



Walsh County

Grafton, North Dakota

Audit Report

For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

JOSHUA C. GALLION
STATE AUDITOR

Office of the State Auditor
Division of Local Government

WALSH COUNTY

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WALSH COUNTY

County Officials and Audit Personnel
December 31, 2018

COUNTY OFFICIALS

Ernie Barta	Chairman
Lauren Wild	Commissioner
Lawrence Burianek	Commissioner
Karen Anderson	Commissioner
Dennis Skorheim	Commissioner
Kris Molde	Auditor
Jill Trender	Treasurer
Diane Link	County Recorder
Bev Stremick	Clerk of Court
Ron Jurgens	Sheriff
Kelley Cole	State's Attorney

AUDIT PERSONNEL

Craig Hashbarger, CPA, CIA, CFE	Audit Manager
Jonathan Worrall, CPA	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 43RD STREET SOUTH, SUITE 203
FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA 58103

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT

Board of County Commissioners
Walsh County
Grafton, North Dakota

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Walsh County, North Dakota, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2018, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Walsh 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. 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 discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Walsh County, North Dakota, as of December 31, 2018, and the respective changes in financial position, and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the *budgetary comparison schedules, schedule of employer's share of net pension liability and employer contributions, schedule of employer's share of net OPEB liability and employer contributions, and 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.

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.

Other Information

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

The *schedule of fund activity - cash basis* is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic 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 - cash basis* 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 14, 2019** on our consideration of Walsh 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 Walsh County's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

/S/

Joshua C. Gallion
State Auditor

Fargo, North Dakota
August 14, 2019

WALSH COUNTY

Statement of Net Position

December 31, 2018

	Governmental Activities	Component Units		
		Water Resource District	Job Development Authority	Health District
ASSETS				
Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments	\$ 6,313,785	\$ 8,061,885	\$ 636,309	\$ 441,773
Intergovernmental Receivable	458,471	659,832	-	-
Accounts Receivable	58,830	-	-	-
Due from County	-	1,183	687	887
Loans Receivable	-	-	292,178	-
Road Accounts Receivable	60	-	-	-
Taxes Receivable	168,708	6,575	3,849	4,931
Other Assets	-	6,589	800	9
Capital Assets, Net	25,451,196	17,342,640	-	1,251
Total Assets	\$ 32,451,050	\$ 26,078,704	\$ 933,823	\$ 448,851
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES				
Derived from Pensions and OPEB	\$ 2,238,019	\$ 40,177	\$ -	\$ 247,942
LIABILITIES				
Accounts Payable	\$ 108,038	\$ 469,558	\$ -	\$ -
Salaries Payable	9,088	7,048	-	-
Grants Received in Advance	7,959	-	-	-
Payroll Liability	-	1,714	143	-
Cash Held for Other Governments	-	-	22,816	-
Retainage Payable	15,799	442,392	-	-
Interest Payable	9,456	43,022	-	-
Long-Term Liabilities				
Due Within One Year				
Long-Term Debt	196,838	912,888	-	-
Compensated Absences Payable	19,657	466	886	2,359
Due After One Year				
Long-Term Debt	320,551	15,586,988	-	-
Compensated Absences Payable	176,912	4,190	7,973	21,231
Net Pension & OPEB Liability	5,839,154	86,545	-	530,333
Total Liabilities	\$ 6,703,452	\$ 17,554,811	\$ 31,818	\$ 553,923
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES				
Pension & OPEB	\$ 348,725	\$ 6,476	\$ -	\$ 53,158
Taxes Received in Advance	1,010,303	-	-	-
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	\$ 1,359,028	\$ 6,476	\$ -	\$ 53,158
NET POSITION				
Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$ 24,918,008	\$ 400,372	\$ -	\$ 1,251
Restricted				
Highways	633,120	-	-	-
Health and Welfare	-	-	-	88,461
Conservation of Natural Resources	446,507	8,157,222	-	-
Emergencies	284,098	-	-	-
Economic Development	-	-	902,005	-
Unrestricted	344,856	-	-	-
Total Net Position	\$ 26,626,589	\$ 8,557,594	\$ 902,005	\$ 89,712

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this financial statement.

WALSH COUNTY

Statement of Activities

For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Program Revenues			Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position			
		Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Primary Government	Component Units		
					Governmental Activities	Water Resource District	Job Develop. Authority	Health District
Primary Government								
Governmental Activities								
General Government	\$ 2,466,839	\$ 113,716	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (2,353,123)			
Public Safety	2,437,334	341,207	367,885	-	(1,728,242)			
Highways	5,161,230	152,668	1,290,872	-	(3,717,690)			
Flood Repair	338,907	-	328,196	-	(10,711)			
Health and Welfare	1,708,562	-	1,526,379	-	(182,183)			
Culture and Recreation	146,649	107,226	-	-	(39,423)			
Conserv. of Natural Resources	392,079	720	56,281	-	(335,078)			
Interest on Long-Term Debt	18,479	-	-	-	(18,479)			
Total Primary Government	\$ 12,670,079	\$ 715,537	\$ 3,569,613	\$ -	\$ (8,384,929)			
Component Unit								
Water Resource District	\$ 1,322,669	\$ 5,350	\$ 772,701	\$ 1,788,047		\$ 1,243,429	\$ -	\$ -
Job Development Authority	160,651	5,241	27,000	-		-	(128,410)	-
Health District	740,878	149,354	290,567	-		-	-	(300,957)
Total Component Units	\$ 2,224,198	\$ 159,945	\$ 1,090,268	\$ 1,788,047		\$ 1,243,429	\$ (128,410)	\$ (300,957)
General Revenues								
Property Taxes					\$ 5,439,383	\$ 1,105,877	\$ 121,822	\$ 160,681
Drain Assessments					-	215,012	-	-
Non Restricted Grants and Contributions					1,014,506	-	-	25,560
Unrestricted Investment Earnings					56,483	37,306	3,406	1,799
Miscellaneous Revenue					239,842	5,294	2	163
Total General Revenues					\$ 6,750,214	\$ 1,363,489	\$ 125,230	\$ 188,203
Change in Net Position					\$ (1,634,715)	\$ 2,606,918	\$ (3,180)	\$ (112,754)
Net Position - January 1					\$ 28,052,815	\$ 5,519,557	\$ 905,185	\$ 239,067
Prior Period Adjustments					\$ 208,489	\$ 431,119	\$ -	\$ (36,601)
Net Position - January 1, as restated					\$ 28,261,304	\$ 5,950,676	\$ 905,185	\$ 202,466
Net Position - December 31					\$ 26,626,589	\$ 8,557,594	\$ 902,005	\$ 89,712

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this financial statement.

