

State Auditor Joshua C. Gallion

Burleigh County

Bismarck, North Dakota

Audit Report for the Year Ended December 31, 2023 *Client Code: PS8000*





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County Officials December 31, 2023

COUNTY OFFICIALS

At December 31, 2023

Steve Baaken Commissioner - Chairman
Brian Bitner Commissioner - Vice Chairman
Wayne Munson Commissioner
Steve Schwab Commissioner
Jerry Woodcox Commissioner

Mark Splonskowski Auditor/Treasurer Kelly Leben Sheriff Melissa Hanson Recorder Julie Lawyer State's Attorney

STATE AUDITOR

Joshua C. Gallion

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR
STATE CAPITOL
600 E. Boulevard Ave. Dept. 117
Bismarck, North Dakota, 58505

PHONE 701-328-2241

FAX 701-328-2345

ndsao@nd.gov

www.nd.gov/auditor

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of County Commissioners Burleigh County Bismarck, North Dakota

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Burleigh County, North Dakota, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Burleigh County's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Burleigh County, North Dakota, as of December 31, 2023, 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.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* (*Government Auditing Standards*), issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of Burleigh County and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 2 to the financial statements, the 2022 financial statements have been restated to correct misstatements. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Management 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; and for 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.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Burleigh County's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing our audit in accordance with GAAS and Government Auditing Standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud
 or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include
 examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 Burleigh County's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that
 raise substantial doubt about Burleigh County's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable
 period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

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, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, 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.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise Burleigh County's basic financial statements. The *schedule of expenditures of federal awards and notes to the schedule of expenditures of federal awards*, as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information 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. The 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 expenditures of federal awards* and *notes to the schedule of expenditures of federal awards* 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 July 1, 2024 on our consideration of Burleigh 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 solely 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 the effectiveness of Burleigh County's 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 Burleigh County's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

/S/

Joshua C. Gallion State Auditor

Bismarck, North Dakota July 1, 2024

	Primary Government			Component Unit
	Governmental Activities			Water Resource District
ASSETS Cash and Investments	\$	04 472 492	¢	2 404 442
Accounts Receivable	φ	94,473,483 552,927	\$	3,404,443
Intergovernmental Receivable		4,198,526		9,777
Inventories		1,249,756		-
Taxes Receivable		197,144		8,699
Special Assessments Receivable		3,483,969		1,169,914
Capital Assets		·, · · · , · · · ·		,,-
Nondepreciable		13,052,177		112,482
Depreciable, Net		140,137,426		6,717,540
Total Assets	\$	257,345,408	\$	11,422,855
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES				
Derived from Pension and OPEB	\$	21,464,768	\$	
LIABILITIES				
Accounts Payable	\$	2,518,249	\$	217,622
Salaries Payable		633,161		1,062
Incured But Not Reported Claims		531,000		-
Grants Received in Advance		12,953,266		-
Retainages Payable		82,390		11,050
Interest Payable		159,098		5,974
Long-Term Liabilities				
Due Within One Year				
Long Term Debt		3,475,374		118,451
Compensated Absences Payable Due After One Year		177,195		-
Long Term Debt		43,402,727		1,709,720
Compensated Absences Payable		1,594,758		-
Net Pension and OPEB Liability		32,722,988		
Total Liabilities	\$	98,250,206	\$	2,063,879
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES				
Taxes Received in Advance	\$	5,482,832	\$	_
Derived from Pension and OPEB		24,426,132		
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	\$	29,908,964	\$	
NET POSITION				
Net Investment In Capital Assets Restricted	\$	106,152,404	\$	6,160,715
Debt Service		38,329,924		_
Highways and Bridges		5,711,490		- -
Culture and Recreation		6,023,455		-
Conservation of Resources/Econ. Dev.		388,872		3,198,261
Other		59,085		, -, - -
Capital Projects		3,026,589		-
Unrestricted		(9,040,813)		
Total Net Position	\$	150,651,006	\$	9,358,976

			Program Revenues			Net (Expense) Reve Changes in Net Po					
						Operating	Conital		Primary Government		Component Unit Water
			(Charges for		Operating Grants and	Capital Grants and	Governmental		Resource	
Functions/Programs		Expenses		Services	С	ontributions	Contributions		Activities		Board
Primary Government											
Governmental Activities											
General Government	\$	10,713,796	\$	1,364,108	\$	2,652,953	\$ -	\$	(6,696,735)	\$	-
Public Safety		23,533,571		7,173,880		2,075	-		(16,357,616)		-
Highways and Bridges		14,079,164		2,513,239		10,731,594	1,270,988		436,657		-
Health and Welfare		9,123,240		9,548		7,305,741	-		(1,807,951)		-
Culture and Recreation		996,335		-		-	-		(996,335)		-
Conservation and Economic Development		898,078		116,524		-	-		(781,554)		-
Other		1,858,477		-		-	-		(1,858,477)		-
Interest on Long Term Debt		611,979		-		-	-		(611,979)		
Total Primary Government	\$	61,814,640	\$	11,177,299	\$	20,692,363	\$ 1,270,988	\$	(28,673,990)	\$	_
Component Unit											
Water Resource District	\$	1,628,867	\$	-	\$	176,549	\$ -	\$	_	\$	(1,452,318)
		, ,				,					
	Gene	eral Revenues									
	Prop	erty taxes						\$	19,567,469	\$	887,702
	Sales	staxes							11,518,431		-
	Non i	restricted grants	and	contributions					9,999,345		62,634
	Intere	est Income							2,292,184		405
	Gain	(Loss) on Sale o	f As	sets					331,937		-
		ellaneous revenue							1,780,898		22,610
									ĺ		
	Total	General Revenue	es					\$	45,490,264	\$	973,351
	Chan	ge in Net Positio	n					\$	16,816,274	\$	(478,967)
	Net F	Position - January	1					\$	134,409,920	\$	10,075,190
	Prior	Period Adjustme	nts					\$	(575,188)	\$	(237,247)
	Net F	Position - January	1,	as restated				\$	133,834,732	\$	9,837,943
	Net F	Position - Deceml	oer	31				\$	150,651,006	\$	9,358,976
								_		_	

Balance Sheet – Governmental Funds December 31, 2023

		General Fund		Special Revenue Fund		Capital Project Fund		Debt Service Fund	G	Total Sovernmental Funds
ASSETS Cash and Investments	\$	16,692,542	Ф	38,552,243	Ф	3,021,762	Ф	32,880,346	Ф	91,146,893
Accounts Receivable	φ	76,151	φ	462,214	φ	3,021,702	φ	32,000,340	φ	538,365
Intergovernmental Receivable		1,129,487		957,820		4,827		2,106,392		4,198,526
Interfund Loan Receivable		2,200,000		937,020		4,027		2,100,392		2,200,000
Due from Other Funds		1,721,451		333,413		_		_		2,054,864
Taxes Receivable		148,675		48,469		_		_		197,144
Special Assessment Receivable				-		_		3,483,969		3,483,969
Inventories		-		1,249,756		-		-		1,249,756
Total Assets	\$	21,968,306	\$	41,603,915	\$	3,026,589	\$	38,470,707	\$	105,069,517
LIABILITIES AND DEFERRED INFLOWS										
OF RESOURCES Liabilities										
Accounts Payable	\$	791,235	\$	1,727,014	\$	_	\$	_	\$	2,518,249
Salaries Payable	Ψ	394,785	Ψ	238,376	Ψ	-	Ψ	-	Ψ	633,161
Retainage Payable		-		82,390		_		_		82,390
Due to Other Funds		111,138		1,913,441		_		30,285		2,054,864
Grants Received in Advance		<u>-</u>		12,953,266		-		<u>-</u>		12,953,266
Total Liabilities	\$	1,297,158	\$	16,914,487	\$	_	\$	30,285	\$	18,241,930
Deferred Inflows of Resources										
Taxes Receivable	\$	148,675	\$	48,469	\$	_	\$	_	\$	197,144
Special Assessment Receivable		-		, <u>-</u>		_		3,483,969		3,483,969
Taxes Received in Advance		4,399,966		972,368		-		110,498		5,482,832
Total Deferred Inflow Of Resources	\$	4,548,641	\$	1,020,837	\$	_	\$	3,594,467	\$	9,163,945
Total Liabilities And Deferred Inflows Of Resources	\$	5,845,799	\$	17,935,324	\$	_	\$	3,624,752	\$	27,405,875
FUND BALANCE										
Nonspendable										
Inventory	\$	-	\$	1,249,756	\$	-	\$	-	\$	1,249,756
Interfund Loan Receivable Restricted		2,200,000		-		-		-		2,200,000
Capital Project Funds		_		_		3,026,589		-		3,026,589
Conservation & Econ. Develop.		-		576,180		-		-		576,180
Culture and Recreation		-		5,985,349		-		-		5,985,349
Debt Service		-		-		-		34,885,316		34,885,316
General Government		-		1,584,895		-		-		1,584,895
Health and Welfare		-		812,303		-		-		812,303
Highways and Bridges		-		9,213,521		-		-		9,213,521
Other		-		539,723		-		-		539,723
Public Safety		-		2,646,801		-		-		2,646,801
Committed										
Jail Commissary		-		340,343		-		-		340,343
Parking Lot		-		448		-		-		448
Provident Building		-		1,272,484		-		-		1,272,484
Unassigned		40.000.507								40.000.507
General Fund		13,922,507		(FEO 040)		-		(00.001)		13,922,507
Negative Funds		-		(553,212)		-		(39,361)		(592,573)
Total Fund Balances	\$	16,122,507	\$	23,668,591	\$	3,026,589	\$	34,845,955	\$	77,663,642
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$	21,968,306	\$	41,603,915	\$	3,026,589	\$	38,470,707	\$	105,069,517

Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Net Position December 31, 2023

Total Fund Balances for Governmental Funds		\$ 77,663,642
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 are not reported in the governmental funds.		153,189,603
An internal service fund is used by the county to charge the cost of health insurance to individual funds. The assets and liabilities of the internal service fund are included in governmental activities in the statement of net position.		610,152
Certain receivables will be collected after year-end, but are not available soon enough to pay for the current period's expenditures and therefore are reported as deferred revenues in the funds.		
Taxes Receivable Special Assessments Receivable	\$ 197,144 3,483,969	3,681,113
Deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions are applicable to future periods and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds. Deferred Inflows of Resources Deferred Outflows of Resources	\$ (24,426,132) 21,464,768	(2,961,364)
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	\$ (46,878,101)	
Interest Payable Compensated Absences Payable Net Pension and OPEB Liability	 (159,098) (1,771,953) (32,722,988)	 (81,532,140)
Total Net Position of Governmental Activities		\$ 150,651,006

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

		General Fund	Special Revenue Fund		Capital Project Fund		Debt Service Fund	G	Total overnmental Funds
REVENUES									
Property Taxes	\$	14,588,484	4,940,537	\$	-	\$		\$	19,529,021
Sales Taxes		-	-		-		11,518,431		11,518,431
Special Assessments		-	-		-		964,521		964,521
Licenses, Permits and Fines		123,678	73,553		-		-		197,231
Intergovernmental Revenue		5,888,626	24,803,082		-		-		30,691,708
Charges for Services		5,307,557	5,672,511		-		-		10,980,068
Interest Income		1,325,002	722,099		36,302		208,781		2,292,184
Miscellaneous		(54,260)	786,423		4,827		1,043,908		1,780,898
Total Revenues	\$	27,179,087	36,998,205	\$	41,129	\$	13,735,641	\$	77,954,062
EXPENDITURES Current									
General Government	\$	8,043,087	2,092,989	\$	_	\$	_	\$	10,136,076
Public Safety	Ψ	18,231,055	2,683,422	Ψ	_	Ψ	_	Ψ	20,914,477
Highways and Bridges		-	19,216,053		_		_		19,216,053
Health and Welfare		966,462	7,806,399		_		_		8,772,861
Culture and Recreation		378,566	451,781		_		_		830,347
Conservation and Economic Development		83,389	797,662		_		_		881,051
Other		525,467	1,231,945		_		58,961		1,816,373
Capital Outlay		-	-		37,543		24,158		61,701
Debt Service									
Principal		-	174,421		-		3,435,117		3,609,538
Interest		-	4,866		-		1,004,088		1,008,954
Fees		-	-		-		10,236		10,236
Total Expenditures	\$	28,228,026	34,459,538	\$	37,543	\$	4,532,560	\$	67,257,667
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	\$	(1,048,939)	2,538,667	\$	3,586	\$	9,203,081	\$	10,696,395
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)									
Bond Proceeds	\$	- ;	-	\$	_	\$	425,000	\$	425,000
Change in Investment Market Value	Ψ	156,293	271,702	•	_	*	-	Ψ	427,995
Sale of Assets		80	330,000		86,867		_		416,947
Transfers In		418,025	11,248,846		-		450,127		12,116,998
Transfers Out		(118,640)	(11,903,034)		-		(19,653)		(12,041,327)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	\$	455,758	(52,486)	\$	86,867	\$	855,474	\$	1,345,613
Net Change in Fund Balances	\$	(593,181)	2,486,181	\$	90,453	\$	10,058,555	\$	12,042,008
Fund Balances - January 1	\$	16,715,688	21,182,410	\$	2,244,985	\$	25,478,551	\$	65,621,634
Fund Balance Classification Change	\$	- ;	-	\$	691,151	\$	(691,151)	\$	
Fund Balances - January 1 Restated	\$	16,715,688	21,182,410	\$	2,936,136	\$	24,787,400	\$	65,621,634
Fund Balances - December 31	\$	16,122,507	23,668,591	\$	3,026,589	\$	34,845,955	\$	77,663,642

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, 2023

Net Change in Fund Balances - Total Governmental Funds			\$ 12,042,008
The change in net position reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities is different because:			
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense.			
Current Year Capital Outlay	\$	7,866,837	
Capital Contributions		425,539	0.544.044
Current Year Depreciation Expense		(4,778,035)	3,514,341
In the statement of activities, only the gain(loss) on the sale of assets and the donation 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 and donated.			
Proceeds from Sale of Asset	\$	(416,947)	
Gain on Sale of Capital Asset	Ψ	331,937	(85,010)
The proceeds of debt issuances are reported as other financing sources in governmental funds and contribute to change in fund balance. In the statement of net position, issuing debt increases long-term liabilities and does not affect the statement of activities. Repayment of debt principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position. Debt Issuance Repayment of Debt Net Amortization of Bond Discount/Premium	\$	(425,000) 3,609,538 (34,960)	3,149,578
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.		(04,300)	0,140,070
Net Change in Net Pension and OPEB Liability	\$	13,809,224	
Net Change in Deferred Outflows of Resources		(9,050,469)	
Net Change in Deferred Inflows of Resources		(6,252,576)	(1,493,821)
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 Compensated Absences Net Change in Interest Payable	\$	(27,185) 14,176	(13,009)
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 Taxes Receivable	\$	38,448	
Net Change in Special Assessments Receivable	Ψ	(119,072)	(80,624)
An internal service fund is used by the county's management to charge the cost of health insurance to individual functions. The net operating income of certain activities of internal service funds is reported with governmental activities.		(1.10,012)	(217,189)
gotommonia adminodi			, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities			\$ 16,816,274

	Internal Service Fund		
CURRENT ASSETS Cash Accounts Receivable	\$	3,326,590 14,562	
Total assets	\$	3,341,152	
CURRENT LIABILITIES Current Liabilities Incurred But Not Reported Claims Interfund Loan Payable	\$	531,000 2,200,000	
Total Liabilities	\$	2,731,000	
NET POSITION Restricted	\$	610,152	

	Se	Internal ervice Fund
OPERATING REVENUES Contributions to Self-Insurance Miscellaneous	\$	6,207,988 312,306
Total Operating Revenues	\$	6,520,294
OPERATING EXPENSES Health Insurance Claims Administrative Fees Stop Loss Fees	\$	4,609,202 224,776 1,910,120
Total Operating Expenses	\$	6,744,098
Operating Loss	\$	(223,804)
NONOPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES) Interest Income	\$	82,286
Total Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)	\$	82,286
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES) Transfers Out	\$	(75,671)
Total Other Financing Sources and Uses	\$	(75,671)
Change in Net Position		(217,189)
Net Position - January 1	\$	1,051,500
Prior Period Adjustment	\$	(224, 159)
Net Position - December 31	\$	610,152

	S	Internal ervice Fund
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES Receipts from User Charges Other Receipts Payments for Health Insurance Claims Payments for Fees	\$	6,359,035 312,306 (4,745,361) (2,634,896)
Net Decrease in Cash Provided by Operating Activities	\$	(708,916)
CASH FLOWS FROM NONCAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES Transfers Out	\$	(75,671)
Net Cash Provided (Used) by Noncapital Financing Activities	\$	(75,671)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES Interest Income	\$	82,286
Net Increase in Cash Provided by Investing Activities	\$	82,286
Net Decrease in Cash And Cash Equivalents	\$	(702,301)
Cash - January 1	\$	4,028,891
Cash - December 31	\$	3,326,590
RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING LOSS TO NET DECREASE		
IN CASH Operating Income	\$	(223,804)
Adjustments to Reconcile Operating Loss to Net Decrease in Cash Decrease in IBNR Claims Payable Decrease in Loans Payable Decrease in Accounts Receivable	\$	(136,159) (500,000) 151,047
Net Decrease in Cash	\$	(708,916)

Statement of Fiduciary Net Position – Fiduciary Funds For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	 Custodial Funds
ASSETS Cash and cash equivalents Accounts Receivable Taxes Receivable Special Assessments Receivable Other Asset	\$ 30,854,070 442 1,145,063 489,035 4,269
Total Assets	\$ 32,492,879
LIABILITIES & DERRERED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES Liabilities Due to Other Governmental Units	\$ 3,953,564
Deferred Inflows of Resources Taxes Receivable Special Assessment Receivable Taxes Received in Advance	 1,145,063 489,035 26,905,217
Total Liabilities and Deferred Inflows of Resources	\$ 32,492,879
Total Net Position	\$

	Custodial Funds			
ADDITIONS Tax Collections for Other Governments Grant Collections for Other Governments Miscellaneous Collections	\$	165,300,069 2,794,005 185,257		
Total Additions	\$	168,279,331		
DEDUCTIONS Tax Disbursements to Other Governments Grant Disbursements to Other Governments Miscellaneous Disbursements	\$	165,300,069 2,794,005 185,257		
Total Deductions	\$	168,279,331		
Net Increase (Decrease) in Fiduciary Net Position	\$	<u>-</u>		
Net Position - Beginning	\$			
Net Position - Ending	\$			

Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of Burleigh County ("County") have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applied to government units. 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 government's accounting policies are described below.

