,646	\$	(105,911)	\$ -	\$ -	\$	5,083,735	
Capital Assets - Net	\$	5,632,147	\$	(105,911)	\$ -	\$ -	\$	5,526,236	

#### **Health District**

The following is a summary of changes in capital assets for the year ended December 31, 2018:

		Balance					В	alance
Health District	J	anuary 1	In	creases	Decreases	Transfers	Dec	ember 31
Capital Assets, Being Depreciated								
Buildings	\$	108,732	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$	108,732
Less Accumulated Depreciation								
Buildings	\$	7,249	\$	3,624	\$ -	\$ -	\$	10,873
Capital Assets - Net	\$	101,483	\$	(3,624)	\$ -	\$ -	\$	97,859

#### **NOTE 7: LONG-TERM LIABILITIES**

#### **Primary Government**

During the year ended December 31, 2018, the following changes occurred in liabilities reported in long-term liabilities:

	Balance				Loan					Balance		e Within
Primary Government	J	lanuary 1	Ir	creases	Fo	rgiveness	[	Decreases	De	cember 31	0	ne Year
Long-Term Debt												
Leases Payable	\$	242,545	\$	195,437	\$	169,656	\$	16,770	\$	251,556	\$	53,675
Bonds Payable		783,530		61,473		-		179,288		665,715		161,494
Total Long-Term Debt	\$	1,026,075	\$	256,910	\$	169,656	\$	196,058	\$	917,271	\$	215,169
Compensated Absences *	\$	88,589	\$	-	\$	•	\$	276	\$	88,313	\$	8,831
Net Pension and OPEB Liability		2,899,951		283,242		-		-		3,183,193		-
Total Primary Government	\$	4,014,615	\$	540,152	\$	169,656	\$	196,334	\$	4,188,777	\$	224,000

<sup>\*</sup> The change in compensated absences is shown as a net change because changes in salary prohibit exact calculations of additions and reductions.

Debt Service requirement on long-term debt at December 31, 2018 are as follows:

	GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES								
Year Ending		Capital	Lea	ases	Bonds Payable				
December 31	Р	rincipal		Interest		Principal		Interest	
2019	\$	53,675	\$	8,591	\$	161,494	\$	12,511	
2020		76,556		6,789		164,740		9,265	
2021		39,040		4,305		168,052		5,954	
2022		40,425		2,920		171,429		2,575	
2023		41,860		1,485		-		-	
Total	\$	251,556	\$	24,090	\$	665,715	\$	30,305	

#### Operating Lease Payments

The County entered into 5-year lease agreements in 2017 and 2018 for motor graders. For the year ended December 31, 2018, rental payments totaled \$63,958. The remaining rental payments at December 31, 2018 is outlined below:

	GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES								
Year Ending		JD		JD		JD		JD	
31-Dec		2018		2018		2017		2017	
	Mo	tor Grader	Мо	tor Grader	Мс	otor Grader	Мо	tor Grader	
2019	\$	38,641	\$	37,693	\$	30,583	\$	31,357	
2020		38,641		37,693		30,583		31,357	
2021		38,641		37,693		30,583		31,357	
2022		38,641		37,693		30,583		31,357	
2023		38,641		37,693					
Totals	\$	193,205	\$	188,465	\$	122,332	\$	125,428	

#### **Water Resource District**

During the year ended December 31, 2018, the following changes occurred in liabilities reported in long-term liabilities:

	Balance			Balance	Due Within
Water Resource District	January 1	Increases	Decreases	December 31	One Year
Long-Term Debt					
Bonds Payable	\$ 1,355,000	\$ -	\$ 85,000	\$ 1,270,000	\$ 80,000

Debt Service requirement on long-term debt at December 31, 2018 are as follows:

Water	Water Resource District								
Year Ending	Bonds F	Payable							
December 31	Principal	Interest							
2019	80,000	28,485							
2020	80,000	27,445							
2021	85,000	26,203							
2022	85,000	24,758							
2023	85,000	23,312							
2024-2028	455,000	88,627							
2029-2033	400,000	24,450							
Total	\$ 1,270,000	\$ 243,280							

#### **Joint Water Resource District**

During the year ended December 31, 2018, the following changes occurred in liabilities reported in long-term liabilities:

Joint Water Resource	Balance January 1	Increases	Decreases	Balance December 31	Due Within One Year
Long-Term Debt					
Bonds Payable	\$ 4,835,000	\$ -	\$ 210,000	\$ 4,625,000	\$ 220,000

Debt Service requirement on long-term debt at December 31, 2018 are as follows:

Joint Water Resource District								
Year Ending	Bonds I	Payable						
December 31	Principal	Interest						
2019	\$ 220,000	\$ 147,207						
2020	220,000	141,928						
2021	225,000	136,190						
2022	230,000	130,007						
2023	240,000	123,314						
2024-2028	1,290,000	502,709						
2029-2033	1,510,000	270,469						
2034-2038	690,000	25,777						
Total	\$ 4,625,000	\$ 1,477,601						

#### **Health District**

During the year ended December 31, 2018, the following changes occurred in liabilities reported in long-term liabilities:

	R	estated								
	В	Balance					E	Balance	Due	Within
Health District	Ja	nuary 1	In	creases	Dec	reases	Dec	ember 31	On	e Year
Compensated Absences *	\$	6,910	\$	1,341	\$	-	\$	8,251	\$	825
Net Pension and OPEB Liability		315,992		19,408		-		335,400		-
Total Health District	\$	322,902	\$	20,749	\$	-	\$	343,651	\$	825

<sup>\*</sup> The change in compensated absences is shown as a net change because changes in salary prohibit exact calculations of additions and reductions.

#### Fair

During the year ended December 31, 2018, the following changes occurred in liabilities reported in long-term liabilities:

	Re	stated								
	Ва	lance					В	alance	Du	e Within
Fair	Jan	uary 1	In	creases	De	creases	Dec	ember 31	Or	ne Year
Long-Term Debt										
Loan Payable	\$	31,440	\$	20,100	\$	6,401	\$	45,139	\$	10,338

Debt Service requirement on long-term debt at December 31, 2018 are as follows:

Fair						
Year Ending	Loans Payable					
December 31	Principal Interest					
2019		10,338		2,552		
2020		10,907		1,983		
2021		6,573		1,365		
2022		12,837		988		
2023		4,484		261		
Total	\$	45,139	\$	7,149		

#### **NOTE 8: PENSION PLAN**

#### General Information about the NDPERS Pension Plan

#### North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System (Main System)

The following brief description of NDPERS is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to NDCC Chapter 54-52 for more complete information.