WALSH COUNTYBalance Sheet – Governmental Funds
December 31, 2018

	General	Special Revenue Fund	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS			
Cash and Investments	\$ 3,287,466	\$ 3,026,319	\$ 6,313,785
Intergovernmental Receivable	262,306	196,165	458,471
Accounts Receivable	34,810	24,020	58,830
Road Accounts Receivable	-	60	60
Taxes Receivable	84,546	84,162	168,708
Total Assets	<u>\$ 3,669,128</u>	<u>\$ 3,330,726</u>	<u>\$ 6,999,854</u>
LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES			
Liabilities			
Accounts Payable	\$ 57,383	\$ 50,655	\$ 108,038
Salaries Payable	7,894	1,194	9,088
Grants Received In Advance	-	7,959	7,959
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 65,277</u>	<u>\$ 59,808</u>	<u>\$ 125,085</u>
Deferred Inflows of Resources			
Road Accounts Receivable	\$ -	\$ 60	\$ 60
Taxes Received in Advance	569,179	441,124	1,010,303
Taxes Receivable	84,546	84,162	168,708
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>\$ 653,725</u>	<u>\$ 525,346</u>	<u>\$ 1,179,071</u>
Total Liabilities and Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>\$ 719,002</u>	<u>\$ 585,154</u>	<u>\$ 1,304,156</u>
Fund Balances			
Restricted			
Public Safety	\$ -	\$ 480,656	\$ 480,656
Highways and Bridges	-	1,402,825	1,402,825
Health and Welfare	-	66,897	66,897
Conservation of Natural Resources	-	478,645	478,645
Emergencies	-	284,098	284,098
General Government	-	73,741	73,741
Unassigned	2,950,126	(41,290)	2,908,836
Total Fund Balances	<u>\$ 2,950,126</u>	<u>\$ 2,745,572</u>	<u>\$ 5,695,698</u>
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balances	<u>\$ 3,669,128</u>	<u>\$ 3,330,726</u>	<u>\$ 6,999,854</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this financial statement.

WALSH COUNTY

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

Total Fund Balances of Governmental Funds		\$	5,695,698
Total <i>net position</i> reported for government activities in the statement of net position is different because:			
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.			25,451,196
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 inflow of resources in the funds.			
Road Accounts Receivable	\$	60	
Property Taxes Receivable		<u>168,708</u>	168,768
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 Derived From Pensions and OPEB	\$	2,238,019	
Deferred Inflows Derived From Pensions and OPEB		<u>(348,725)</u>	1,889,294
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and accordingly are not reported as fund liabilities. All liabilities-both current and long-term- are reported in the statement of net position.			
Long-Term Debt	\$	(517,389)	
Retainage Payable		(15,799)	
Interest Payable		(9,456)	
Compensated Absences		(196,569)	
Net Pension & OPEB Liability		<u>(5,839,154)</u>	<u>(6,578,367)</u>
Total Net Position of Governmental Activities			<u>\$ 26,626,589</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this financial statement.

WALSH COUNTY

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Governmental Funds
 For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

	General	Special Revenue Fund	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES			
Taxes	\$ 2,930,316	\$ 2,479,816	\$ 5,410,132
Intergovernmental	1,378,904	3,205,215	4,584,119
Charges for Services	159,715	540,431	700,146
Licenses, Permits and Fees	1,225	25,270	26,495
Interest Income	55,909	574	56,483
Miscellaneous	87,544	152,297	239,841
Total Revenues	\$ 4,613,613	\$ 6,403,603	\$ 11,017,216
EXPENDITURES			
Current			
General Government	\$ 2,197,733	\$ 32,648	\$ 2,230,381
Public Safety	1,795,418	484,907	2,280,325
Highways and Bridges	-	3,688,094	3,688,094
Flood Repair	-	338,907	338,907
Health and Welfare	-	1,518,982	1,518,982
Culture and Recreation	129,021	-	129,021
Conserv. of Natural Resources	-	371,972	371,972
Debt Service			
Principal	39,170	194,577	233,747
Interest and Fees	1,326	15,666	16,992
Total Expenditures	\$ 4,162,668	\$ 6,645,753	\$ 10,808,421
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	\$ 450,945	\$ (242,150)	\$ 208,795
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)			
Transfers In	\$ 3,765	\$ 188,422	\$ 192,187
Transfers Out	(154,520)	(37,667)	(192,187)
Total Other Financing Sources and Uses	\$ (150,755)	\$ 150,755	\$ -
Net Change in Fund Balances	\$ 300,190	\$ (91,395)	\$ 208,795
Fund Balances - January 1	\$ 2,649,936	\$ 2,836,967	\$ 5,486,903
Fund Balances - December 31	<u>\$ 2,950,126</u>	<u>\$ 2,745,572</u>	<u>\$ 5,695,698</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this financial statement.

WALSH COUNTY

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 \$ 208,795

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.

Capital Outlay	\$ 467,596	
Depreciation Expense	<u>(1,881,339)</u>	(1,413,743)

In the statement of activities, only the loss on the sale of assets is reported, whereas in the governmental funds, the proceeds from the sale increase financial resources. Thus, the change in net position differs from the change in fund balance by the book value of the assets sold.

(27,411)

Repayment of debt principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position.

Repayment of Debt		233,747
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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.

Net Change in Retainage Payable	\$ (8,296)	
Net Change in Compensated Absences	10,957	
Net Change in Interest Payable	<u>(1,487)</u>	1,174

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.

Net Change in Road Accounts Receivable	\$ (11,104)	
Net Change in Taxes Receivable	<u>29,252</u>	18,148

The net pension and OPEB 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.

Net Change in Net Pension & OPEB Liability	\$ (297,014)	
Net Change in Deferred Outflows of Resources	(226,540)	
Net Change in Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>(131,871)</u>	<u>(655,425)</u>

Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities \$ (1,634,715)

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this financial statement.

WALSH COUNTY

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

ASSETS

Cash and Investments \$ 2,101,584

LIABILITIES

Due to Other Governments \$ 2,101,584

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this financial statement.

WALSH COUNTY

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

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of Walsh County ("County") have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as applicable to governments. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The more significant of the County's accounting policies are described below.

A. Reporting Entity

The accompanying financial statements present the activities of the County. The County has considered all potential component units for which the County is financially accountable and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationships with the County such that exclusion would cause the County's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. This 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, there are four component units to be included within the County as a reporting entity.

Component Units

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

Blended Component Units, although legally separate entities, are, in substance, part of the government's operations and so data from this unit is combined with data from the primary government.

Walsh County Park – The Park is governed by substantively the same governing board as the County. The Park does not have the right to sue in its own name without recourse to the County. The Park is reported as if it were part of the County.

Discretely Presented Component Units. The component units' column in the basic financial statements includes the financial data of the County's three component units. These units are reported in separate columns to emphasize that they are legally separate from the County.

Walsh County Water Resource District ("Water Resource District") - The County's governing board appoints a voting majority of the members of the 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.

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

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

Component Unit Financial Statements. The financial statements of each of the three discretely presented component units are presented in the basic financial statements. Complete financial statements of the individual component units can be obtained from the County Auditor at 600 Cooper Ave., Grafton, North Dakota, 58237.

WALSH COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

B. Basis of Presentation

Government-Wide statements. The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the primary government 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.

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.

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

Government-Wide and Fiduciary Fund Financial Statements. The government-wide and fiduciary fund financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus. The government-wide financial statements are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, regardless of when the related cash flows take place. Non-exchange transactions, in which the County gives (or receives) value without directly receiving (or giving) equal value in exchange, include property taxes, grants, entitlements, and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied. Revenue from grants, entitlements, and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied.

Governmental Fund Financial Statements. Governmental funds are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized when measurable and available. The County considers all revenues reported in the governmental funds to be available if the revenues are collected within sixty days after year-end. All revenues are considered to be susceptible to accrual. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on long-term debt, claims and judgments, and compensated absences, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent they have matured. Capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Proceeds of long-term debt and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources.