Reporting Entity

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

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

Component Unit

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

Discretely Presented Component Units: The component unit columns in the government wide financial statements include the financial data of the County's one component unit. This component unit is reported in a separate column to emphasize that it is legally separate from the County.

Burleigh County Water Resource District ("Water Resource District") – The governing board is appointed by the County's governing body. The County's governing body has the authority to disapprove, amend, or approve the Water Resource District budget.

Complete financial statements of the Water Resource District are included in these financial statements. Additional information may be obtained from the Burleigh County Water Resource District: 1720 Burnt Boat Drive, Ste 205; Bismarck, ND 58503.

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 unit. 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 custodial 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 and reimbursements.

Capital Projects Fund - This fund accounts for the costs associated with construction of buildings and infrastructure.

Debt Service Fund - This fund accounts for the costs associated with long-term debt obligations.

Additionally, the County reports the following fund types:

Internal Service Fund. This fund accounts for medical insurance and workers' compensation insurance and unemployment claims provided to other departments on a cost-reimbursement basis.

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

Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentation

Government-Wide, Proprietary Statements, and Fiduciary Fund Financial Statements. The government-wide, proprietary 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.

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.

Cash and Investments

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

The investments consist of an investment in an investment pool stated at market value, money market accounts, and certificates of deposit with maturities of greater than 3 months.

Inventories

Inventories are valued using the first in first out (FIFO) method. The costs of governmental fund-type inventories are recorded as expenditures when consumed rather than when purchased.

Capital Assets

Capital assets include plant and equipment. Assets are reported in the governmental activities column in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the County as assets with an initial, individual cost of \$5,000 or more. Such assets are recorded at cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date of donation. The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets lives are not capitalized. Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed. Interest incurred during the construction phase of capital assets is not capitalized.

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

Infrastructure	40 – 50
Land Improvements	15 – 40
Buildings	40
Building Improvements	15 – 20
Office Equipment & Furniture	3 – 10
Vehicles	3 – 10
Machinery & Equipment	3 – 15

Compensated Absences

Vested or accumulated vacation leave is reported in the government-wide statement of net position. Compensation for unused vacation leave will be granted to all full-time employees upon termination of employment with the County. The employees may carry forward unused leave not to exceed 240 hours.

Compensation for unused sick leave will be granted to all full-time employees upon termination of employment of 5 or more years. Employees may carry forward unlimited unused sick leave. The severance payment will be based on 25% of accumulated sick leave for employees hired prior to January 1, 1991 and 10% of accumulated sick leave for those hired on or after January 1, 1991.

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 and discounts received on debt issuances are reported as other financing sources (uses). Issuance costs are reported as debt service expenditures.

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.

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, and 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.

Fund Balances

Minimum Fund Balance Policy. The County will maintain a minimum unassigned fund balance in its General Fund ranging from 15 percent to 25 percent of the subsequent year's budgeted expenditures and outgoing transfers. This minimum fund balance is to protect against cash flow shortfalls related to timing of projected revenue receipts and to maintain a budget stabilization commitment.

Replenishing deficiencies – when fund balance falls below the minimum 25 percent range, the County will replenish shortages/deficiencies using the budget strategies and time frames described below.

The following budgetary strategies shall be utilized by the County to replenish funding deficiencies:

- Reduce recurring expenditures to eliminate any structural deficit.
- Increase revenues or pursue other funding sources.
- Some combination of the two options above.

Minimum fund balance deficiencies shall be replenished within the following time periods:

- Deficiency resulting in a minimum fund balance between 15 percent and 25 percent shall be replenished over a period not to exceed one year.
- Deficiency resulting in a minimum fund balance between 10 percent and 15 percent shall be replenished over a period not to exceed three years.
- Deficiency resulting in a minimum fund balance of less than 10 percent shall be replenished over a period not to exceed five years.

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.

Nonspendable Balances. Nonspendable fund balance is shown for inventory in the special revenue fund.

Restricted Fund Balances. Restricted fund balance is 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).

Committed Fund Balances. Committed fund balance is committed by the highest level of decision-making authority (governing board).

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

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 and state grants or reimbursements.

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

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

Prior period adjustments were necessary for the government wide statements to properly report the beginning balance of capital assets and the internal service fund as shown below:

	Amounts
Beginning Net Position, as previously reported	\$ 134,409,920
Adjustments to restate the January 1, 2023 Net Position	
Capital Assets, Net	(351,029)
Internal Service Fund, Net Position January 1	(224, 159)
Net Position January 1, 2023, as restated	\$ 133,834,732

Prior period adjustments were necessary for the Capital Projects Funds balance and Debt Service Fund balance to properly report fund balances in their proper classifications as shown below:

	Amounts
Beginning Capital Projects Fund Balance, as previously reported	\$ 2,244,985
Adjustments to restate the January 1, 2023 Fund Balance	
Fund Classification Change	691,151
Capital Projects Fund Balance January 1, 2023, as restated	\$ 2,936,136
	Amounts
Beginning Debt Service Fund Balance, as previously reported	\$ Amounts 25,478,551
Beginning Debt Service Fund Balance, as previously reported Adjustments to restate the January 1, 2023 Fund Balance	\$
, · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	\$

Water Resource District

Prior period adjustments were necessary for the Water Resource District net position to properly report the beginning balance of capital assets as shown below:

Water Resource District	Amounts
Beginning Net Position, as previously reported	\$ 10,075,190
Adjustments to restate the January 1, 2023 Net Position:	
Capital Assets, Net	(237,247)
Net Position January 1, 2023, as restated	\$ 9,837,943

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 are in the possession of the outside parties. The County does not have a formal policy regarding deposits that limits the amount it may invest in any one issuer.

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

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

At year ended December 31, 2023, the County's carrying amount of deposits totaled \$125,304,440 and the bank balances totaled \$120,097,430. Of the bank balances, \$68,259,973 was covered by Federal Depository, \$19,911,614 of the remaining bank balances were collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's agent in the government's name, and \$1,620,475 was uninsured and uncollateralized.

At year ended December 31, 2023, the District's carrying amount of deposits totaled \$3,404,444, and the bank balances totaled \$3,405,076. Of the bank balances, \$500,000 was covered by Federal Depository Insurance. The remaining bank balances were collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's agent in the government's name.

NOTE 4 INVESTMENTS

As of December 31, 2023, the County had the following investments:

		Investment Maturities									
	Moody's or	Le	ss than One						Total	Percent of	Fair Value
Investment Type	S&P Rating		Year		1-5 Years	6	3-10 Years		Fair Value	Investments	Hierarchy
Government Obligations	AA+	\$	1,237,783	\$	-	\$	-	\$	1,237,783	3%	Level 1
Government Obligations	Not Rated		498,465		-		-		498,465	1%	Level 1
Certificates of Deposit	Not Rated		20,790,453		-		-		20,790,453	49%	Level 1
Money Market	Not Rated		15,949,312		-		-		15,949,312	37%	Level 1
Savings	Not Rated		1,485		-		-		1,485	0%	Level 1
Municipal Bonds	AAA		810,133		1,706,232		288,962		2,805,326	7%	Level 2
Municipal Bonds	AA1		-		-		277,270		277,270	1%	Level 2
Municipal Bonds	AA+		400,612		232,603		-		633,215	1%	Level 2
Municipal Bonds	AA		-		-		154,302		154,302	0%	Level 2
Municipal Bonds	A+		-		151,362		203,970		355,332	1%	Level 2
Municipal Bonds	Not Rated		-		-		102,976		102,976	0%	Level 2
Total Investments		\$	39,688,242	\$	2,090,197	\$	1,027,479	\$	42,805,918	100%	_

As authorized in North Dakota Statutes, idle funds may be invested as follows:

- 1. Bonds, treasury bills and notes, or other securities that are a direct obligation of, or an obligation insured or guaranteed by, the treasury of the United States, or its agencies, instrumentalities, or organizations created by an act of Congress.
- 2. Securities sold under agreements to repurchase written by a financial institution in which the underlying securities for the agreement to repurchase are of a type listed above.
- 3. Certificates of deposit fully insured by the federal deposit insurance corporation or by the state.
- 4. Certificates of deposit, savings deposits, or other deposits fully insured or guaranteed by the federal deposit insurance corporation and placed for the benefit of the public depositor by a public depository through an appropriate deposit placement service as determined by the commissioner of financial institutions.
- State and local securities:
 - a. Any security that is a general obligation of any state or local government with taxing powers and is rated in the highest three categories by a nationally recognized rating agency.
 - b. An obligation of the state housing finance agency that is rated in the highest two categories by a nationally recognized rating agency.
 - c. Any security that is a general obligation of a school district and is rated in the highest two categories by a nationally recognized rating agency.
 - d. Obligations of this state and general obligations of its political subdivisions.
- 6. Commercial paper issued by a United States corporation rated in the highest quality category by at least two nationally recognized rating agencies and matures in two hundred seventy days or less.

Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates of debt securities will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. The price of a debt security typically moves in the opposite direction of the change in interest rate. The County does not have a formal investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to potential fair value losses arising from future changes in interest rates.

Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk that an issuer or other counterparty to an investment will not fulfill its obligations. The County does not have a formal investment policy that specifically addresses credit risk.

Concentration of Credit Risk

Concentration of credit risk is the risk of loss attributed to the magnitude of a government's investment in a single issuer. The County does not have an investment policy that specifically addresses concentrations of credit risk in a single issuer.

Fair Value Measurement

In accordance with GASB Statement No. 72, assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities and deferred inflows of resources are grouped at fair value in three levels, based on the markets in which the assets and liabilities are traded, and the reliability of the assumptions used to determine fair value. These levels are:

- Level 1: Valuation is based upon quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities that the reporting entity has the ability to access at the measurement date.
- Level 2: Valuation is based upon quoted prices for similar assets or liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active, and model-based valuation techniques for which all significant assumptions are observable in the market.
- Level 3: Valuation is generated from model-based techniques that use significant assumptions not observable in the market. These unobservable assumptions reflect our own estimates of assumptions that market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability. Valuation techniques include use of option pricing models, discounted cash flow models and similar techniques.

Investments that are measured at fair value using net asset value per share (or its equivalent) as a practical expedient are not classified in the fair value hierarchy. The fair value leveling of the County's investment portfolio were as of December 31, 2023.

The Level 1 securities are valued using the quoted prices in active markets for identical assets. Level 2 and Level 3 securities are valued based on methodologies such as bid evaluations, market averages, and other matrix pricing techniques as well as values derived from associated traded securities or last trade data. In instances where inputs used to measure fair value fall into different levels, the fair value is categorized based on the lowest level input that is significant to the valuation.

NOTE 5 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 6 CAPITAL ASSETS

Primary Government

The following is a summary of changes in capital assets for the year ended December 31, 2023:

	Bal Jan 1						Balance
Primary Government	Restated		ncreases	c	Decreases	Transfers	Dec 31
Capital assets not being depreciated							
Land	\$ 8,067,722	\$	7,630	\$	63,590	\$ -	\$ 8,011,762
Construction in Progress	1,882,345		6,606,410		-	(3,448,338)	5,040,417
Total Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated	\$ 9,950,067	\$	6,614,040	\$	63,590	\$ (3,448,338)	\$ 13,052,179
Capital assets, being depreciated							
Infrastructure	\$ 92,023,533	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 1,786,958	\$ 93,810,491
Land Improvements	6,574,545		-		-	-	6,574,545
Building	100,680,250		-		-	1,250,610	101,930,860
Machinery and Equipment	13,391,910		1,294,114		244,871	410,770	14,851,923
Furniture and Equipment	5,345,983		384,224		651,088	-	5,079,119
Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated	\$ 218,016,221	\$	1,678,338	\$	895,959	\$ 3,448,338	\$ 222,246,938
Less accumulated depreciation							
Infrastructure	\$ 44,290,238	\$	1,453,048	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 45,743,286
Land Improvements	2,761,608		208,702		-	-	2,970,310
Building	20,564,169		1,892,893		-	-	22,457,062
Machinery and Equipment	6,762,076		779,728		231,871	-	7,309,933
Furniture and Equipment	3,827,926		443,664		642,667	-	3,628,923
Total Accumulated Depreciation	\$ 78,206,017	\$	4,778,035	\$	874,538	\$ -	\$ 82,109,514
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated, Net	\$ 139,810,204	\$	(3,099,697)	\$	21,421	\$ 3,448,338	\$ 140,137,424
Total Capital Assets, Net	\$ 149,760,271	\$	3,514,343	\$	85,011	\$ -	\$ 153,189,603

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

General Government	\$ 313,844
Public Safety	1,943,008
Highways and Bridges	2,327,040
Health and Welfare	12,750
Conservation of Natural Resources	13,437
Culture and Recreation	164,041
Other	3,915
Total Depreciation Expense	\$4,778,035

Water Resource District

The following is a summary of changes in capital assets for the year ended December 31, 2023:

	E	Bal Jan 1							Balance
Water Resource District		Restated	ı	ncreases	D	ecreases	Transfers		Dec 31
Capital assets not being depreciated									
Land	\$	112,482	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	\$	112,482
Construction in Progress		-		-		-	-		-
Total Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated	\$	112,482	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	\$	112,482
Capital assets, being depreciated									
Infrastructure	\$	6,679,992	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	\$	6,679,992
Land Improvements		1,822,773		-		-	-		1,822,773
Building		187,660		14,789		-	-		202,449
Office Furniture & Equip.		197,083				-	-		197,083
Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated	\$	8,887,508	\$	14,789	\$	•	\$ -	65	8,902,297
Less accumulated depreciation									
Infrastructure	\$	560,146	\$	164,677	\$	-	\$ -	\$	724,823
Land Improvements		1,105,230		58,572		-	-		1,163,802
Building		153,840		1,411		-	-		155,251
Office Furniture & Equip.		131,722		9,159		-	-		140,881
Total Accumulated Depreciation	\$	1,950,938	\$	233,819	\$	-	\$ -	\$	2,184,757
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated, Net	\$	6,936,570	\$	(219,030)	\$	1	\$ -	\$	6,717,540
Total Capital Assets, Net	\$	7,049,052	\$	(219,030)	\$	-	\$ -	\$	6,830,022

Depreciation expense was charged to the Conservation of Natural Resources function.

NOTE 7 LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

Primary Government

During the year ended December 31, 2023, the following changes occurred in liabilities reported in long-term liabilities:

		Balance						Balance	Due Within			
Primary Government		Jan 1	Increases			Decreases	Dec 31			One Year		
Long-Term Debt												
Sales Tax Bonds	\$	39,750,250	\$	-	\$	2,647,750	\$	37,102,500	\$	2,673,250		
Certificate of Indebtedness		6,308,473		-		317,367		5,991,106		332,085		
Notes Payable		174,421		-		174,421		-		-		
Special Assessment Bonds		4,155,000		425,000		470,000		4,110,000		505,000		
Bond Discount		(395,380)		-		(52,418)		(342,962)		(52,418)		
Bond Premium		34,915		-		17,458		17,457		17,457		
Total Long-Term Debt		50,027,679		425,000		3,574,578		46,878,101		3,475,374		
Compensated Absences		1,744,768		1,282,954		1,255,769		1,771,953		177,195		
Net Pension & OPEB Liability*		46,532,212		-		13,809,224		32,722,988		-		
Total Primary Government	\$	98,304,659	\$	1,707,954	\$	18,639,571	\$	81,373,042	\$	3,652,569		

^{* -} The change in net pension & OPEB liability are shown as net changes because changes in salary prohibit exact calculations of additions and reductions at a reasonable cost.

Compensated absences are paid out of the General Fund and Special Revenue Fund.

Debt Service requirement on long-term debt at December 31, 2023 are as follows:

Year Ending	Sales Ta	x Bonds	Certificate of	Indebtedness	Spec. Assi	nt. Bonds	Bond	Bond	
Dec 31	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest	Discount	Premium	
2024	\$ 2,673,250	\$ 751,162	\$ 332,085	\$ 117,742	\$ 505,000	\$ 88,586	\$ 52,418	\$ 17,457	
2025	3,548,750	720,420	338,760	111,067	530,000	78,020	38,427	-	
2026	3,591,250	674,286	345,569	104,258	540,000	65,720	38,427	-	
2027	3,646,500	620,417	352,515	97,312	530,000	54,406	36,946	-	
2028	3,710,250	558,427	359,600	90,227	480,000	44,535	36,208	-	
2029-2033	19,932,500	1,405,809	1,909,370	339,764	1,480,000	81,945	140,536	-	
2034-2038	-	-	2,109,133	140,002	45,000	866	-	-	
2039-2043	-	-	244,074	2,446	-	-	-	-	
Total	\$ 37,102,500	\$ 4,730,521	\$ 5,991,106	\$ 1,002,818	\$ 4,110,000	\$ 414,078	\$ 342,962	\$ 17,457	

Water Resource District

During the year ended December 31, 2023, the following changes occurred in liabilities reported in long-term liabilities:

		Balance					Balance			ue Within
Water Resource District	Jan 1			Increases	D	ecreases	Dec 31			One Year
Long Term Debt										
Loans Payable	\$	140,000	\$	-	\$	10,000	\$	130,000	\$	10,000
Bonds Payable		1,825,000		-		105,000		1,720,000		110,000
Bond Discount		(23, 379)		-		1,550		(21,829)		(1,549)
Total Long Term Debt	\$	1,941,621	\$	-	\$	116,550	\$	1,828,171	\$	118,451

Debt Service requirement on long-term debt at December 31, 2023 are as follows:

Year Ending		Loans P	aya	able	Bonds F	Bonds Payable						
Dec 31	Principal Interest			Interest	Principal		Interest	[Discount			
2024	\$	10,000	\$	3,250	\$ 110,000	\$	28,930	\$	(1,549)			
2025		15,000		3,000	110,000		27,580		(1,549)			
2026		15,000		2,625	110,000		26,068		(1,549)			
2027		15,000		2,250	115,000		24,230		(1,549)			
2028		15,000		1,875	115,000		22,230		(1,549)			
2029-2033		60,000		3,750	570,000		79,678		(7,352)			
2034-2038		-		-	430,000		33,385		(4,962)			
2039-2043		-		-	160,000		2,960		(1,770)			
Total	\$	130,000	\$	16,750	\$ 1,720,000	\$	245,061	\$	(21,829)			

NOTE 8 PENSION PLAN

General Information about the 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.