NDPERS is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan that covers substantially all employees of the State of North Dakota, its agencies and various participating political subdivisions. NDPERS provides for pension, death and disability benefits. The cost to administer the plan is financed through the contributions and investment earnings of the plan.

Responsibility for administration of the NDPERS defined benefit pension plan is assigned to a Board comprised of nine members. The Board consists of a Chairman, who is appointed by the Governor; one member appointed by the Attorney General; one member appointed by the State Health Officer; three members elected by the active membership of the NDPERS system, one member elected by the retired public employees and two members of the legislative assembly appointed by the chairman of the legislative management.

#### **Pension Benefits**

Benefits are set by statute. NDPERS has no provision or policies with respect to automatic and ad hoc post-retirement benefit increases. Members of the Main System are entitled to unreduced monthly pension benefits beginning when the sum of age and years of credited service equal or exceed 85 (Rule of 85), or at normal retirement age (65). For members hired on or after January 1, 2016 the Rule of 85 will be replaced with the Rule of 90 with a minimum age of 60. The monthly pension benefit is equal to 2.00% of their average monthly salary, using the highest 36 months out of the last 180 months of service, for each year of service. The plan permits early retirement at ages 55-64 with three or more years of service.

Members may elect to receive the pension benefits in the form of a single life, joint and survivor, term-certain annuity, or partial lump sum with ongoing annuity. Members may elect to receive the value of their accumulated contributions, plus interest, as a lump sum distribution upon retirement or termination, or they may elect to receive their benefits in the form of an annuity. For each member electing an annuity, total payment will not be less than the members' accumulated contributions plus interest.

#### **Death and Disability Benefits**

Death and disability benefits are set by statute. If an active member dies with less than three years of service for the Main System, a death benefit equal to the value of the member's accumulated contributions, plus interest, is paid to the member's beneficiary. If the member has earned more than three years of credited service for the Main System, the surviving spouse will be entitled to a single payment refund, life-time monthly payments in an amount equal to 50% of the member's accrued normal retirement benefit, or monthly payments in an amount equal to the member's accrued 100% Joint and Survivor retirement benefit if the member had reached normal retirement age prior to date of death. If the surviving spouse dies before the member's accumulated pension benefits are paid, the balance will be payable to the surviving spouse's designated beneficiary.

Eligible members who become totally disabled after a minimum of 180 days of service, receive monthly disability equal to 25% of their final average salary with a minimum benefit of \$100. To qualify under this section, the member has to become disabled during the period of eligible employment and apply for benefits within one year of termination. The definition for disabled is set by the NDPERS in the North Dakota Administrative Code.

#### **Refunds of Member Account Balance**

Upon termination, if a member of the Main System is not vested (is not 65 or does not have three years of service), they will receive the accumulated member contributions and vested employer contributions, plus interest, or may elect to receive this amount at a later date. If the member has vested, they have the option of applying for a refund or can remain as a terminated vested participant. If a member terminated and withdrew their accumulated member contribution and is subsequently reemployed, they have the option of repurchasing their previous service.

#### **Member and Employer Contributions**

Member and employer contributions paid to NDPERS are set by statute and are established as a percent of salaries and wages. Member contribution rates are 7% and employer contributions rates are 7.12% of covered compensation.

The member's account balance includes the vested employer contributions equal to the member's contributions to an eligible deferred compensation plan. The minimum member contribution is \$25 and the maximum may not exceed the following:

1 to 12 months of service	Greater of one percent of monthly salary or \$25
13 to 24 months of service	Greater of two percent of monthly salary or \$25
25 to 36 months of service	Greater of three percent of monthly salary or \$25
Longer than 36 months of service	Greater of four percent of monthly salary or \$25

## Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

At December 31, 2018, the following net pension liabilities were reported:

	^	let Pension Liability
Primary Government	\$	3,049,577
Health District		321,321

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2018, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The proportion of the net pension liability was based on their respective share of covered payroll in the main system pension plan relative to the covered payroll of all participating main system employers. At June 30, 2018, the entities had the following proportions, change in proportions, and pension expense:

	Proportion	Increase (Decrease) in Proportion from June 30, 2017 Measurement	Pension Expense
Primary Government	0.180704%	0.008290%	\$ 502,999
Health District	0.019040%	0.000253%	56,710

At December 31, 2018, the County and Health District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	De	ferred Outflows	Deferred Inflows
Governmental		of Resources	of Resources
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$	8,073	\$ 103,753
Changes of Assumptions		1,100,834	43,527
Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Investment			
Earnings on Pension Plan Investments		-	14,837
Changes in Proportion and Differences Between Employer			
Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions		72,029	39,938
Employer Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date		75,320	-
Total	\$	1,256,256	\$ 202,055

	Def	erred Outflows	Defe	rred Inflows
Component Unit - Health District		of Resources	of l	Resources
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$	851	\$	10,932
Changes of Assumptions		115,990		4,586
Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Investment				
Earnings on Pension Plan Investments		-		1,563
Changes in Proportion and Differences Between Employer				
Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions		23,412		5,821
Employer Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date		6,604		-
Total	\$	146,857	\$	22,902

The following amounts were reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended December 31, 2019:

Primary Government	\$ 75,320
Health District	6,604

Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

	County	Hea	alth District
2019	\$ 313,783	\$	36,774
2020	273,419		32,544
2021	238,853		30,196
2022	138,910		16,855
2023	13,916		982
Thereafter	-		-

#### **Actuarial Assumptions**

The total pension liability in the July 1, 2018 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.50%				
Salary increases	Service at Beginning of year:	Increase Rate:			
	0	15.00%			
	1	10.00%			
	2	8.00%			
	Age*				
	Under 30	10.00%			
	30 – 39	7.50%			
	40 – 49	6.75%			
	50 – 59	6.50%			
	60+	5.25%			
	* Age-based salary increase	rates apply for			
	employees with three or more years of service				
Investment rate of return	7.75%, net of investment expenses				
Cost–of-living adjustments	None				

For active members, inactive members and healthy retirees, mortality rates were based on the RP-2000 Combined Healthy Mortality Table set back two years for males and three years for females, projected generationally using the SSA 2014 Intermediate Cost scale from 2014. For disabled retirees, mortality rates are based on the RP-2000 Disabled Retiree Mortality Table set back one year for males (no setback for females) multiplied by 125%.

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and adding expected inflation. Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in the Fund's target asset allocation are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long -Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Domestic Equity	30%	6.05%
International Equity	21%	6.71%
Private Equity	7%	10.2%
Domestic Fixed Income	23%	1.45%
International Fixed Income	0%	0.00%
Global Real Assets	19%	5.11%
Cash Equivalents	0%	0.00%

#### **Discount Rate**

For PERS, GASB Statement No. 67 includes a specific requirement for the discount rate that is used for the purpose of the measurement of the Total Pension Liability. This rate considers the ability of the System to meet benefit obligations in the future. To make this determination, employer contributions, employee contributions, benefit payments, expenses and investment returns are projected into the future. The current employer and employee fixed rate contributions are assumed to be made in each future year. The Plan Net Position (assets) in future years can then be determined and compared to its obligation to make benefit payments in those years. In years where assets are not projected to be sufficient to meet benefit payments, which is the case for the PERS plan, the use of a municipal bond rate is required.