Under the terms of grant agreements, the County funds certain programs by a combination of specific cost-reimbursement grants and general revenues. Thus, when program expenses are incurred, there are both restricted and unrestricted net assets available to finance the program. It is the County's policy to first apply cost-reimbursement grant resources to such programs, and then by general revenues.

WALSH COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

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.

D. Cash and Investments

Cash includes amounts in demand deposits and money market accounts.

The investments of the County consist of certificates of deposit stated at cost with maturities in excess of three months.

E. Capital Assets

Capital assets for the primary government and discretely presented component units are reported in the governmental activities column in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the government as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than \$5,000. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased 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. 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 (amounts in years):

Assets	County	Water Resource District	Health District
Buildings	20 - 50	-	-
Equipment	5 - 50	-	5
Infrastructure	15 - 20	30	-

F. Compensated Absences

Vacation leave is earned at the rate of one to two days per month depending on years of service. Up to 200 hours of vacation leave may be carried beyond January 15th of each year. A liability for the vested or accumulated vacation leave is reported in government-wide statement of net position.

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.

WALSH COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

J. Fund Balances

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 3rd parties (state and federal governments for various grants & reimbursements).

Unassigned Fund Balances. Unassigned fund balances are 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: PRIOR PERIOD ADJUSTMENTS

Primary Government

Net position of the County as of January 1, 2018 has been restated for capital asset adjustments as shown below. The result of the adjustments increased the beginning net position of the County.

Primary Government	Amounts
Beginning Net Position, as Previously Reported	\$ 28,052,815
Prior Period Adjustments	
Capital Assets	217,964
Accumulated Depreciation	(9,475)
Net Position January 1, Restated	\$ 28,261,304

WALSH COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

Discretely Presented Component Unit

Net position of the Water Resource District as of January 1, 2018 has been restated for capital asset adjustments as shown below. The result of the adjustments increased the beginning net position of the Water Resource District

Water Resource District	Amounts
Beginning Net Position, as previously reported	\$ 5,519,557
Prior Period Adjustments	
Capital Assets	431,119
Net Position January 1, Restated	\$ 5,950,676

Net position of the Health District as of January 1, 2018 has been restated for cash adjustments as shown below. The result of the adjustments decreased the beginning net position of the Health District

Health District	Amounts
Beginning Net Position, as previously reported	\$ 239,067
Prior Period Adjustments	
Cash	(36,601)
Net Position January 1, Restated	\$ 202,466

NOTE 3: DEPOSITS

Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial 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 they 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 December 31, 2018, the County's carrying amount of deposits was \$8,219,149 and the bank balances were \$8,674,860. Of the bank balances, \$3,267,739 was covered by Federal Depository Insurance, while the remaining balance was collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's agent in the government's name.

At December 31, 2018, the Water Resource District's carrying amount of deposits was \$8,061,885 and the bank balance was \$8,649,986. Of the bank balances, \$7,374,361 was covered by Federal Depository Insurance, while the remaining balance was collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's agent in the government's name.

At December 31, 2018, the Job Development Authority's carrying amount of deposits was \$636,309 and the bank balance was \$657,694, all was covered by Federal Depository Insurance.

WALSH COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

At December 31, 2018, the Health District's carrying amount of deposits was \$471,124 and the bank balance was \$460,513. Of the bank balances, \$314,786 was covered by Federal Depository Insurance, while the remaining balance was collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's agent in the government's name.

NOTE 4: 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 5: CAPITAL ASSETS**Primary Government**

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

Primary Government	Restated Balance Jan 1	Increases	Decreases	Transfers	Balance Dec 31
Capital assets not being depreciated					
Land	\$ 15,479	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,479
Construction in Progress	9,172,810	230,445	-	(8,508,105)	895,150
Total Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated	\$ 9,188,289	\$ 230,445	\$ -	\$ (8,508,105)	\$ 910,629
Capital assets being depreciated:					
Buildings	\$ 2,554,218	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,554,218
Equipment	5,658,486	237,151	136,394	-	5,759,243
Infrastructure	22,297,573	-	-	8,508,105	30,805,678
Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated	\$ 30,510,277	\$ 237,151	\$ 136,394	\$ 8,508,105	\$ 39,119,139
Less Accumulated Depreciation					
Buildings	\$ 1,425,429	\$ 46,623	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,472,052
Equipment	3,186,430	285,498	108,981	-	3,362,947
Infrastructure	8,194,355	1,549,218	-	-	9,743,573
Total Accumulated Depreciation	\$ 12,806,214	\$ 1,881,339	\$ 108,981	\$ -	\$ 14,578,572
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated, Net	\$ 17,704,063	\$ (1,644,188)	\$ 27,413	\$ 8,508,105	\$ 24,540,567
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	\$ 26,892,352	\$ (1,413,743)	\$ 27,413	\$ -	\$ 25,451,196

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

Governmental Activities:	Amounts
General Government	\$ 6,520
Public Safety	84,222
Highways and bridges	1,750,155
Health and Welfare	8,510
Culture & Recreation	15,683
Conservation of Natural Resources	16,249
Total Depreciation Expense - Governmental Activities	\$ 1,881,339

WALSH COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

Discretely Presented Component Units

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

Water Resource District	Restated Balance Jan 1	Increases	Decreases	Transfers	Balance Dec 31
Capital assets not being depreciated					
Easements	\$ 57,271	\$ 128,263	\$ -	\$ 836,771	\$ 1,022,305
Construction in Progress	3,010,457	6,703,534	-	(2,886,777)	6,827,214
Total Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated	\$ 3,067,728	\$ 6,831,797	\$ -	\$ (2,050,006)	\$ 7,849,519
Capital assets being depreciated:					
Infrastructure	\$ 9,936,924	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,050,006	\$ 11,986,930
Less Accumulated Depreciation					
Infrastructure	\$ 2,094,246	\$ 399,563	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,493,809
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated, Net	\$ 7,842,678	\$ (399,563)	\$ -	\$ 2,050,006	\$ 9,493,121
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	\$ 10,910,406	\$ 6,432,234	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,342,640

Depreciation expense was charged to the conservation of natural resources function.

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

Health District	Balance Jan 1	Increases	Decreases	Transfers	Balance Dec 31
Capital assets being depreciated					
Equipment	\$ 6,255	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,255
Less Accumulated Depreciation					
Equipment	\$ 3,753	\$ 1,251	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,004
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	\$ 2,502	\$ (1,251)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,251

Depreciation expense was charged to the health and welfare function.

NOTE 6: LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

Primary Government

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

Primary Government	Balance Jan 1	Increases	Decreases	Balance Dec 31	Due Within One Year
Long-Term Debt					
Leases Payable	\$ 582,389	\$ -	\$ 163,386	\$ 419,003	\$ 164,858
Loans Payable	168,747	-	70,361	98,386	31,980
Total Long-Term Debt	\$ 751,136	\$ -	\$ 233,747	\$ 517,389	\$ 196,838
Compensated Absences *	\$ 207,526	\$ -	\$ 10,957	\$ 196,569	\$ 19,657
Net Pension and OPEB Liability	5,542,140	297,014	-	5,839,154	-
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 6,500,802	\$ 297,014	\$ 244,704	\$ 6,553,112	\$ 216,495

* The change in compensated absences is shown as a net change.