Notes to the Financial Statements - Continued

Responsibility for administration of the NDPERS defined benefit pension plan is assigned to a Board comprised of eleven members. The Governor is responsible for appointing three other members in addition to the Chairman of the Board. Four members are appointed by legislative management, and the remaining three Board members are elected from active employees currently contributing to PERS.

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 was 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. For members hired on or after January 1, 2020 the 2.00% multiplier was replaced with a 1.75% multiplier. The plan permits early retirement at ages 55-64 with three or more years of service.

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

Death and Disability Benefits

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

Eligible members who become totally disabled after a minimum of 180 days of service, receive monthly disability 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. For members hired on or after January 1, 2020 member contribution rates are 7% and employer contribution rates are 8.26% 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, 2023, the following net pension liabilities were reported:

	Net Pension		
	Liability		
Primary Government	\$	31,297,213	

The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2023, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The Employer's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the Employer's share of covered payroll in the Main System pension plan relative to the covered payroll of all participating Main System employers. At June 30, 2023 the entities had the following proportions, change in proportions, and pension expense:

		Increase	
		(Decrease) in	
		Proportion from	
		June 30, 2022	Pension
	Proportion	Measurement	Expense
Primary Government	1.623087%	0.066248%	\$ 2,725,840

At December 31, 2023, the County reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

		ferred Outflows	Deferred Inflows		
Primary Government	of Resources		of Resources		
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$	1,018,826	\$	172,602	
Changes in Assumptions		17,257,650		23,755,379	
Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Investment					
Earnings on Pension Plan Investments		821,182		-	
Changes in Proportion and Differences Between Employer					
Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions		1,076,308		330,480	
Employer Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date		751,908		-	
Total Primary Government	\$	20,925,874	\$	24,258,461	

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, 2023:

Primary Government	\$	751,908
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Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

2024	\$ 151,359
2025	(3,343,682)
2026	785,225
2027	(1,677,397)
2028	-

Actuarial Assumptions

The total pension liability in the July 1, 2023 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.25%
Salary Increases	3.5% to 17.75% including inflation
Investment Rate of Return	6.50%, Net of Investment Expenses
Cost-of-Living Adjustments	None

For active members, inactive members and healthy retirees, mortality rates were based on the Sex-distinct Pub-2010 table for General Employees, with scaling based on actual experience. Respective corresponding tables were used for healthy retirees, disabled retirees, and active members. Mortality rates are projected from 2010 using the MP-2019 scale.

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:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Domestic Equity	31%	6.25%
International Equity	20%	6.95%
Private Equity	7%	9.45%
Domestic Fixed Income	23%	2.51%
International Fixed Income	0%	0.00%
Global Real Assets	19%	4.33%
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 6.50%; the municipal bond rate is 3.86%; and the resulting Single Discount Rate is 6.50%.

Sensitivity of the Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following presents the Employer's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 6.50 percent, as well as what the Employer's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (5.50 percent) or 1-percentage-point higher (7.50 percent) than the current rate:

			Current		
Proportionate Share		1%	Discount		1%
of the Net Pension Liability	Dec	rease (5.50%)	Rate (6.5%)	Incr	ease (7.50%)
Primary Government	\$	43,151,338	\$ 31,297,213	\$	21,463,297

Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position

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

NOTE 9 OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)

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. Effective August 1, 2019 the benefit may be used for any eligible health, prescription drug plan, dental, vision, or long term care plan premium expense. 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. 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. Beginning January 1, 2020, members first enrolled in the NDPERS Main System and the Defined Contribution Plan on or after that date will not be eligible to participate in RHIC. Therefore, RHIC will become for the most part a closed plan. There were no other benefit changes during the year.

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. Effective August 1, 2019 the benefit may be used for any eligible health, prescription drug plan, dental, vision, or long term care plan premium expense. 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, 2023, for its respective proportionate share of the net pension liability, the following net OPEB liabilities were reported:

	Net OPEB Liability		
Primary Government	\$	1,425,775	

The net OPEB liability was measured as of June 30, 2023 and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The Employer's proportion of the net OPEB liability was based on the Employer's share of covered payroll in the OPEB plan relative to the covered payroll of all participating OPEB employers. At June 30, 2023, the entities had the following proportions, change in proportions, and pension expense:

		Increase	
		(Decrease) in	
		Proportion from	
		June 30, 2022	
	Proportion	Measurement	OPEB Expense
Primary Government	1.426130%	0.014651%	\$ 269,203

At December 31, 2023, the County reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

Primary Government	l .	ferred Outflows of Resources	erred Inflows f Resources
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$	26,824	\$ 16,316
Changes in Assumptions		304,085	(118,071)
Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Investment			
Earnings on Pension Plan Investments		102,980	-
Changes in Proportion and Differences Between Employer			
Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions		23,170	33,284
Employer Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date		81,835	-
Total Primary Government	\$	538,894	\$ (68,471)

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, 2023:

	Primary Government	\$	81,835
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Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEBs will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

	Primary				
	Government				
2024	\$ 104,450				
2025	84,263				
2026	139,733				
2027	(39,058				
2028	_				
Thereafter	_				

Actuarial assumptions

The total OPEB liability in the July 1, 2023 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.25%
Salary Increases	Not applicable
Investment Rate of Return	5.75%, net of investment expenses
Cost-of-Living Adjustments	None

For active members, inactive members and healthy retirees, mortality rates were based on the MortalityPub-2010 Healthy Retiree Mortality table (for General Employees), sex-distinct, with rates multiplied by 103% for males and 101% for females. Pub-2010 Disabled Retiree Mortality table (for General Employees), sex-distinct, with rates multiplied by 117% for males and 112% for females. Pub-2010 Employee Mortality table (for General Employees), sex-distinct, with rates multiplied by 92% for both males and females. Mortality rates are projected from 2010 using the MP-2019 scale.

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, 2023 are summarized in the following table:

		Long-Term
	Target	Expected Real
Asset Class	Allocation	Rate of Return
Large Cap Domestic Equities	33%	6.10%
Small Cap Domestic Equities	6%	7.10%
Domestic Fixed Income	35%	2.59%
International Equities	26%	6.50%

Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 5.75%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed plan member and statutory rates described in this report. 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 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, 2023, calculated using the discount rate of 5.75%, 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 (4.75 percent) or 1-percentage-point higher (6.75 percent) than the current rate:

		Current	
Proportionate Share	1%	Discount	1%
of the Net OPEB Liability	Decrease (4.75%)	Rate (5.75%)	Increase (6.75%)
Primary Government	\$ 1,873,818	\$ 1,425,775	\$ 1,048,578

NOTE 10 TRANSFERS

The following is reconciliation between transfers in and transfers out as reported in the basic financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2023:

	Transfers In Transfers O				
General Fund	\$	418,025	\$	118,640	
Special Revenue Fund		11,248,846		11,903,034	
Debt Service Fund		450,127		19,653	
Internal Service Fund		-		75,671	
Total Transfers	\$	12,116,998	\$	12,116,998	

Transfers are primarily used to move funds between highway gas tax to road and bridge department and to move funds between debt service and capital project funds for construction costs. The remaining transfers are for various purposes.

NOTE 11 CONSTRUCTION COMMITMENTS

Primary Government

Burleigh County had one open construction commitment as of December 31, 2023 as follows:

						Remaining	
			Total Contract			Balance	
	Original	Change	with Change	Total		includes	
Project	Contract	Orders	Orders	Completed	Retainage	Retainages	% Complete
71st Ave. NE Roadway Improvements	\$ 4,187,898	-	4,187,898	\$ 4,119,493	\$ 82,390	\$ 68,405	98.37%

Discretely Presented Component Unit

Burleigh County Water Resource District had one open construction commitment as of December 31, 2023 as follows:

						Remaining	
			Total Contract			Balance	
	Original	Change	w ith Change	Total		includes	
Project	Contract	Orders	Orders	Completed	Retainage	Retainages	% Complete
Hogue Island Bank Stabilization	\$ 479,500	79,562	559,062	\$ 552,511	\$ 11,050	\$ 6,551	98.83%

NOTE 12 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The County is a plaintiff and defendant in various lawsuits incident to its operations. In the opinion of County Counsel and management, such claims against the County not covered by insurance would not materially affect the financial condition of the County.