The Single Discount Rate (SDR) is equivalent to applying these two rates to the benefits that are projected to be paid during the different time periods. The SDR reflects (1) the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments (during the period in which the fiduciary net position is projected to be sufficient to pay benefits) and (2) a tax-exempt municipal bond rate based on an index of 20-year general obligation bonds with an average AA credit rating as of the measurement date (to the extent that the contributions for use with the long-term expected rate of return are not met).

The pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be sufficient to make all projected future benefit payments through the year of 2061. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to projected benefit payments through the year 2061, and the municipal bond rate was applied to all benefit payments after that date. For the purpose of this valuation, the expected rate of return on pension plan investments is 7.75%; the municipal bond rate is 3.62%; and the resulting Single Discount Rate is 6.32%.

#### Sensitivity of the County's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount rate

The following presents the County's and Health District's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 6.32 percent, as well as what the County's and Health District's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (5.32 percent) or 1-percentage-point higher (7.32 percent) than the current rate.

			Current			
Proportionate Share		1%		Discount		1%
of the Net Pension Liability	Decrease (5.32%)			Rate (6.32%)		ease (7.32%)
County	\$	4,143,808	\$	3,049,577	\$	2,136,476
Health District		436,615		321,321		225,111

#### **Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position**

Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in a separately issued NDPERS financial report.

#### **NOTE 9: OPEB PLAN**

#### General Information about the OPEB Plan

#### North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System

The following brief description of NDPERS is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to NDAC Chapter 71-06 for more complete information.

NDPERS OPEB plan is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit OPEB plan that covers members receiving retirement benefits from the PERS, the HPRS, and Judges retired under Chapter 27-17 of the North Dakota Century Code a credit toward their monthly health insurance premium under the state health plan based upon the member's years of credited service. Effective July 1, 2015, the credit is also available to apply towards monthly premiums under the state dental, vision and long-term care plan and any other health insurance plan. The Retiree Health Insurance Credit Fund is advance-funded on an actuarially determined basis.

Responsibility for administration of the NDPERS defined benefit OPEB plan is assigned to a Board comprised of nine members. The Board consists of a Chairman, who is appointed by the Governor; one member appointed by the Attorney General; one member appointed by the State Health Officer; three members elected by the active membership of the NDPERS system, one member elected by the retired public employees and two members of the legislative assembly appointed by the chairman of the legislative management.

#### **OPEB Benefits**

The employer contribution for the PERS, the HPRS and the Defined Contribution Plan is set by statute at 1.14% of covered compensation. The employer contribution for employees of the state board of career and technical education is 2.99% of covered compensation for a period of eight years ending October 1, 2015. Employees participating in the retirement plan as part-time/temporary members are required to contribute 1.14% of their covered compensation to the Retiree Health Insurance Credit Fund. Employees purchasing previous service credit are also required to make an employee contribution to the Fund. The benefit amount applied each year is shown as "prefunded credit applied" on the Statement of Changes in Plan Net Position for the OPEB trust funds.

Retiree health insurance credit benefits and death and disability benefits are set by statute. There are no provisions or policies with respect to automatic and ad hoc post-retirement benefit increases. Employees who are receiving monthly retirement benefits from the PERS, the HPRS, the Defined Contribution Plan, the Chapter 27-17 judges or an employee receiving disability benefits, or the spouse of a deceased annuitant receiving a surviving spouse benefit or if the member selected a joint and survivor option are eligible to receive a credit toward their monthly health insurance premium under the state health plan.

Effective July 1, 2015, the credit is also available to apply towards monthly premiums under the state dental, vision and long-term care plan and any other health insurance plan. The benefits are equal to \$5.00 for each of the employee's, or deceased employee's years of credited service not to exceed the premium in effect for selected coverage. The retiree health insurance credit is also available for early retirement with reduced benefits.

## OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB

At December 31, 2018, the following net OPEB liabilities were reported:

	_	Net OPEB Liability
Primary Government	\$	133,616
Health District		14,079

The net OPEB liability was measured as of June 30, 2018, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The proportion of the net OPEB liability was based on their respective share of covered payroll in the main system pension plan relative to the covered payroll of all participating main system employers. At June 30, 2018, the entities had the following proportions, change in proportions, and pension expense:

	Proportion	Increase (Decrease) in Proportion from June 30, 2017 OPEB		OPEB Expense
	Proportion	Measurement		Expense
Primary Government	0.169656%	0.006963%	\$	17,373
Health District	0.017876%	0.000148%		1,742

At December 31, 2018, the County and Health District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	Deferr	ed Outflows	Deferr	ed Inflows
Governmental	of F	Resources	of R	esources
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$	4,001	\$	2,761
Changes of Assumptions		10,963		-
Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Investment				
Earnings on OPEB Plan Investments		-		2,874
Changes in Proportion and Differences Between Employer				
Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions		5,294		-
Employer Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date		12,060		-
Total	\$	32,318	\$	5,635

	Deferre	ed Outflows	Deferre	ed Inflows
Component Unit - Health District	of Re	esources	of Re	sources
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$	421	\$	291
Changes of Assumptions		1,155		-
Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Investment				
Earnings on OPEB Plan Investments		-		303
Changes in Proportion and Differences Between Employer				
Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions		42		31
Employer Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date		1,057		-
Total	\$	2,675	\$	625

The following amounts were reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended December 31, 2019:

Primary Government	\$ 12,060
Health District	1,057

Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEBs will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

	County	Hea	alth District
2019	\$ 1,982	\$	119
2020	1,982		119
2021	1,982		119
2022	3,250		253
2023	3,018		228
2024	2,005		135
Thereafter	404		20

#### **Actuarial assumptions**

The total OPEB liability in the July 1, 2018 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.50%
Salary Increases	Not applicable
Investment Rate of Return	7.50%, net of investment expenses
Cost-of-Living Adjustments	None

For active members, inactive members and healthy retirees, mortality rates were based on the RP-2000 Combined Healthy Mortality Table set back two years for males and three years for females, projected generationally using the SSA 2014 Intermediate Cost scale from 2014. For disabled retirees, mortality rates were based on the RP-2000 Disabled Mortality Table set back one year for males (no setback for females) multiplied by 125%.