WALSH COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

Debt service requirements on long-term debt is as follows:

Year Ending Dec 31	Capital Leases Payable		Loans Payable	
	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest
2019	\$ 164,858	\$ 10,917	\$ 31,980	\$ 2,488
2020	82,551	6,595	32,789	1,679
2021	84,699	4,447	33,617	850
2022	86,895	2,252	-	-
2023	-	-	-	-
Total	\$ 419,003	\$ 24,211	\$ 98,386	\$ 5,017

Discretely Presented Component Units

During the year ended December 31, 2018, the following changes occurred in governmental long-term liabilities of the Water Resource District:

Water Resource District	Balance Jan 1	Increases	Decreases	Balance Dec 31	Due Within One Year
Long-Term Debt					
Bonds Payable	\$ 6,350,000	\$ 16,350,000	\$ 6,350,000	\$ 16,350,000	\$ 905,000
Bond Premium	-	\$ 157,764	\$ 7,888	\$ 149,876	\$ 7,888
Loans Payable	737,699	14,000	751,699	-	-
Total Long-Term Debt	\$ 7,087,699	\$ 16,521,764	\$ 7,109,587	\$ 16,499,876	\$ 912,888
Compensated Absences *	\$ 3,213	\$ 1,443	\$ -	\$ 4,656	\$ 466
Net Pension and OPEB Liability	78,229	8,316	-	86,545	-
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 7,169,141	\$ 16,531,523	\$ 7,109,587	\$ 16,591,077	\$ 913,354

* The change in compensated absences is shown as a net change.

Debt service requirements on long-term debt is as follows:

Year Ending Dec 31	Bonds Payable		Bond Premium
	Principal	Interest	
2019	\$ 905,000	\$ 502,588	\$ 7,888
2020	755,000	477,688	7,888
2021	790,000	454,513	7,888
2022	815,000	430,438	7,888
2023	765,000	406,738	7,888
2024-2028	3,915,000	1,685,088	39,441
2029-2033	4,075,000	1,081,772	39,441
2034-2038	4,330,000	386,628	31,554
Total	\$ 16,350,000	\$ 5,425,453	\$ 149,876

During the year ended December 31, 2018, the following changes occurred in governmental long-term liabilities of the Job Development Authority:

Job Development Authority	Balance Jan 1	Increases	Decreases	Balance Dec 31	Due Within One Year
Compensated Absences *	\$ 9,017	\$ -	\$ 158	\$ 8,859	\$ 886

* The change in compensated absences is shown as a net change.

WALSH COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

During the year ended December 31, 2018, the following changes occurred in governmental long-term liabilities of the Health District:

Health District	Balance Jan 1	Increases	Decreases	Balance Dec 31	Due Within One Year
Compensated Absences *	\$ 20,922	\$ 2,668	\$ -	\$ 23,590	\$ 2,359
Net Pension and OPEB Liability	417,448	112,885	-	530,333	-
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 438,370	\$ 115,553	\$ -	\$ 553,923	\$ 2,359

* The change in compensated absences is shown as a net change.

NOTE 7: OPERATING LEASES

The County has an operating lease for copiers with Marco. The lease was entered into during 2012 for a term of 60 months with monthly payments of \$1,210. The lease was amended in 2016. The remaining operating lease rental payments at December 31, 2018 is outlined below:

Year Ending Dec 31	Operating Lease
2019	\$ 382
2020	382
2021	192
Total	\$ 956

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 provisions or policies with respect to automatic and ad hoc post-retirement benefit increases. Member 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.

WALSH COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

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 benefits 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 contribution 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:

	Net Pension Liability
Primary Government	\$ 5,594,053
Water Resource District	82,912
Public Health District	508,072

WALSH COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

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	0.331478%	0.001975%	\$ 915,432
Water Resource District	0.004913%	0.000262%	14,897
Public Health District	0.030106%	0.005287%	84,283

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

Primary Government	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ 14,807	\$ 190,321
Changes in Assumptions	2,019,337	79,844
Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Investment Earnings on Pension Plan Investments	-	27,216
Changes in Proportion and Differences Between Employer Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	30,337	41,007
Contributions - Employer	125,010	-
Total	\$ 2,189,491	\$ 338,388

Water Resource District	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ 219	\$ 2,821
Changes in Assumptions	29,930	1,183
Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Investment Earnings on Pension Plan Investments	-	403
Changes in Proportion and Differences Between Employer Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	6,211	1,916
Contributions - Employer	2,798	-
Total	\$ 39,158	\$ 6,323

Public Health District	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ 1,345	\$ 17,286
Changes in Assumptions	183,403	7,252
Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Investment Earnings on Pension Plan Investments	-	2,472
Changes in Proportion and Differences Between Employer Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	39,354	25,209
Contributions - Employer	15,500	-
Total	\$ 239,602	\$ 52,219

WALSH COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

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	\$ 125,010
Water Resource District	2,798
Public Health District	15,500

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	Water Resource District	Public Health District
2019	\$ 568,339	\$ 9,755	\$ 52,759
2020	493,995	8,658	46,011
2021	415,568	7,551	39,719
2022	232,079	3,688	28,419
2023	16,112	385	4,975

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 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 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 by 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:

WALSH COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Domestic Equity	30%	6.05%
International Equity	21%	6.71%
Private Equity	7%	10.20%
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).

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 Employer's proportionate share of the net pension liability to changes in the discount rate

The following presents the entities proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 6.32 percent, as well as what their 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:

Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	1% Decrease (5.32%)	Current Discount Rate (6.32%)	1% Increase (7.32%)
County	\$ 7,601,278	\$ 5,594,053	\$ 3,919,088
Water Resource District	112,662	82,912	58,087
Public Health District	690,375	508,072	355,945

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	\$ 245,101
Water Resource District	3,633
Public Health District	22,261

WALSH COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

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 Measurement	Pension Expense
Primary Government	0.311212%	0.000287%	\$ 30,473
Water Resource District	0.004613%	0.000224%	474
Public Health District	0.028265%	0.004846%	3,301

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

Primary Government	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ 7,338	\$ 5,064
Changes of Assumptions	20,111	-
Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Investment		
Earnings on OPEB Plan Investments	-	5,273
Changes in Proportion and Differences Between Employer		
Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	1,063	-
Contributions - Employer	20,016	-
Total	\$ 48,528	\$ 10,337

Water Resource District	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ 110	\$ 75
Changes of Assumptions	298	-
Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Investment		
Earnings on OPEB Plan Investments	-	78
Changes in Proportion and Differences Between Employer		
Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	163	-
Contributions - Employer	448	-
Total	\$ 1,019	\$ 153

Public Health District	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ 665	\$ 460
Changes of Assumptions	1,827	-
Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Investment		
Earnings on OPEB Plan Investments	-	479
Changes in Proportion and Differences Between Employer		
Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	3,366	-
Contributions - Employer	2,482	-
Total	\$ 8,340	\$ 939

WALSH COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

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	\$ 20,016
Water Resource District	448
Public Health District	2,482

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	Water Resource District	Public Health District
2019	\$ 2,239	\$ 58	\$ 735
2020	2,239	58	735
2021	2,239	58	735
2022	4,566	92	946
2023	4,139	86	907
2024	2,379	56	695
Thereafter	374	10	166

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 or 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%	.10%

WALSH COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

Discount rate

The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 7.5%. 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 Employer’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 OPEB Liability	1% Decrease (6.5%)	Current Discount Rate (7.5%)	1% Increase (8.5%)
County	\$ 310,111	\$ 245,101	\$ 189,370
Water Resource District	4,597	3,633	2,807
Public Health District	28,165	22,261	17,199

NOTE 10: 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 coverage by NDIRF is limited to losses of two million dollars per occurrence for general liability and automobile and \$3,518,278 for mobile equipment and portable property (public assets).