NOTE 13 RISK MANAGEMENT

Burleigh 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. Burleigh County pays an annual premium to NDIRF for its general liability, automobile, and public assets insurance coverage. The coverage by NDIRF is limited to losses of five million dollars per occurrence for general liability and automobile and \$6,701,175 for public assets (mobile equipment and portable property).

Burleigh 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.

Burleigh County has workers compensation with the North Dakota Workforce Safety and Insurance and purchases commercial insurance for employee dental, vision, cancer, and various other types of insurance.

NOTE 14 CONDUIT DEBT

From time to time, the County has issued Municipal Industrial Development (MIDA) Bonds and obtained community development block grant loans to provide financial assistance to private-sector entities for the acquisition and construction of industrial and commercial facilities deemed to be in the public interest. The bonds and loans are secured by the property financed and are payable solely from payments received on the underlying mortgage loans. Upon repayment of the bonds, ownership of the acquired facility transfers to the private-sector entity served by the bond issuance. Neither the County, the State, nor any political subdivision thereof is obligated in any manner for repayment of the bonds. Accordingly, the bonds are not reported as liabilities in the accompanying financial statements as Burleigh County has a limited commitment to the conduit debt.

As of December 31, 2023, there were 12 outstanding issuances with a total balance of \$163,378,485.

NOTE 15 COST SHARE ARRANGEMENT

Burleigh County entered into an agreement with the City of Bismarck and the City of Mandan for a combined communications center known as Central Dakota Communications Center (CenCom). The most recent agreement in effect is as of January 1, 2016. CenCom will dispatch all emergency call for law enforcement, fire and emergency medical services in Bismarck, Mandan, and Burleigh County, including Wilton. Burleigh County collects all 911 fees and 75% is remitted to the City of Bismarck for the operating expenses. The amount remitted in 2023 for operating expenses was \$1,225,186. After revenue and that portion of 911 fees allocated for the annual operating budget of CenCom, the remainder of the budget responsibility is split between the parties who entered into the agreement, with Burleigh County's share at 28%. Burleigh County incurred operating expenditures of \$658,578 related to costs of CenCom during the year ending December 31, 2023. Burleigh County also receives 911 fees from Morton County to help cover this payment. Total 911 fees from Morton County totaled \$351,234 for the year ending December 31, 2023.

Budgetary Comparison Schedule - General Fund December 31, 2023

		Original Budget		Final Budget		Actual		riance with nal Budget
REVENUES	Φ	44 404 000	Φ.	44 404 000	Φ.	44 500 404	Φ.	404 404
Property Taxes	\$	14,484,000	\$	14,484,000	\$	14,588,484	\$	104,484
Licenses, Permits and Fines		192,000		192,000		123,678		(68,322)
Intergovernmental Revenue		5,270,700		5,270,700		5,888,626		617,926
Charges for Services		5,712,000		5,712,000		5,307,557		(404,443)
Interest Income		1,311,000		1,311,000		1,325,002		14,002
Miscellaneous		110,000		110,000		(54,260)		(164,260)
Total Revenues	\$	27,079,700	\$	27,079,700	\$	27,179,087	\$	99,387
EXPENDITURES								
Current								
General Government	\$	10,265,132	\$	10,265,132	\$	8,043,087	\$	2,222,045
Public Safety		20,181,868		20,181,868		18,231,055		1,950,813
Health and Welfare		995,418		995,418		966,462		28,956
Culture and Recreation		461,355		461,355		378,566		82,789
Conservation and Economic Development		84,571		84,571		83,389		1,182
Other		582,199		582,199		525,467		56,732
Total Expenditures	\$	32,570,543	\$	32,570,543	\$	28,228,026	\$	4,342,517
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues								
Over Expenditures	\$	(5,490,843)	\$	(5,490,843)	\$	(1,048,939)	\$	4,441,904
- · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	<u> </u>	(0,100,010)	<u> </u>	(=, ===,===)	<u> </u>	(1,010,000)	Ť	., ,
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)								
Transfers In	\$	472,700	\$	472,700	\$	418,025	\$	(54,675)
Change in Investment Market Value		-		-		156,293		156,293
Sale of Assets		10,000		10,000		80		(9,920)
Transfers Out		(350,000)		(350,000)		(118,640)		231,360
Total Other Financing Sources and Uses	\$	132,700	\$	132,700	\$	455,758	\$	323,058
Total Other Financing Sources and Oses	Φ	132,700	φ	132,700	φ	455,756	φ	323,036
Net Change in Fund Balances	\$	(5,358,143)	\$	(5,358,143)	\$	(593,181)	\$	4,764,962
Fund Balance - January 1	\$	16,715,688	\$	16,715,688	\$	16,715,688	\$	
Fund Balance - December 31	\$	11,357,545	\$	11,357,545	\$	16,122,507	\$	4,764,962

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

Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Special Revenue Fund December 31, 2023

		Original Budget		Final Budget		Actual		ariance with
REVENUES								
Property Taxes	\$	4,983,998	\$	4,983,998	\$	4,940,537	\$	(43,461)
Licenses, Permits and Fines	*	114,200	Ψ	114,200	Ψ.	73,553	Ψ	(40,647)
Intergovernmental Revenue		9,116,800		9,116,800		24,803,082		15,686,282
Charges for Services		4,578,600		4,578,600		5,672,511		1,093,911
Interest Income		1,096,400		1,096,400		722,099		(374,301)
Miscellaneous		699,200		699,200		786,423		87,223
Misserialicous		000,200		000,200		700,420		01,220
Total Revenues	\$	20,589,198	\$	20,589,198	\$	36,998,205	\$	16,409,007
EXPENDITURES Current								
General Government	\$	641,627	\$	643,627	\$	2,092,989	\$	(4 440 262)
Public Safety	Φ	2,333,504	φ	2,338,504	φ	2,092,969	φ	(1,449,362) (344,918)
•				17,018,302				,
Highways and Bridges Health and Welfare		16,986,302				19,216,053		(2,197,751)
		458,683		461,634		7,806,399		(7,344,765)
Culture and Recreation		446,700 879,806		463,415		451,781 797,662		11,634 82,144
Conservation and Economic Development Other		•		879,806		•		•
Debt Service		1,233,265		1,326,978		1,231,945		95,033
		174 401		- 174,421		174 401		
Principal Interest		174,421 4,866				174,421 4,866		-
interest		4,000		4,866		4,000		<u>-</u>
Total Expenditures	\$	23,159,174	\$	23,311,553	\$	34,459,538	\$	(11,147,985)
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues	_			<i>,</i> ,	_			
Over Expenditures	\$	(2,569,976)	\$	(2,722,355)	\$	2,538,667	\$	27,556,992
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	_		_		_		_	
Transfers In	\$	9,765,000	\$	9,765,000	\$	11,248,846	\$	1,483,846
Change in Investment Market Value		-		-		271,702		271,702
Sale of Assets		390,000		390,000		330,000		(60,000)
Transfers Out		(10,287,700)		(10,287,700)		(11,903,034)		(1,615,334)
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	\$	(132,700)	\$	(132,700)	\$	(52,486)	\$	80,214
Net Change in Fund Balances	\$	(2,702,676)	\$	(2,855,055)	\$	2,486,181	\$	27,637,206
Fund Balance - January 1	\$	21,182,410	\$	21,182,410	\$	21,182,410	\$	
Prior Period Adjustment	\$		\$	-	\$	-	\$	
Fund Balance - January 1 Restated	\$	21,182,410	\$	21,182,410	\$	21,182,410	\$	
Fund Balance - December 31	\$	18,479,734	\$	18,327,355	\$	23,668,591	\$	27,637,206

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

Schedule of Employer's Share of Net Pension and Employer Contributions For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

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

	Proportion of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	Covered-	Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) as a Percentage of its Covered- Employee Payroll	the Total Pension
County					
2023	1.623087%	\$ 31,297,213	\$ 19,848,252	157.68%	65.31%
2022	1.556839%	44,838,000	18,072,350	248.10%	54.47%
2021	1.571392%	16,378,627	17,794,295	92.04%	78.26%
2020	1.562758%	49,164,701	16,803,375	292.59%	48.91%
2019	1.667743%	19,547,155	17,347,366	112.68%	71.66%
2018	1.625419%	27,430,719	16,698,206	164.27%	62.80%
2017	1.551922%	24,944,480	15,842,687	157.45%	61.98%
2016	1.480684%	14,430,709	14,921,800	96.71%	70.46%
2015	1.434633%	9,755,259	12,780,838	76.33%	77.15%
2014	1.475901%	9,367,859	12,432,688	75.35%	77.70%

	Statut Requi	red	Relati Sta Red	outions in on to the tutory quired ribution	(Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Covered- oyee Payroll	Contributi a Percent Covere Employee	age of ed-
County									
2023	\$ 1,5	529,913	\$	1,530,097	\$	(184)	\$ 20,546,950		7.45%
2022	1,3	361,156		1,470,611		(109,455)	19,321,869		7.61%
2021	1,3	312,251		1,314,929		(2,678)	18,993,040		6.92%
2020	1,2	220,679		1,282,720		(62,041)	17,794,295		7.21%
2019	1,2	262,986		1,256,023		6,963	17,347,366		7.24%
2018	1,2	229,894		1,123,082		106,812	16,698,206		6.73%
2017	1,1	148,788		1,210,248		(61,460)	15,842,687		7.64%
2016	1,0	080,314		1,057,662		22,652	14,921,800		7.09%
2015	9	970,807		1,010,081		(39,274)	12,780,838		7.90%
2014	8	885,207		885,207		-	12,432,688		7.12%

The notes to the required supplementary information are an integral part of this statement.