The long-term expected investment rate of return assumption for the RHIC fund was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of RHIC investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. Estimates of arithmetic real rates of return, for each major asset class included in the RHIC's target asset allocation as of July 1, 2018 are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Large Cap Domestic Equities	37%	7.15%
Small Cap Domestic Equities	9%	14.42%
International Equities	14%	8.83%
Core-Plus Fixed Income	40%	0.10%

#### **Discount rate**

The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 7.50%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed plan member and statutory/Board approved employer contributions will be made at rates equal to those based on the July 1, 2018, and July 1, 2017, HPRS actuarial valuation reports. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current RHIC members and their beneficiaries are included. Projected employer contributions that are intended to fund the service costs of future plan members and their beneficiaries are not included. Based on those assumptions, the RHIC fiduciary net position was projected to be sufficient to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on RHIC investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total OPEB liability.

## Sensitivity of the County's and Health District's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability to changes in the discount rate

The following presents the net OPEB liability of the Plans as of June 30, 2018, calculated using the discount rate of 7.50%, as well as what the RHIC net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (6.5 percent) or 1-percentage-point higher (8.5 percent) than the current rate:

Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability	Dec	1% crease (6.50%)	Current Discount Rate (7.50%)		Incr	1% ease (8.50%)
County	\$	169,056	\$	133,616	\$	103,234
Health District		17,813		14,079		10,877

#### NOTE 10: TRANSFERS

The following is reconciliation between transfers in and transfers out as reported in the basic financial statements of the governmental activities for the year ended December 31, 2018:

	Tra	nsfers In	Trai	nsfers Out
Major Funds				
General Fund	\$	3,643		609,375
Special Revenue Fund		697,352		88,327
Nonmajor Fund				
Debt Service Fund		-		3,293
Total Transfers	\$	700,995	\$	700,995

Transfers are primarily used to move funds from the general fund to the state no match road fund and to move social serviced funds to the family focus fund. The remaining transfers are for various purposes.

#### **NOTE 11: CONSTRUCTION COMMITMENTS**

The County had one open construction commitment as of December 31, 2018 as follows:

	Original		Total				Remaining	
Project	Contract		Completed		Retainage		Balance	
BRC-1100(020) Bridge Project	\$	487,089	\$	-	\$	-	\$	487,089

#### NOTE 12: RISK MANAGEMENT

The County is exposed to various risks of loss relating to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters.

In 1986, state agencies and political subdivisions of the state of North Dakota joined together to form the North Dakota Insurance Reserve Fund (NDIRF), a public entity risk pool currently operating as a common risk management and insurance program for the state and over 2,000 political subdivisions. The County pays an annual premium to NDIRF for its general liability, automobile, and inland marine insurance coverage. The coverage by NDIRF is limited to losses of two million dollars per occurrence for general liability and automobile and \$3,842,033 for public assets (mobile equipment and portable property).

Notes to the Financial Statements - Continued

The County also participates in the North Dakota Fire and Tornado Fund and the State Bonding Fund. The County pays an annual premium to the Fire and Tornado Fund to cover property damage to buildings and personal property. Replacement cost coverage is provided by estimating replacement cost in consultation with the Fire and Tornado Fund. The Fire and Tornado Fund is reinsured by a third party insurance carrier for losses in excess of one million dollars per occurrence during a 12-month period. The State Bonding Fund currently provides the County with blanket fidelity bond coverage in the amount of \$2,000,000 for its employees. The State Bonding Fund does not currently charge any premium for this coverage.

#### NOTE 13: CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The County is a defendant in a breach of contract lawsuit with Lakeview Excavating Inc. In the opinion of County Counsel and management, such claims against the County not covered by insurance would not materially affect the financial condition of the County.

		Original	Amended Budget		Actual		Variance with Final Budget	
Revenues	_	Budget		buugei		Actual	ГІІ	iai buuget
Taxes	\$	1,851,491	\$	1,851,491	\$	1,804,129	\$	(47,362)
Licenses, Permits and Fees	Ψ	36,800	Ψ	36,800	Ψ	54,382	Ψ	17,582
Intergovernmental		379,052		379,052		513,335		134,283
Charges for Services		156,096		156,096		136,815		(19,281)
Interest Income		9,000		9,000		53,142		44,142
	_							
Total Revenues	\$	2,432,439	\$	2,432,439	\$	2,561,803	\$	129,364
Expenditures								
Current	Φ	4 070 000	Φ	4 070 000	Φ	4 400 707	Φ	000 400
General Government	\$	1,878,966	\$	1,878,966	Ъ	1,490,767	\$	388,199
Public Safety		589,686		589,686		435,581		154,105
Highways Health and Welfare		13,496 400		13,496 400		1,790 400		11,706
Culture and Recreation								- 
Debt Service		189,113		189,113		136,609		52,504
Principal		135,000		135,000		179,288		(44,288)
Interest & Fees		133,000		133,000		13,216		(13,216)
interest & rees						13,210		(13,210)
Total Expenditures	\$	2,806,661	\$	2,806,661	\$	2,257,651	\$	549,010
Fundamental Control of December 1								
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues	Φ	(074 000)	<b>ተ</b>	(074 000)	<b>ው</b>	204.450	Φ	070 074
Over Expenditures	_\$	(374,222)	\$	(374,222)	\$	304,152	\$	678,374
Other Financing Sources (Uses)								
Transfers In	\$	95,110	\$	95,110	\$	3,643	\$	(91,467)
Sale of Assets		4,443		4,443		6,000		1,557
Transfers Out		(599,000)		(599,000)		(609,375)		(10,375)
Total Other Financing Sources and Uses	\$	(499,447)	\$	(499,447)	\$	(599,732)	\$	(100,285)
								·
Net Change in Fund Balances	_\$	(873,669)	\$	(873,669)	\$	(295,580)	\$	578,089
Fund Balance - January 1	\$	1,624,555	\$	1,624,555	\$	1,624,555	\$	
Fund Balance - December 31	\$	750,886	\$	750,886	\$	1,328,975	\$	578,089

The accompanying required supplementary information notes are an integral part of this schedule.