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.

The County has worker’s compensation with the ND Workforce Safety and Insurance.

NOTE 11: TRANSFERS

The following is a reconciliation between transfers in and transfers out as reported in the basic financial statements for the years ended December 31, 2018:

	Transfers In	Transfers Out
General Fund	\$ 3,765	\$ 154,521
Special Revenue Fund	188,422	37,666
Total Transfers	\$ 192,187	\$ 192,187

WALSH COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

Transfers are used to move unrestricted general revenue to finance programs that the County accounts for in other funds in accordance with budget authority and to subsidize other programs.

NOTE 12: JOINT VENTURE

Red River Joint Water Resource District

Under authorization of state statutes, the Water Resource District joined Southeast Cass Water Resource District, North Cass Water Resource District, Maple River Water Resource District, Rush River Water Resource District, and the water resource districts of Richland County, Pembina County, Traill County, Steele County, Walsh County, Nelson County, Ransom County, and Sargent County to establish and operate a joint exercise of powers agreement for the water management districts located within the Red River Valley. Each government appoints one member of the board of directors for the joint venture. The operating and capital expenses are funded by contributions from each government. Each government's share of assets, liabilities, and fund equity cannot be determined as no provision is made for this in the joint venture agreement and each government's contribution each year depends on where Red River Joint Water Resource Board projects are being undertaken.

The following is a summary of financial information on the joint venture as of and for the year ended December 31, 2018:

Total Assets	\$	11,751,624
Total Liabilities		48,695
Net Position	\$	11,702,929
Total Revenues	\$	2,421,328
Total Expenses		784,919
Change in Net Position	\$	1,636,409

Complete financial statements for the Red River Joint Water Resource District may be obtained from the Treasurer's office at Red River Joint Water Resource District, 1201 Main Avenue West, West Fargo, ND 58078.

Park River Joint Water Resource District

Under authorization of state statutes, the County and Pembina County formed the Park River Joint Water Resource District to address common water issues and problems with the portions of the Park River Watershed in those counties. Each government appoints one member of the board of directors for the joint venture. The operating and capital expenses are funded by contributions from each government. Under the agreement, and assessment project costs will be assessed and paid from the properties benefited by the project, and any excess costs of such project will be shared equally from the individual water resource district general funds. Other general and administrative costs will be paid by the individual water resource districts as described in the joint powers agreement.

The following is a summary of financial information on the joint venture as of and for the year ended December 31, 2018.

Total Assets	\$	192,004
Total Liabilities		-
Net Position	\$	192,004
Total Revenues	\$	135,355
Total Expenses		134,133
Change in Net Position	\$	1,222

Complete financial statements for the Park River Joint Water Resource District may be obtained from the Park River Joint Water Resource District, 308 Courthouse Drive #5, Cavalier, ND 58220.

WALSH COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

Forest River Joint Water Resource District

Under authorization of state statutes, the County, Nelson County and Grand Forks County formed the Forest River Joint Water Resource District to address common water issues and problems with the portions of the Forest River Watershed in those counties. Each government appoints one member of the board of directors for the joint venture. The operating and capital expenses are funded by contributions from each government. Under the agreement, and assessment project costs will be assessed and paid from the properties benefited by the project, and any excess costs of such project will be shared equally from the individual water resource district general funds. Other general and administrative costs will be paid by the individual water resource districts as described in the joint powers agreement.

The following is a summary of financial information on the joint venture as of and for the year ended December 31, 2018.

Total Assets	\$	93,384
Total Liabilities		-
Net Position	\$	93,384
Total Revenues	\$	146,569
Total Expenses		179,187
Change in Net Position	\$	(32,618)

Complete financial statements for the Park River Joint Water Resource District may be obtained from the Forest River Joint Water Resource District, 600 Cooper Ave, Grafton, ND 58237.

NOTE 13: OPEN CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Primary Government

The County had three construction projects open at year-end:

Project	Contract Amount	Total Completed	Retainage	Remaining Balance
BRC-5006(063)	\$ 377,951	\$ 375,146	\$ 7,503	\$ 10,308
SC-5025(056)	1,499,928		-	1,499,928
BRO-0050(037)	453,878	453,878	8,296	8,296
Total All Projects	\$ 2,331,757	\$ 829,024	\$ 15,799	\$ 1,518,532

Discretely Presented Component Units

The Water Resource District had three construction projects open at year-end:

Project	Contract Amount	Total Completed	Retainage	Remaining Balance
Drain 30-1	\$ 309,429	\$ 309,429	\$ 30,943	\$ 30,943
Drain 87	6,456,154	3,803,870	\$ 380,387	3,032,671
Drain 22	315,972	310,616	31,062	36,418
Total All Projects	\$ 7,081,555	\$ 4,423,915	\$ 442,392	\$ 3,100,032

WALSH COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

NOTE 14: CONDUIT DEBT

Conduit debt obligations are defined as certain limited-obligation revenue bonds, certifications of participation, or similar debt instruments issued by a state or local governmental entity for the express purpose of providing capital financing for a specific third party that is not part of the issuer’s financial reporting entity. Neither the County, the state, nor any political subdivision thereof is obligated in any manner for repayment of the loans. Accordingly, the loans are not reported as liabilities in the accompanying financial statements.

At December 31, 2018, the County is involved in conduit debt obligations under the following criteria.

Community Development Block Grants

The County is currently involved in a program that had issued Community Development Block Grant Loans. Community Development Block Grant Loans provide financial assistance private-sector entities for various purposes. The loans are secured by the property financed and are payable solely from payments received on the underlying block grant loans.

As of December 31, 2018 there were two Community Development Block Grant with principal balances that totaled \$250,000.

NOTE 15: TAX ABATEMENTS

A tax abatement is defined as a reduction in tax revenues that results from an agreement between one or more governments and an individual or entity in which (a) one or more governments promise to forgo tax revenues to which they are otherwise entitled and (b) the individual or entity promises to tax a specific action after the agreement has been entered into that contributes to economic development or otherwise benefits the governments or the citizens of those governments.

At December 31, 2018, the local governments within the County provided tax abatements to individuals and commercial entities in the form of property tax exemptions under the following criteria.

New Business

Under NDCC §40-57.1-03, a municipality may grant a partial or complete exemption from ad valorem taxation on all buildings, structures, fixtures, and improvements used in or necessary to the operation of a project for a period not exceeding five years from the date of commencement of project operations. A municipality may also grant a partial or complete exemption from ad valorem taxation on buildings, structures, fixtures, and improvements used in or necessary to the operation of a project that produces or manufactures a product from agricultural commodities for all or part of the sixth year through the tenth year from the date of commencement of project operations.

Charitable Organization

Under NDCC §57-02-08(8), buildings belonging to institutions of public charity, including public hospitals and nursing homes licensed pursuant to NDCC §23-16-01 under the control of religious or charitable institutions, used wholly or in part for public charity, together with the land actually occupied by such institutions not leased or otherwise used with a view to profit may be exempt.