Schedule of Employer's Share of Net OPEB Liability and Employer Contributions For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

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

	Proportion of the Net OPEB Liability (Asset)	Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB (Asset)		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
County					
2023	1.426130%	\$ 1,425,775	\$ 14,335,221	9.95%	62.74%
2022	1.411479%	1,694,212	14,572,178	11.63%	56.28%
2021	1.411479%	1,694,212	15,282,554	11.09%	76.63%
2020	1.423433%	1,197,388	16,803,375	7.13%	63.38%
2019	1.554622%	1,248,653	17,347,366	7.20%	63.13%
2018	1.526042%	1,201,862	16,698,206	7.20%	61.89%
2017	1.464419%	1,158,371	15,842,687	7.31%	59.78%

	F	Statutory Required ontribution	Rela S	tributions in ation to the Statutory Required ntribution	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Emp	Covered- ployee Payroll	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered- Employee Payroll
County								
2023	\$	167,531	\$	167,264	267	\$	14,695,690	1.14%
2022		177,360		189,561	(12,201)		22,009,963	0.86%
2021		183,777		184,407	(630)		16,202,149	1.14%
2020		190,630		202,907	(12,277)		16,803,375	1.21%
2019		201,750		201,103	647		17,347,366	1.16%
2018		195,861		179,819	16,042		16,698,206	1.08%
2017		184,160		193,776	(9,616)		15,842,687	1.22%

The notes to the required supplementary information are an integral part of this statement.

Notes to the Required Supplementary Information For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

NOTE 1: STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Budgetary Information

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

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

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

NOTE 3: CHANGES OF BENEFIT TERMS - PENSION AND OPEB

Pension

In 2023, House Bill 1040 was passed, which closes the Main System to employees newly enrolled into the system on January 1, 2025 and later. The state employer contribution for 2026 and later was changed to be the amount sufficient to fund the Main System on actuarial basis, with the amortization of the unfunded liability determined on a level percent of payroll basis over a closed period beginning on January 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2056.

OPEB

Beginning January 1, 2020, members first enrolled in the NDPERS Main System and the Defined Contribution Plan on or after that date will not be eligible to participate in RHIC. Therefore, RHIC will become for the most part a closed plan. There have been no other changes in plan provisions since the previous actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2022.

NOTE 4: CHANGES OF ASSUMPTIONS - PENSION AND OPEB

Pension

All actuarial assumptions used in the actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2022 were based on an experience review for the period from July 1, 2014 to July 1, 2019, and were adopted for first use commencing with the actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2020. There have been no changes in actuarial assumptions since the previous actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2022.

OPEB

All actuarial assumptions used in the actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2022 were based on an experience review for the period from July 1, 2014 to July 1, 2019, and were adopted for first use commencing with the actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2020. There have been no changes in actuarial assumptions since the previous actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2022.

NOTE 5: LEGAL COMPLIANCE - BUDGETS

Budget Amendments

The board of County commissioners amended the County budget for 2023:

	EXPENDITURES / TRANSFERS OUT						
	Original Budget			Amended			
	Budget	Ar	mendment		Budget		
Special Revenue Funds	\$ 33,446,874	\$	152,379	\$	33,599,253		

NOTE 6: EXCESS SPENT BUDGET TO ACTUAL/SOCIAL SERVICES BUDGET

The Special Revenue Funds Budget to Actual Schedule had actual expenditures in excess of final budgeted expenditures by \$7,344,765. Part of this excess is due to the Social Services fund not being budgeted by the county. Starting in 2020, the Social Services Fund was reorganized into the Human Services Zone fund which was established in conjunction with the Department of Human Services. The Human Services Zone now handles all budgeting and reimbursements for the Social Services Fund.

Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Federal ALN Number	Program Title	Pass-Through Grantor's Number	Expenditures
	•		
	U.S. DEPARTMENT HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT:		
14.228	Passed Through State Department of Commerce: Community Development Block Grants/State's program and Non-Entitlement Grants in Hawaii	N/A	\$ 20,569
			
	Total U.S. Department Housing & Urban Development		\$ 20,569
	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY:		
	<u>Direct Program</u>		
21.027	COVID-19 - Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds		\$ 1,465,399
	Total U.S. Department of Treasury		\$ 1,465,399
	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES: Passed Through State Department of Health:		
93.777	State Survey and Certification of Health Care Providers and Suppliers (Title XVIII) Medicare	N/A	\$ 38
93.778	Medical Assistance Program	N/A	19
00.770	model / total alloc / togali	14/7	
	Passed Through State Department of Human Services:		
93.563	Child Support Services	N/A	1,381
	Total U.S. Department of Health and Human Services		\$ 1,437
	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY:		
	Passed Through State Department of Emergency Services:		
97.042	Emergency Management Performance Grants	EMPG2021, EMPG2020	\$ 81,040
97.067	Homeland Security Grant Program	N/A	5,459
	Total U.S. Department of Homeland Security		\$ 86,499
	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR:		
	Passed Through State Department of Labor:		
17.225	Unemployment Insurance	N/A	\$ 3,150
	Total U.S Department of Labor		\$ 3,150
	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION:		
	Passed Through State Department of Transportation:		
00.000	Highway Safety Cluster	11000000444 1100000407	
20.600	State and Community Highway Safety	HSPDD2111, HSPSC2107	
20.616	National Priority Safety Programs	HSPID2110, HSPOP2105	9,800
	Highway Safety Cluster Total		\$ 23,298
	Total U.S. Department of Transportation		\$ 23,298
	Total Expenditures of Federal Awards		\$ 1,600,352

See notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards

Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

NOTE 1 BASIS OF PRESENTATION / ACCOUNTING

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards includes the federal grant activity of the County under programs of the federal government for the year ended December 31, 2023. The information in the schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Uniform Guidance. Because the schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the County, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position or changes in net position of the County. Expenditures represent only the federally funded portions of the program. County records should be consulted to determine amounts expended or matched from non-federal sources.

NOTE 2 SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Governmental fund types account for the County's federal grant activity. The County's summary of significant accounting policies is presented in Note 1 in the County's basic financial statements.

NOTE 3 PASS-THROUGH GRANT NUMBER

For federal programs marked "N/A", the County was unable to obtain a pass-through grant number.

NOTE 4 INDIRECT COST RATE

The County does not draw for indirect administrative expenses and has not elected to use the 10% de minimis cost rate

STATE AUDITOR Joshua C. Gallion



PHONE 701-328-2241

FAX 701-328-2345

www.nd.gov/auditor

ndsao@nd.gov

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 Burleigh County Bismarck, 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 unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Burleigh County as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Burleigh County's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated July 1, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Burleigh County's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing 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 the Burleigh County's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Burleigh County's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph 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 were not identified. However, as described in the accompanying *Schedule of Audit Findings and Questioned Costs*, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses and significant deficiencies.

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. We consider the deficiencies described in the accompanying Schedule of Audit Findings and Questioned Costs as items 2023-001 and 2023-003 to be material weaknesses.

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. We consider the deficiencies described in the accompanying Schedule of Audit Findings and Questioned Costs as item 2023-002 to be a significant deficiency.

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

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Burleigh 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 financial statements. 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 instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which are described in the accompanying *Schedule of Audit Findings and Questioned Costs* as item 2023-002.

Burleigh County's Response to Findings

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on Burleigh County's response to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying Schedule of Audit Findings and Questioned Costs. Burleigh County's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

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

Bismarck, North Dakota July 1, 2024 STATE AUDITOR
Joshua C. Gallion

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR
STATE CAPITOL

600 E. Boulevard Ave. Dept. 117
Bismarck, North Dakota, 58505

PHONE 701-328-2241

FAX 701-328-2345

ndsao@nd.gov

www.nd.gov/auditor

REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM, AND REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE

Independent Auditor's Report

Board of County Commissioners Burleigh County Bismarck, North Dakota

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited Burleigh County's compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the OMB Compliance Supplement that could have a direct and material effect on each of Burleigh County's major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2023. Burleigh County's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, Burleigh County complied, in all material respects, with the compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2023.

Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States (*Government Auditing Standards*); and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of Burleigh County and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of Burleigh County's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management's Responsibility

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to Burleigh County's federal programs.

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Programs, and Report on Internal Control Over Compliance - Continued

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on Burleigh County's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material, if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about Burleigh County's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

- identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding Burleigh County's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- obtain an understanding of Burleigh County's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Burleigh County's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

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

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Programs, and Report on Internal Control Over Compliance - Continued

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

/S/

Joshua C. Gallion State Auditor

Bismarck, North Dakota July 1, 2024

Summary of Auditor's Results For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee?