	Original Budget		Amended Budget		Actual		Variance with Final Budget	
Revenues			<b>J</b>					
Taxes	\$ 1,054,862	\$	1,054,862	\$	1,020,044	\$	(34,818)	
Intergovernmental	2,006,990	•	2,006,990	*	1,651,243	*	(355,747)	
Charges for Services	1,126,798		1,126,798		426,077		(700,721)	
Miscellaneous	2,900		2,900		5,284		2,384	
······································			2,000		0,20.		2,001	
Total Revenues	\$ 4,191,550	\$	4,191,550	\$	3,102,648	\$	(1,088,902)	
Expenditures								
Current		_		_				
General Government	\$ 554,739	\$	554,739	\$	3,435		551,304	
Public Safety	591,992		591,992		171,648		420,344	
Highways	3,103,795		3,307,634		2,809,977		497,657	
Flood Repair	656,902		656,902		128,667		528,235	
Health and Welfare	883,362		883,362		840,092		43,270	
Conserv. of Natural Resources	286,930		286,930		237,748		49,182	
Debt Service								
Principal	18,920		18,920		16,770		2,150	
Interest	_		-		2,150		(2,150)	
	•	•						
Total Expenditures	\$ 6,096,640	\$	6,300,479	\$	4,210,487	\$	2,089,992	
F (D.f.: ) (D								
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues	Φ (4.005.000)		(0.400.000)	Φ.	(4.407.000)	Φ.	4 004 000	
Over Expenditures	\$ (1,905,090)	\$	(2,108,929)	\$	(1,107,839)	\$	1,001,090	
Other Financia a Comment (Hear)								
Other Financing Sources (Uses)	•	•		•	105 105	•	405 405	
Loan Proceeds	\$ -	\$	-	\$	195,437	\$	195,437	
Bond Drawdown Proceeds	-		-		61,473		61,473	
Sale of Assets	-		-		122,750		122,750	
Transfer In	692,000		692,000		697,352		5,352	
Transfers Out	(93,000)	)	-		(88,327)		(88,327)	
Total Other Financing Sources and Uses	\$ 599,000	\$	692,000	\$	988,685	\$	296,685	
Net Change in Fund Balances	\$ (1,306,090)	\$	(1,416,929)	\$	(119,154)	\$	1,297,775	
Fund Balance - January 1	\$ 2,386,760	\$	2,386,760	\$	2,386,760	\$		
Fund Balance - December 31	\$ 1,080,670	\$	969,831	\$	2,267,606	\$	1,297,775	

The accompanying required supplementary information notes are an integral part of this schedule.

#### Schedule of Employer's Share of Net Pension Liability ND Public Employee's Retirement System Last 10 Fiscal Years

				Proportionate	
				Share of the Net	
				Pension Liability	
				(Asset) as a	Plan Fiduciary
		Proportionate		Percentage of its	Net Position as
	Proportion of the Net	Share of the Net	Covered-	Covered-	a Percentage of
	Pension Liability	Pension Liability	Employee	Employee	the Total
County	(Asset)	(Asset)	Payroll	Payroll	Pension Liability
2018	0.180704%	\$ 3,049,577	\$ 1,856,405	164.27%	62.80%
2017	0.172414%	2,771,259	1,760,080	157.45%	61.98%
2016	0.176041%	1,715,691	1,774,076	96.71%	70.46%
2015	0.174130%	1,184,054	1,551,286	76.33%	77.15%
2014	0.185246%	1,175,796	1,560,478	75.35%	77.70%

				Proportionate	
				Share of the Net	
				Pension Liability	
				(Asset) as a	Plan Fiduciary
		Proportionate		Percentage of its	Net Position as
	Proportion of the Net	Share of the Net	Covered-	Covered-	a Percentage of
Health	Pension Liability	Pension Liability	Employee	Employee	the Total
District	(Asset)	(Asset)	Payroll	Payroll	Pension Liability
2018	0.019040%	\$ 321,321	\$ 195,606	164.27%	62.80%
2017	0.018787%	301,969	191,790	157.45%	61.98%
2016	0.014428%	140,615	145,399	96.71%	70.46%
2015	0.014590%	99,210	129,979	76.33%	77.15%
2014	0.016663%	122,325	140,364	87.15%	77.70%

## Schedule of Employer Contributions ND Public Employees Retirement System Last 10 Fiscal Years

		Contributions in			Contributions as	
		Relation to the			a Percentage of	
		Statutory	Contribution	Covered-	Covered-	
	Statutory Required	Required	Deficiency	Employee	Employee	
County	Contribution	Contribution	(Excess)	Payroll	Payroll	
2018	\$ 136,732	\$ 136,134	\$ 598	\$ 1,856,405	7.33%	
2017	127,627	133,674	(6,047)	1,760,080	7.59%	
2016	128,440	129,909	(1,469)	1,774,076	7.32%	
2015	117,833	122,862	(5,029)	1,551,286	7.92%	
2014	111,106	111,106	-	1,560,478	7.12%	

			Contributions in			Contributions as
			Relation to the			a Percentage of
			Statutory	Contribution	Covered-	Covered-
1	Health Statutory Required		Required	Deficiency	Employee	Employee
	District	Contribution	Contribution	(Excess)	Payroll	Payroll
	2018	\$ 14,407	\$ 13,926	\$ 481	\$ 195,606	7.12%
	2017	13,907	13,655	252	191,790	7.12%
	2016	10,527	10,352	175	145,399	7.12%
	2015	9,873	9,610	263	129,979	7.39%
	2014	9,994	9,994	-	140,364	7.12%

Schedule of Employer's Share of Net OPEB Liability and Employer Contributions For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

# Schedule of Employer's Share of Net OPEB Liability ND Public Employees Retirement System Last 10 Fiscal Years

				Proportionate	
				Share of the Net	
				OPEB (Asset)	Plan Fiduciary
				as a Percentage	Net Position as
	Proportion of the Net	Proportionate	Covered-	of its Covered-	a Percentage of
	OPEB Liability	Share of the Net	Employee	Employee	the Total OPEB
County	(Asset)	OPEB (Asset)	Payroll	Payroll	Liability
2018	0.169656%	\$ 133,616	\$ 1,856,405	7.20%	61.89%
2017	0.162693%	128,692	1,760,080	7.31%	59.78%

					ſ
				Proportionate	
				Share of the Net	
				OPEB (Asset)	Plan Fiduciary
				as a Percentage	Net Position as
	Proportion of the Net	Proportionate	Covered-	of its Covered-	a Percentage of
Health	OPEB Liability	Share of the Net	Employee	Employee	the Total OPEB
District	(Asset)	OPEB (Asset)	Payroll	Payroll	Liability
2018	0.017876%	\$ 14,079	\$ 195,606	7.20%	61.89%
2017	0.017728%	14,023	191,790	7.31%	59.78%

Schedule of Employer's Share of Net OPEB Liability and Employer Contributions – Continued For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

# Schedule of Employer Contributions ND Public Employees Retirement System Last 10 Fiscal Years

		ory Required	Relat Sta Re	butions in ion to the atutory equired	_	Contribution Deficiency	District's Covered- Employee	Contribution a Percentia Covere Employ	age of d- ree
County	Co	ntribution	Con	tribution		(Excess)	Payroll	Payro	ll
2018	\$	21,775	\$	21,797	\$	(22)	\$ 1,856,405		1.17%
2017		20,460		21,403		(943)	1,760,080		1.22%