The total reduction in property tax revenue due to tax abatements is as follows:

	Reduction in Property Tax Revenue
New Business	\$ 31,450
Charitable Organizations	207,388
Other Programs	5,711
Total Reduction in Property Tax Revenue	\$ 244,549

WALSH COUNTY

Budgetary Comparison Schedule – General Fund
 For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
REVENUES				
Taxes	\$ 2,894,112	\$ 2,894,112	\$ 2,930,316	\$ 36,204
Intergovernmental	1,044,104	1,044,104	1,378,904	334,800
Licenses, Permits and Fees	1,100	1,100	1,225	125
Charges for Services	123,100	123,100	159,715	36,615
Interest Income	10,000	10,000	55,909	45,909
Miscellaneous	392,000	392,000	87,544	(304,456)
Total Revenues	\$ 4,464,416	\$ 4,464,416	\$ 4,613,613	\$ 149,197
EXPENDITURES				
Current				
General government	\$ 2,201,880	\$ 2,336,940	\$ 2,197,733	\$ 139,207
Public safety	1,943,844	1,943,844	1,795,418	148,426
Culture and Recreation	126,724	130,448	129,021	1,427
Debt Service				
Principal	39,170	39,170	39,170	-
Interest	1,326	1,326	1,326	-
Total Expenditures	\$ 4,312,944	\$ 4,451,728	\$ 4,162,668	\$ 289,060
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	\$ 151,472	\$ 12,688	\$ 450,945	\$ 438,257
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers In	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,765	\$ 3,765
Transfers Out	-	-	(154,520)	(154,520)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (150,755)	\$ (150,755)
Net Change in Fund Balances	\$ 151,472	\$ 12,688	\$ 300,190	\$ 287,502
Fund Balance - January 1	\$ 2,649,936	\$ 2,649,936	\$ 2,649,936	-
Fund Balance - December 31	\$ 2,801,408	\$ 2,662,624	\$ 2,950,126	\$ 287,502

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

WALSH COUNTY

Budgetary Comparison Schedule – Special Revenue Fund
 For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
REVENUES				
Taxes	\$ 2,275,136	\$ 2,275,136	\$ 2,479,816	\$ 204,680
Intergovernmental	2,658,715	2,658,715	3,205,215	546,500
Charges for Services	97,000	97,000	540,431	443,431
Licenses, Permits, and Fees	-	-	25,270	25,270
Interest Income	375,000	375,000	574	(374,426)
Miscellaneous	-	-	152,297	152,297
Total Revenues	\$ 5,405,851	\$ 5,405,851	\$ 6,403,603	\$ 997,752
EXPENDITURES				
Current				
General Government	\$ 42,000	\$ 42,000	\$ 32,648	\$ 9,352
Public Safety	569,004	569,004	484,907	84,097
Highways and Bridges	3,667,442	3,862,806	3,688,094	174,712
Flood Repair	-	338,907	338,907	-
Health and Welfare	1,609,341	1,609,341	1,518,982	90,359
Conserv. of Natural Resources	390,650	390,650	371,972	18,678
Debt Service				
Principal	194,577	194,577	194,577	-
Interest	15,666	15,666	15,666	-
Total Expenditures	\$ 6,488,680	\$ 7,022,951	\$ 6,645,753	\$ 377,198
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	\$ (1,082,829)	\$ (1,617,100)	\$ (242,150)	\$ 1,374,950
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers In	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 188,422	\$ 188,422
Transfers Out	-	-	(37,667)	(37,667)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 150,755	\$ 150,755
Net Change in Fund Balances	\$ (1,082,829)	\$ (1,617,100)	\$ (91,395)	\$ 1,525,705
Fund Balances - January 1	\$ 2,836,967	\$ 2,836,967	\$ 2,836,967	\$ -
Fund Balances - December 31	\$ 1,754,138	\$ 1,219,867	\$ 2,745,572	\$ 1,374,950

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

WALSH COUNTY

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

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

County	Proportion of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	Covered-Employee Payroll	Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) as a Percentage of its Covered-Employee Payroll	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability
2018	0.331478%	\$ 5,594,053	\$ 3,405,334	164.27%	62.80%
2017	0.329503%	5,296,195	3,363,712	157.45%	61.98%
2016	0.334919%	3,264,112	3,375,191	96.71%	70.46%
2015	0.331323%	2,252,940	2,951,687	76.33%	77.15%
2014	0.338654%	2,149,509	2,852,754	75.35%	77.70%

Water Resource District	Proportion of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	Covered-Employee Payroll	Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) as a Percentage of its Covered-Employee Payroll	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability
2018	0.004913%	\$ 82,912	\$ 50,471	164.28%	62.80%
2017	0.004651%	74,757	47,478	157.46%	61.98%
2016	0.004930%	48,048	49,680	96.71%	70.46%
2015	0.003679%	25,017	32,779	76.32%	77.15%
2014	0.004107%	26,608	34,592	76.92%	77.70%

Health District	Proportion of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	Covered-Employee Payroll	Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) as a Percentage of its Covered-Employee Payroll	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability
2018	0.030106%	\$ 508,072	\$ 309,285	164.27%	62.80%
2017	0.024819%	398,923	253,360	157.45%	61.98%
2016	0.027501%	268,024	277,143	96.71%	70.46%
2015	0.031106%	211,515	277,115	76.33%	77.15%
2014	0.031649%	200,883	266,607	75.35%	77.70%

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

WALSH COUNTY

Schedule of Employer's Share of Net Pension 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**

County	Statutory Required Contribution	Contributions in Relation to the Statutory Required Contribution	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Covered-Employee Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll
2018	\$ 250,817	\$ 252,473	\$ (1,656)	\$ 3,405,334	7.41%
2017	243,910	248,138	(4,228)	3,363,712	7.38%
2016	244,359	245,626	(1,267)	3,375,191	7.28%
2015	224,204	228,804	(4,600)	2,951,687	7.75%
2014	203,116	203,116	-	2,852,754	7.12%

Water Resource District	Statutory Required Contribution	Contributions in Relation to the Statutory Required Contribution	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Covered-Employee Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll
2018	\$ 3,717	\$ 3,448	\$ 7,165	\$ 50,471	-6.83%
2017	3,443	3,871	7,314	47,478	-8.15%
2016	3,597	3,376	6,973	49,680	-6.80%
2015	2,490	3,289	5,779	32,779	-10.03%
2014	2,463	2,463	4,926	34,592	-7.12%

Health District	Statutory Required Contribution	Contributions in Relation to the Statutory Required Contribution	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Covered-Employee Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll
2018	\$ 22,780	\$ 20,244	\$ 2,536	\$ 309,285	-6.55%
2017	18,372	22,732	(4,360)	253,360	-8.97%
2016	20,065	20,534	(469)	277,143	-7.41%
2015	21,049	19,731	1,318	277,115	-7.12%
2014	18,982	18,982	-	266,607	-7.12%

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

WALSH COUNTY

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**

County	Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)	Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB (Asset)	Covered-Employee Payroll	Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB (Asset) as a Percentage of its Covered-Employee Payroll	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability
2018	0.311212%	\$ 245,101	\$ 3,405,334	7.20%	61.89%
2017	0.310925%	245,945	3,363,712	7.31%	59.78%

Water Resource District	Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)	Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB (Asset)	Covered-Employee Payroll	Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB (Asset) as a Percentage of its Covered-Employee Payroll	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability
2018	0.004613%	\$ 3,633	\$ 50,471	7.20%	61.89%
2017	0.004389%	3,472	47,478	7.31%	59.78%