Health District	Statutory Require	Contributions in Relation to the Statutory Required Contribution	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Covered- Employee Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered- Employee Payroll
				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
2018	\$ 2,29	\$ 2,230	\$ 64	\$ 195,606	1.14%
2017	2,22	2,186	43	191,790	-1.14%

Notes to the Required Supplementary Information For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

#### NOTE 1: STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

### **Budgetary Information**

- The County commission adopts an appropriated budget on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (GAAP).
- The County auditor prepares an annual budget for the general fund and each special revenue fund of the County.
   NDCC 11-23-02. The budget includes proposed expenditures and means of financing them.
- The County commission holds a public hearing where any taxpayer may appear and shall be heard in favor of
  or against any proposed disbursements or tax levies. When the hearing shall have been concluded, the board
  shall adopt such estimate as finally is determined upon. All taxes shall be levied in specific amounts and shall
  not exceed the amount specified in the published estimates. NDCC 11-23-04
- The board of County commissioners, on or before the October meeting shall determine the amount of taxes that shall be levied for County purposes and shall levy all such taxes in specific amounts. NDCC 11-23-05
- Each budget is controlled by the County auditor at the revenue and expenditure function/object level.
- The current budget, except for property taxes, may be amended during the year for any revenues and appropriations not anticipated at the time the budget was prepared. NDCC 57-15-31.1
- All appropriations lapse at year-end.

#### NOTE 2: SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER PENSION AND OPEB LIABILITY AND CONTRIBUTIONS

GASB Statements No. 68 and 75 require ten years of information to be presented in these tables. However, until a full 10-year trend is compiled, the County will present information for those years for which information is available.

#### NOTE 3: CHANGES OF ASSUMPTIONS – PENSION AND OPEB

Amounts reported in 2018 reflect actuarial assumption changes effective July 1, 2018 based on the results of an actuarial experience study completed in 2018. This includes changes to the mortality tables, disability incidence rates, retirement rates, administrative expenses, salary scale, and percent married assumption.

#### **NOTE 4: LEGAL COMPLIANCE - BUDGETS**

#### **Budget Amendments**

The board of County commissioners amended the budget for 2018 as follows:

	EXPENDITURES						
	Original			1	Amended		
Fund	Budget	An	nendment		Budget		
Major Funds							
Special Revenue Fund	\$ 6,096,640	\$	203,839	\$	6,300,479		

Schedule of Fund Activity – Cash Basis For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

Dinas Comment	Balance January 1		Receipts		Transfers In	Oth	ner Financing Source		Transfers Out	С	Disbursements	[	Balance December 31
Primary Government General Fund	\$ 1,517,788.00	\$	2,526,877.51	\$	3,643.00	\$	6,000.00	\$	609,375.00	\$	2,250,363.41	\$	1,194,570.10
Special Revenue Fund													
State No Match Road Fund	\$ 125,546.00	\$	75,819.50	\$	599,000.00	\$	61,473.00	\$	-	\$	861,839.00	\$	(0.50)
County Road and Bridge	1,254,297.00		1,713,742.39		7,295.00		315,242.00		-		1,958,243.00		1,332,333.39
Social Services	62,553.75		760,323.39						87,614.89		682,142.60		53,119.65
Economic Assistance	5,385.11		F 704 00	Φ	4,614.89						4,973.12		5,026.88
Family Focus	13,305.00 862.00		5,704.00	Ф	83,000.00		-		-		95,509.00 62.00		6,500.00 800.00
Designated Funds 24-7	1,635.00		3,565.00		-		_		-		3,194.00		2,006.00
Horizons	1,457.00		5,505.00		-		-		-		295.00		1,162.00
Emergency Fund	477,458.00		5,375.00		-		-		-		-		482,833.00
Capital Projects	26,384.00		97,915.00		-		-		-		42,381.00		81,918.00
Veterans Service Officer	12,002.00		37,226.00		-		-		-		52,154.00		(2,926.00)
County Agent	3,915.00		104,419.83		363.00		-		-		102,790.00		5,907.83
FEMA TWP 2011	161,301.72		-		-		-		-		108,162.17		53,139.55
FEMA TWP 2010	56,024.37		-		-		-		-		-		56,024.37
FEMA County 2011	26,434.54		-		-		-		0.12		17,774.00		8,660.42
FEMA Admin 2011	40.000.04		-		3,079.61		-		348.95		2,730.66		-
FEMA County 2010	13,302.34		110 271 00		-		-		-		-		13,302.34
Weed Control 911	70,698.00 55,721.00		119,271.00 139,564.00		-		-		-		132,674.00 123,119.00		57,295.00 72,166.00
Hazard	1,615.00		1,050.00						_		931.00		1,734.00
Grants	540.00		-		_		_		-		-		540.00
Document Preservation	34,504.00		7,888.00		-		_		_		2,091.00		40,301.00
Extension	365.00		885.00		-		-	\$	363.00		887.00		-
Land Rental and Sale	11,456.00		-		-		-		-		-		11,456.00
Total Special Revenue Funds	\$ 2,416,761.83	\$	3,072,748.11	\$	697,352.50	\$	376,715.00	\$	88,326.96	\$	4,191,951.55	\$	2,283,298.93
Total Operal Neterial Lands	Ψ 2,110,101100	Ψ	0,012,110111	<u> </u>	001,002.00	Ψ_	0.0,1.0.00	Ψ_	00,020.00	<u> </u>	1,101,001.00	Ψ	2,200,200.00
Debt Service Fund													
Special Assessment	\$ 1,141.00	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	1,141.00
County Bond 2011	846.00		2,447.00		-		-		3,293.00		-		-
Total Debt Service Funds	\$ 1,987.00	\$	2,447.00	\$		\$	-	\$	3,293.00	\$		\$	1,141.00
Total Governmental Funds	\$ 3,936,536.83	\$	5,602,072.62	\$	700,995.50	\$	382,715.00	\$	700,994.96	\$	6,442,314.96	\$	3,479,010.03
Agency Funds													
State Tax	\$ 12,630.00	\$	36,940.00	\$	_	\$	_	\$	_	\$	37,638.00	\$	11,932.00
County Ambulance	413.00	*	182,933.59	•	-	•	-	•	-	_	141,640.00	•	41,706.59
County Airport	106.00		45,106.90		-		-		-		34,377.00		10,835.90
Senior Citizens	118.00		85,797.30		-		-		-		73,999.00		11,916.30
County Historical Society	2,401.00		15,338.41		-		-		-		14,760.00		2,979.41
Water Conservancy - Garrison	12,630.00		40,968.00		-		-		-		41,669.00		11,929.00
Soil Conservation Service	14,632.00		43,536.00		-		-		-		46,226.00		11,942.00
Kedish House	-		1,272.00		-		-				1,272.00		-
Cancer Insurance Blue Cross Blue Shield	9 506 00		43,760.00		-		-		-		43,691.00		69.00
Income Tax Withholding	8,596.00		650,172.00 181,895.92		_		-		-		649,061.00 181,896.00		9,707.00 (0.08)
Life Insurance	621.00		8,498.00		_		_		_		8,380.00		739.00
Retirement	-		327,526.00		-		_		_		327,526.00		-
Dues/Garnishments	-		1,764.06		_		-		-		1,764.06		-
Deferred Comp.	-		57,510.00		-		-		-		57,510.00		-
Mobile Home	17,029.00		15,579.00		-		-		-		16,871.00		15,737.00
Flex	(1,041.00)		45,572.00		-		-		-		47,131.00		(2,600.00)
Dental/Vision	-		21,816.16		-		-		-		21,816.12		0.04
District Court Special	71,842.00		120,751.64		-		-		-		123,960.61		68,633.03
Total Cities, Parks and Townships	476,816.00		2,502,449.00		-		-		-		2,533,982.00		445,283.00
Total Rural Fire Protection District	40,814.00		120,266.61		-		-		-		123,549.86		37,530.75
Total School Districts	1,135,334.00		3,364,368.00		-		-		-		3,434,453.00		1,065,249.00
Total Agency Funds	\$ 1,792,941.00	\$	7,913,820.59	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	7,963,172.65	\$	1,743,588.94
Total Primary Government	\$ 5,729,477.83	\$	13,515,893.21	\$	700,995.50	\$	382,715.00	\$	700,994.96	\$	14,405,487.61	\$	5,222,598.97