Health District	Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)	Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB (Asset)	Covered-Employee Payroll	Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB (Asset) as a Percentage of its Covered-Employee Payroll	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total OPEB Liability
2018	0.028265%	\$ 22,261	\$ 309,285	7.20%	61.89%
2017	0.023419%	18,525	253,360	7.31%	59.78%

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

WALSH COUNTY

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**

County	Statutory Required Contribution	Contributions in Relation to the Statutory Required Contribution	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Covered-Employee Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll
2018	\$ 39,943	\$ 40,424	\$ (481)	\$ 3,405,334	1.19%
2017	39,101	39,730	(629)	3,363,712	1.18%

Water Resource District	Statutory Required Contribution	Contributions in Relation to the Statutory Required Contribution	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Covered-Employee Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll
2018	\$ 592	\$ 552	\$ 1,144	\$ 50,471	-1.09%
2017	552	620	1,172	47,478	-1.31%

Health District	Statutory Required Contribution	Contributions in Relation to the Statutory Required Contribution	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Covered-Employee Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll
2018	\$ 3,628	\$ 3,241	\$ 6,869	\$ 309,285	-1.05%
2017	2,945	3,640	6,585	253,360	-1.44%

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

WALSH COUNTY

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, information for those years for which information is available will be presented.

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:

Fund	EXPENDITURES		
	Original Budget	Amendment	Amended Budget
Major Funds			
General Fund	\$ 4,312,944	\$ 138,784	\$ 4,451,728
Special Revenue Fund	6,488,680	534,271	7,022,951

WALSH COUNTY

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

	Balance Jan 1	Receipts	Transfers In	Transfers Out	Disbursements	Balance Dec 31
Major Funds						
General Fund	\$ 3,072,075.82	\$ 4,471,862.47	\$ 3,764.98	\$ 154,520.54	\$ 4,105,717.23	\$ 3,287,465.50
Special Revenue Funds						
Victim Assistance	\$ 48,812.67	\$ 42,086.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 46,285.09	\$ 44,613.58
Road and Bridge	194,638.08	608,876.51	-	-	630,503.35	173,011.24
Highway Distribution	97,314.41	1,410,427.69	-	-	1,220,397.11	287,344.99
Farm to Market	370,136.01	1,275,535.09	-	-	1,325,257.55	320,413.55
County Road Fund	145,418.99	255,107.36	-	-	269,256.32	131,270.03
Social Services	(152,150.94)	1,482,951.72	171,221.73	-	1,448,592.11	53,430.40
Misc Road Fund	1,134,261.46	52,100.03	-	-	420,364.43	765,997.06
Human Services	15,200.31	23,807.63	-	37,666.83	-	1,341.11
Emergency	284,097.19	0.66	-	-	-	284,097.85
Veteran's Assistance	37,702.41	51,021.61	-	-	58,791.22	29,932.80
County Agent	192,411.41	153,215.62	-	-	125,664.42	219,962.61
Weed Control	289,459.47	134,600.70	-	-	209,630.72	214,429.45
Chase Building	(6,335.66)	20,109.00	6,335.66	-	31,896.36	(11,787.36)
Park River - Sheriff	(6,280.43)	109,603.90	-	-	117,840.77	(14,517.30)
Walsh County Farm Account	5,328.80	1,710.00	-	-	1,100.00	5,938.80
Walsh County Haz Mat	43,486.49	2,866.81	-	-	551.22	45,802.08
Drug Task	(139.77)	3,981.71	-	-	3,990.23	(148.29)
City Task Force	(7,315.68)	39,478.66	-	-	36,946.71	(4,783.73)
County Agent Trust	15,366.80	3,560.93	-	-	3,060.03	15,867.70
ROD-DOC Preserve	69,890.86	6,442.50	6,519.00	-	31,854.24	50,998.12
EWC Community Service Program	(232.54)	420.00	-	-	250.00	(62.54)
State's Attorney Special Drug Acct	3,320.81	424.00	-	-	500.00	3,244.81
Asset Forfeiture - Sheriff	36,970.05	8,146.16	-	-	7,316.00	37,800.21
Recorders Spec Trust	52,194.72	-	4,346.00	-	4,948.05	51,592.67
Juvenile Comm Service	2,090.01	-	-	-	-	2,090.01
Sheriff Drug Testing	55,176.61	32,809.00	-	-	25,824.95	62,160.66
E911 Emergency	160,258.78	73,945.62	-	-	55,409.61	178,794.79
E911 Cell Phones	92,102.44	148,413.68	-	-	163,348.23	77,167.89
Misc Sheriff Policing	18,693.33	860.80	-	-	16,685.67	2,868.46
Victim Impact Program	200.00	-	-	-	-	200.00
FEMA Flood Funds	181,970.82	154,183.58	-	-	338,906.87	(2,752.47)
Total Special Revenue Funds	\$ 3,374,047.91	\$ 6,096,686.97	\$ 188,422.39	\$ 37,666.83	\$ 6,595,171.26	\$ 3,026,319.18
Total Major Funds	\$ 6,446,123.73	\$ 10,568,549.44	\$ 192,187.37	\$ 192,187.37	\$ 10,700,888.49	\$ 6,313,784.68

Continued on next page...

WALSH COUNTY

Schedule of Fund Activity – Cash Basis - Continued

Agency Funds	Balance					Balance Dec 31
	Jan 1	Receipts	Transfers In	Transfers Out	Disbursements	
County Health District	\$ 36,602.37	\$ 152,767.10	-	-	\$ 159,918.03	\$ 29,451.44
Historical Society	3,052.17	12,755.08	-	-	13,352.97	2,454.28
Senior Citizens	12,208.68	97,888.94	-	-	100,280.44	9,817.18
County Library	26,867.39	117,251.35	-	-	122,143.92	21,974.82
River Soil Con Dist Ins Re	0.01	0.07	-	-	0.08	-
River Soil Con Dist General	30,521.71	127,713.64	-	-	133,692.24	24,543.11
Joint Water Resource Board #2	11,240.37	2,774.53	-	-	2,650.00	11,364.90
Red River Basin Commission	-	4,284.00	-	-	4,284.00	-
Water Resource	48,835.08	205,556.13	-	-	215,122.25	39,268.96
Job Development Authority	27,612.68	116,480.19	-	-	121,977.21	22,115.66
Park River Joint Water Res Dist	6,282.69	26,149.20	-	-	27,489.68	4,942.21
Joint Water Resource Board - RR	17,373.55	76,354.43	-	-	79,471.60	14,256.38
State Revenue Tax	12,208.68	51,920.95	-	-	54,312.45	9,817.18
Forest River Joint Water Res Bd	6,282.34	26,148.03	-	-	27,488.16	4,942.21
County Sheriff Judgment Trust Acct	0.20	16,832.32	-	-	16,052.55	779.97
Game and Fish	5,008.96	-	-	-	-	5,008.96
Commissary Fund	-	5,003.38	-	-	1,781.12	3,222.26
Vold Memorial Account	-	2,940.90	-	-	-	2,940.90
Treasurer's Misc	52.00	43,924.38	-	-	43,234.04	742.34
State Grant 2015	1,657.78	4,880.13	-	-	4,431.42	2,106.49
Drug Prevention	370.40	-	-	-	-	370.40
County Sheriff Jt Water Resource	223.00	-	-	-	-	223.00
Sheriff Drug Grant #4 & Cty DUI	-	497.78	-	-	497.78	-
Soc Service SP Trust Fund	2,691.23	0.20	-	-	801.13	1,890.30
Public Health - Grand Forks	-	7,000.00	-	-	5,242.57	1,757.43
Walsh Co EMS 1/4 Sales Tax	19,508.96	247,680.51	-	-	243,063.17	24,126.30
Payroll Deductions	14.10	35,373.59	-	-	36,019.39	(631.70)
Total Cities	256,962.54	2,001,523.56	-	-	2,048,326.76	210,159.34
Total Parks	67,121.90	446,108.93	-	-	465,899.58	47,331.25
Total Schools	1,450,245.25	6,230,733.89	-	-	6,518,728.64	1,162,250.50
Total Townships	160,195.80	918,581.53	-	-	941,925.78	136,851.55
Total Water Resource Districts	290,528.35	1,010,079.80	-	-	1,044,507.10	256,101.05
Total Ambulance	1,244.40	2,224.06	-	-	2,910.71	557.75
Total Fire Districts	58,698.02	242,701.07	-	-	250,551.47	50,847.62
Total Agency Funds	\$ 2,553,610.61	\$ 12,234,129.67	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,686,156.24	\$ 2,101,584.04
Total Primary Government	\$ 8,999,734.34	\$ 22,802,679.11	\$ 192,187.37	\$ 192,187.37	\$ 23,387,044.73	\$ 8,415,368.72