Continued on next page....

# Schedule of Fund Activity – Cash Basis - Continued

Component Units		Balance January 1	Receipts	Transfers In	Oth	her Financing Source	Transfers Out	С	Disbursements	I	Balance December 31
Component Units County Water Resource District											
General	\$	136,514.00	\$ 20,267.94	\$ 190,426.17	\$	-	\$ -	\$	80,375.00	\$	266,833.11
Yorktown Maple Improvement Dist.		616,689.00	1,985.00	-		-	225,082.00		243,005.00		150,587.00
Riverdale Improvement District		41.00	-	-		-	41.00		-		-
Drain #1		16,310.00	12,654.00	-		-	-		19,303.00		9,661.00
Oakes Pilot Drain		31,715.00	2,749.00	-		-	-		3,272.00		31,192.00
Yorktown Maple Project Bond	_\$_	9,845.00	\$ 468,632.66	34,696.00		-	-	\$	120,729.00	\$	392,444.66
Total County Water Resource Dist.	\$	811,114.00	\$ 506,288.60	\$ 225,122.17	\$	-	\$ 225,123.00	\$	466,684.00	\$	850,717.77
Joint Water Resource District											
Jackson Improvement District	\$	554,535.00	\$ 81,994.00	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -	\$	47,344.00	\$	589,185.00
Jackson Township Drain Bond		1,383,088.00	353,369.00	-		-	-		364,185.00		1,372,272.00
Total Joint Water Resource Dist.	\$	1,937,623.00	\$ 435,363.00	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -	\$	411,529.00	\$	1,961,457.00
Job Development Authority	\$	231,280.00	\$ 69,203.00	\$ -	\$	-	\$ -	\$	115,076.00	\$	185,407.00
Health District		138,806.00	559,530.00	-		-	-		546,113.00		152,223.00
County Fair		37,853.00	105,386.62	-		20,000.00	-		112,741.58		50,498.04
Total Component Units	\$	3,156,676.00	\$ 1,675,771.22	\$ 225,122.17	\$	20,000.00	\$ 225,123.00	\$	1,652,143.58	\$	3,200,302.81
Total Reporting Entity	\$	8,886,153.83	\$ 15,191,664.43	\$ 926,117.67	\$	402,715.00	\$ 926,117.96	\$	16,057,631.19	\$	8,422,901.78

# STATE AUDITOR

JOSHUA C. GALLION Phone (701) 328-2241



Local Government Division FARGO OFFICE MANAGER – CRAIG HASHBARGER Phone (701)239-7250

# STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

FARGO OFFICE BRANCH 1655 43<sup>RD</sup> STREET SOUTH, SUITE 203 FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA 58103

# REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

#### Independent Auditor's Report

Board of County Commissioners Dickey County Ellendale, North Dakota

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Dickey County as of and for the year ended December 31, 2018, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Dickey County's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated August 8, 2019.

#### **Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Dickey County's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Dickey County's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Dickey County's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified. We did identify certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying *schedule of audit findings* as items 2018-001, 2018-002, and 2018-003 that we consider to be material weaknesses.

#### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Dickey County's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* - Continued

audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

#### **Dickey County's Response to Findings**

Dickey County's response to the findings identified in our audit is described in the accompanying *schedule of audit findings*. Dickey County's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

#### **Purpose of this Report**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

/S/

Joshua C. Gallion State Auditor

Fargo, North Dakota August 8, 2019

Summary of Auditor's Results For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

## **Financial Statements**

Type of Report Issued? Governmental Activities Aggregate Discretely Presented Component Units Major Funds Aggregate Remaining Fund Information	Unmodified Unmodified Unmodified Unmodified	
Internal control over financial reporting		
Material weaknesses identified?	X Yes None Noted	
Significant deficiencies identified not considered to be material weaknesses?	Yes X None Noted	
Noncompliance material to financial statements noted?	Yes X None Noted	

Schedule of Audit Findings For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

#### 2018-001 - FINANCIAL STATEMENT PREPARATION

#### Condition

Dickey County does not have an internal control system over financial reporting designed to provide for the preparation of the financial statements, including the accompanying note disclosures, as required by Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).

#### Criteria

Management is responsible for establishing proper internal control over the preparation of Dickey County's annual financial statements to ensure that financial statements and note disclosures are reliable, accurate, free of material misstatement, and in accordance with GAAP.

#### Cause

Management may not be fully aware how to prepare basic financial statements that comply with GAAP and has chosen to have the auditors assist in the preparation of the financial statements and note disclosures.

#### **Effect**

There is an increased risk of material misstatement to Dickey County's financial statements.

#### Recommendation

We recommend Dickey County design and implement internal controls over financial reporting to ensure financial statements are presented in accordance with GAAP. We further recommend management continue to obtain sufficient knowledge to ensure the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

#### **Dickey County's Response**

Agree. Dickey County is aware that there is a risk having the State Auditor's Office prepare and approve our financial statements and note disclosures. We may attempt to prepare the financial statements and note disclosures in the future.

#### 2018-002 - ADJUSTING JOURNAL ENTRIES

#### Condition

Material auditor-identified adjusting entries to the financial statements were proposed to properly reflect the financial statements in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).

#### Criteria

Dickey County is required to maintain internal controls at a level where support for general ledger accounts can be developed and a determination can be made that the general ledger accounts are properly reflected in accordance with GAAP.

#### Cause

Management is not fully knowledgeable of identifying necessary adjustments to present the financial statements in compliance with GAAP.

#### **Effect**

Inadequate internal controls over recording of transactions affects Dickey County's ability to detect misstatements in amounts that could be material in relation to the financial statements.

#### Recommendation

We recommend that Dickey County design and implement internal controls to identify the necessary adjustments to present the financial statements in compliance with GAAP.

#### **Dickey County's Response**

Agree. Dickey County does not have adequate resources to obtain proper internal controls and training to make and identify all necessary adjustments. We will continue to try to identify all items in need of adjustment at year end to comply with GAAP.

#### 2018-003 - LACK OF CONTROLS OVER FEMA FUNDS

#### Condition

Dickey County received a letter in 2014 from the North Dakota Department of Emergency Services (DES) stating it needed to spend the excess funds (\$69,295.61) remaining from the Disaster # DR 1907 on upgrading roads that are not Federal Aid Secondary Highway Systems (FAS) involved in a current disaster recovery, or hazard mitigation within one year from the date of the letter. As of December 31, 2018, the period expired, and Dickey County had not spent the excess funds.

#### Criteria

The letter from DES stated that Dickey County had a one-year period to spend the funds.

#### Cause

Management was unaware that Dickey County had received the letter. Proper communication channels between the Emergency Manager and the County Auditor were not in place.

#### **Effect**

Without proper internal controls, Dickey County may have had to repay the unused grant money back to DES and may have a more difficult time in the future receiving emergency aid.

#### Recommendation

We recommend that Dickey County implement controls surrounding its unused FEMA funds, such as setting calendar reminders, to make sure it spends the funds appropriately and within the grant agreement time limits.

#### **Dickey County's Response**

Agree. Dickey County will develop a policy concerning the return of FEMA funds, to ensure the money is returned or used within the year. This is in compliance with the requirements of FEMA.

STATE AUDITOR JOSHUA C. GALLION Phone (701) 328-2241



Local Government Division FARGO OFFICE MANAGER – CRAIG HASHBARGER Phone (701)239-7250

# STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

FARGO OFFICE BRANCH 1655 43<sup>RD</sup> STREET SOUTH, SUITE 203. FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA 58103

#### **GOVERNANCE COMMUNICATION**

Board of County Commissioners Dickey County Ellendale, North Dakota

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Dickey County, North Dakota, for the year ended December 31, 2018 which collectively comprise Dickey County's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated August 8, 2019. Professional standards require that we provide you with the following information related to our audit.

# Our Responsibility Under Auditing Standards Generally Accepted in The United States of America, Government Auditing Standards and by the Uniform Guidance

As stated in our engagement letter dated April 29, 2019, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable, but not absolute, assurance about whether the basic financial statements are free of material misstatement. Because of the concept of reasonable assurance and because we did not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is a risk that material errors, or fraud may exist and not be detected by us.

In planning and performing our audit, we considered Dickey County's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the basic financial statements and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting.

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Dickey County's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit.

#### Significant Accounting Policies/Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter, we will advise management about the appropriateness of accounting policies and their application. The significant accounting policies used by Dickey County are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. Application of existing policies was not changed during the year ended December 31, 2018. We noted no transactions entered into by the governmental unit during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. There are no significant transactions that have been recognized in the financial statements in a different period than when the transaction occurred.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements presented by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimate affecting the financial statements is useful lives of capital assets.

#### **Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements**

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and report them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements. The schedules below lists all misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures that were corrected by management.

PRIMAR	Y GOVERNI	MENT		
Client Provided Adjustments				
Expenditures	\$	15,590		
Accounts Payable	Ψ	13,390	\$	12,712
Salaries Payable			Ψ	2,878
Calanes I ayable				2,070
Intergovernmental Receivable		130,737		
Accounts Receivable		291		
Revenue				131,028
				•
Audit Adjustments				
Revenue		61,800		
Grants Received in Advance				61,800
Expenditures		2,945		
Capital Lease Financing				2,945
WATER RE	SOURCE DI	STRICT		
Client Adjustments				
Intergovernmental Receivable	\$	382		
Accounts Receivable	Ψ	840		
Revenue		040	\$	1,222
revende			Ψ	1,222
Revenue		45,932		
Taxes Received in Advance		,		45,932
				•
JOINT WATER	RESOURCE	DISTRICT		
Client Adjustments				
Accounts Receivable	\$	310		
Revenue			\$	310
Revenue		43,097		
Taxes Received in Advance		,		43,097
				, -

HEA	LTH DISTRIC	T	
Client Adjustments Intergovernmental Receivable	\$	58,731	
Revenue	Ψ	30,731	\$ 58,731
Expenditures Accounts Payable		461	461
JOB DEVEL	OPMENT AU	THORITY	
Client Adjustments Accounts Receivable Revenue	\$	1,144	\$ 1,144

#### **Disagreements with Management**

For purposes of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, concerning a financial accounting, or reporting matter that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

#### **Management Representations**

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated **AUGUST 8, 2019**.

#### **Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants**

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the County's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

#### Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

#### **Other Audit Findings or Issues**

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the governmental unit's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Governance Communication - Continued

The following presents our informal recommendation:

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

#### FRAUD RISK ASSESSMENT

Dickey County does not currently prepare a fraud risk assessment of the entire entity. If the County does not prepare an adequate fraud risk assessment, there is an increased risk of fraudulent financial reporting, asset misappropriation, and corruption.

Fraud risk governance is a key component of entity-wide governance and the internal control environment according to the COSO framework principles. This entity-wide governance addresses the manner in which the board of directors and management meet their respective obligations to achieve the County's goals in reporting, reliance, and accountability.

We recommend Dickey County prepare a fraud risk assessment in order to identify areas of concern within the entity to appropriately mitigate the risk of fraudulent financial reporting, misappropriation of assets, and corruption.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

This information is intended solely for the use of the Board of County Commissioners and management of Dickey County, and is not intended to be, and should not be, used for any other purpose. We would be happy to meet with you and any member of your staff to discuss any of the items in this letter in more detail if you so desire.

Thank you and the employees of Dickey County for the courteous and friendly assistance we received during the course of our audit. It is a pleasure for us to be able to serve Dickey County.

/S/

Joshua C. Gallion State Auditor

Fargo, North Dakota August 8, 2019

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