STATE AUDITOR
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**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
Walsh County
Grafton, 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 discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Walsh County as of and for the year ended December 31, 2018, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Walsh County's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated August 14, 2019.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Walsh 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 Walsh County's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Walsh 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, 2018-003, and 2018-004 that we consider to be material weaknesses.

WALSH COUNTY

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

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Walsh 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 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*.

Walsh County's Response to Findings

Walsh County's response to the findings identified in our audit is described in the accompanying *schedule of audit findings*. Walsh 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 14, 2019

WALSH COUNTY

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

Financial Statements

Type of Report Issued?	
Governmental Activities	Unmodified
Discretely Presented Component Units	Unmodified
Major Funds	Unmodified
Aggregate Remaining Fund Information	Unmodified

Internal control over financial reporting

Material weaknesses identified?	<u> X </u> Yes	<u> </u> None Noted
Significant deficiencies identified not considered to be material weaknesses?	<u> </u> Yes	<u> X </u> None Noted
Noncompliance material to financial statements noted?	<u> </u> Yes	<u> X </u> None Noted

WALSH COUNTY

Schedule of Audit Findings

For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

New Findings

2018-001 – FINANCIAL STATEMENT PREPARATION

Condition

Walsh 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). Thus, management has elected to have the auditors assist in the preparation of the financial statements and note disclosures.

Criteria

Management of Walsh County is responsible for establishing proper internal control over the preparation of Walsh 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 is not fully knowledgeable of the process of preparing financial statements in compliance with GAAP.

Effect

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

Recommendation

We recommend Walsh 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.

Walsh County's Response

Agree. Walsh 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

Walsh County, Walsh County Water Resource District, and Walsh County Health District are 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 Walsh County, Walsh County Water Resource District, and Walsh County Public Health District's ability to detect misstatements in amounts that could be material in relation to the financial statements.

Recommendation

We recommend that Walsh County, Walsh County Water Resource District, and Walsh County Public Health District design and implement internal controls to identify the necessary adjustments to present the financial statements in compliance with GAAP.

Walsh County's Response

Agree. Walsh County, Walsh County Water Resource District, and Walsh County Public Health District do 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.

Repeat Findings

2018-003 – LACK OF SEGREGATION OF DUTIES – COMPONENT UNITS

Condition

The Walsh County Water Resource District, Walsh County Public Health District, and Walsh County Job Development Authority have limited personnel responsible for most accounting functions. A lack of segregation of duties exists as limited personnel are responsible to collect and deposit monies, issue checks, send checks to vendors, record receipts disbursement in journals, maintain the general ledger, create credit memos, and perform bank reconciliations.

Criteria

Proper internal control surrounding custody of assets, the recording of transactions, reconciling bank accounts and preparation of financial statements dictates that there should be sufficient accounting personnel so duties of employees are properly segregated. The segregation of duties would provide better control over the assets of the districts.

Cause

Management has chosen to allocate economic resources to other functions of the Water Resource District, Public Health District, and Job Development Authority.

Effect

The lack of segregation of duties increases the risk of fraud and the risk of misstatement of the Water Resource District, Public Health District, and Job Development Authority's financial condition.

Recommendation

To mitigate the risk associated with this lack of segregation of duties, we recommend the following:

- Financial statements and credit memos should be reviewed by a responsible official.
- Where possible, segregate the functions of approval, posting, custody of assets, and reconciliation as they relate to any amounts which impact the financial statements.

Walsh County's Response

We agree that a lack of segregation of duties exists and if the board does hire more administration that duties will be further segregated to the extent possible. We understand that this will be a repeated recommendation due to the limited number of staff employed by the Water Resource District, Public Health District, and Job Development Authority.

WALSH COUNTY

Schedule of Audit Findings– Continued

2018-004 – LACK OF BUDGET FOR TRANSFERS

Condition

Walsh County did not budget transfers between governmental funds during 2018.

Criteria

North Dakota Century Code states 11-23-02 *"The county auditor shall prepare an annual budget for the general fund, each special revenue fund, and each debt service fund of the county in the form prescribed by the state auditor. The budget must set forth specifically...the transfers in or out for each fund for the preceding year and the estimated transfers in or out for the current year and the ensuing year"*

Cause

Walsh County was not aware transfers between governmental funds were required to be included in its budget.

Effect

Walsh County was not in compliance with North Dakota Century Code.

Recommendation

We recommend that Walsh County budget for transfers between governmental funds to ensure compliance with North Dakota Century Code.

Walsh County's Response

Agree. Walsh County will budget transfers in the future.

STATE AUDITOR

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GOVERNANCE COMMUNICATION

Board of County Commissioners
Walsh County
Grafton, North Dakota

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Walsh County, North Dakota, for the year ended December 31, 2018 which collectively comprise Walsh County's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated August 14, 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 May 9, 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 Walsh 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 Walsh 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 Walsh 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.

WALSH COUNTY

Governance Communication – Continued

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 list all misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures that were corrected by management.

PRIMARY GOVERNMENT

Client Provided Adjustments

Intergovernmental Receivable	\$	458,470	
Accounts Receivable		58,829	
Revenues			\$ 517,299
Expenditures	\$	117,126	
Accounts Payable			\$ 108,038
Salaries Payable			9,088

Audit Adjustments

Revenues	\$	1,018,262	
Taxes Received in Advance			\$ 1,010,303
Unearned Revenue			7,959

WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Audit Adjustments

Due From County	\$	1,183	
Intergovernmental Receivable		659,832	
Revenues			\$ 661,015
Expenditures	\$	7,048	
Salaries Payable			\$ 7,048

JOB DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Audit Adjustments

Due From County	\$	687	
Revenues			\$ 687

PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICT

Audit Adjustments

Due From County	\$	887	
Revenues			\$ 887
Revenues	\$	29,451	
Cash			\$ 29,451

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 14, 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.

The following presents our informal recommendation:

FRAUD RISK ASSESSMENT

Walsh 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 Walsh 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 Walsh 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 Walsh 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 Walsh County.

/S/

Joshua C. Gallion
State Auditor

Fargo, North Dakota
August 14, 2019

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