Financial Statements					
Type of Report Issued: Governmental Activities Discretely Presented Co Major Funds Aggregate Remaining F	omponent Unit	Unm Unm	odified odified odified odified		
Internal control over financial repo	rting				
Material weaknesses identif	ied?	X	Yes		None Noted
Significant deficiencies iden weaknesses?	tified not considered to be material	X	Yes		None Noted
Noncompliance material to t	financial statements noted?		Yes	X	None Noted
Federal Awards					
Internal Control Over Major Programs	<u>3</u>				
Material weaknesses identified?			Yes	X	None noted
Significant deficiencies identified?			Yes	X	None noted
Type of auditor's report issued on cor	mpliance for major programs:	Unm	odified		
Any audit findings disclosed that are accordance with CFR §200.516 (required to be reported in Uniform Guidance) requirements?		Yes	X	None noted
Identification of Major Programs					
ALN Number	Name of Federal Pro	gram o	r Cluste	r	
ALN 21.027	Coronavirus State and Local				ds
Dollar threshold used to distinguish b	etween Type A and B programs:		\$ 7	750,000	0

____ Yes X No

Schedule of Audit Findings and Questioned Costs For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

SECTION I – FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS

2023-001 - AUDIT ADJUSTMENTS - COUNTY & COMPONENT UNIT - MATERIAL WEAKNESS

Condition

During the audit of Burleigh County and Burleigh County Water Resource District, we proposed material adjusting entries to the financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The adjustments were approved by management and are reflected in the financial statements.

Effect

There is an increased risk of material misstatement to Burleigh County's and Burleigh County Water Resource District's financial statements.

Cause

Burleigh County and Burleigh County Water Resource District may not have had procedures in place to ensure the financial statements are complete and accurate.

Criteria

Burleigh County and Burleigh County Water Resource District are responsible for the presentation of their financial statements and related note disclosures to ensure they are reliable, accurate, free of material misstatement, and in accordance with GAAP.

Repeat Finding

No.

Recommendation

We recommend Burleigh County and Burleigh County Water Resource District review their procedures for the preparation of the financial statements to ensure the financial statements are complete and accurate in accordance with GAAP.

Burleigh County and Burleigh County Water Resource District's Response

See Corrective Action Plan

Schedule of Audit Findings and Questioned Costs - Continued

2023-002 - UNDER PLEDGED SECURITIES - SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCY AND OTHER NONCOMPLIANCE

Condition

Burleigh County did not obtain adequate pledge of assets at Wells Fargo as of December 31, 2023. The County was under pledged by \$3,008,772.

Effect

Burleigh County is not in compliance with N.D.C.C. §21-04-09.

Cause

Burleigh County did not have a process to ensure the entity is adequately pledged.

Criteria

N.D.C.C. §21-04-09 states "When securities are pledged to the board of any public corporation, the treasurer or other individual legally charged with the custody of public funds shall require security in the amount of one hundred ten dollars for every one hundred dollars of public deposits."

Additionally, the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) model defines internal control as a process designed to provide reasonable assurance of the achievement of objectives that involve the effectiveness and efficiency of operations, reliability of financial reporting, and compliance with applicable laws and regulations. Pertaining to the pledging of assets, management is responsible for adequate internal controls surrounding pledging of assets.

Repeat Finding

No.

Recommendation

We recommend that Burleigh County ensures that it maintains adequate pledges of securities at any bank where the bank balances could exceed FDIC Insurance.

Burleigh County's Response

See Corrective Action Plan

2023-003 - LACK OF SEGREGATION OF DUTIES - COMPONENT UNIT- MATERIAL WEAKNESS

Condition

Burleigh County Water Resource District has 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.

Effect

Limited segregation of duties exposes the District to the risk of loss of assets, potential liabilities, and damage to the reputation, whether due to error or fraud.

Cause

The Burleigh County Water Resource District has no full-time staff. They outsource their secretarial bookkeeping duties to a private company, which has limited staff, making segregating of duties difficult to accomplish.

Criteria

According to the COSO framework, proper internal controls 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 Burleigh County Water Resource District.

Repeat Finding

Yes.

Recommendation

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

- Financial statements, credit memos, and payroll registers should be reviewed, analyzed, and spot-checked 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.

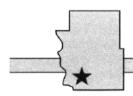
Burleigh County Water Resource District's Response

See Corrective Action Plan

SECTION II - FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

No matters were reported.





County of Burleigh

221 NORTH 5TH STREET • P.O. BOX 5518 • BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA 58506-5518

Date: June 27, 2024

To: Joshua C. Gallion, ND State Auditor

From: Leigh Jacobs – Finance Director and Mark Splonskowski – County Auditor/Treasurer

RE: Burleigh County – FY2023 Corrective Action Plan

Contact Person Responsible for Corrective Acton Plan: Leigh Jacobs and Mark Splonskowski

Section I - Financial Statement Findings:

2023-001 - AUDIT ADJUSTMENTS - COUNTY & COMPONENT UNIT - MATERIAL WEAKNESS

Condition:

During the audit of Burleigh County and Burleigh County Water Resource District, we proposed material adjusting entries to the financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The adjustments were approved by management and are reflected in the financial statements.

Corrective Action Plan:

We agree with the recommendation. Burleigh County will review the list of proposed audit adjustments and ensure future audit years have financial statements in accordance with GAAP.

Anticipated Completion Date:

FY 2024

2023-002 - UNDER PLEDGED SECURITIES - SIGNIFICANT DEFICIENCY & OTHER NONCOMPLIANCE

Condition:

Burleigh County did not obtain adequate pledge of assets at Wells Fargo as of December 31, 2023. The County was under pledged by \$3,008,772.

Corrective Action Plan:

We agree with the recommendation. Burleigh County will review the current procedures in place and ensure cash held at banks have adequate pledging in accordance with state law.

Anticipated Completion Date:

FY 2024

Section II -Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs:

No issues were reported.



Burleigh County Water Resource District

PO Box 1255

Bismarck, North Dakota 58502-1255 (701) 354-1501 www.bcwrd.org

Date: June 4, 2024

To: Joshua C. Gallion, ND State Auditor From: Wendy Egli, Executive Secretary

RE: Burleigh County Water Resource District – FY2023 Management's Response

Contact Person Responsible for Corrective Acton Plan: Wendy Egli, Executive Secretary

Section I - Financial Statement Findings:

2023-001 AUDIT ADJUSTMENTS - COUNTY & WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT - MATERIAL WEAKNESS

Condition:

During the audit of Burleigh County and Burleigh County Water Resource District, we proposed material adjusting entries to the financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The adjustments were approved by management and are reflected in the financial statements.

Management's Response:

We Agree. The adjustments have been implemented at the time of the audit.

Anticipated Completion Date:

6/5/2024

2023-003 SEGREGATION OF DUTIES - WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT - MATERIAL WEAKNESS

Condition:

Burleigh County Water Resource District has limited staff responsible for the primary accounting functions. A lack of segregation of duties exists as one employee is responsible to collect monies, deposit monies, issue checks, send checks to vendors, record receipts and disbursements in the check register, maintain the general ledger, and perform bank reconciliations.

Management's Response:

We Agree. The Burleigh County Water Resource District has received this same material weakness recommendation in the past. A lack of resources to employ permanent staff and the use of consultants for our office administration limits the ability to truly segregate these functions. The Burleigh County Water Resource District has taken steps to mitigate the situation by having the Secretary/Treasurer Board Position review monthly balance sheets, financial transactions, bank statements, invoices, etc. separate from the office administration consultant. These reviews are documented via electronic edits, presented at monthly board meetings, and approved by the board via a formal motion.

Anticipated Completion Date:

We will evaluate this next fiscal year to see if it's feasible to hire more staff.

Current Board Members:

James Landenberger, Chairman 701-426-6439 Randy Binegar, Vice Chairman 701-595-4947
Dennis Reep, Secretary/Treasurer 701-595-2142 Roger Smith, Manager 701-400-6283
Kathleen Jones, Manager 701-400-7129



Burleigh County Water Resource District

PO Box 1255

Bismarck, North Dakota 58502-1255 (701) 354-1501 www.bcwrd.org

Date: June 10, 2024

To: Joshua C. Gallion, ND State Auditor

FROM: Wendy Egli, Executive Secretary

RE: Burleigh County Water Resource District 2023 Schedule of Prior Year Findings

2022-001 SEGREGATION OF DUTIES - COMPONENT UNIT- MATERIAL WEAKNESS

Condition

Burleigh County Water Resource District has 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.

Recommendation

To mitigate the risk associated with this lack of segregation of duties, we recommend the following: • Financial statements, credit memos, and payroll registers should be reviewed, analyzed, and spotchecked 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.

Current Status

Not implemented. Burleigh County Water Resource District will evaluate next fiscal year to see if it is feasible to hire more staff.

Current Board Members:

STATE AUDITOR Joshua C. Gallion

www.nd.gov/auditor



PHONE 701-328-2241

FAX 701-328-2345

ndsao@nd.gov

GOVERNANCE COMMUNICATION

July 1, 2024

Board of County Commissioners Burleigh County Bismarck, North Dakota

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of Burleigh County, North Dakota, for the year ended December 31, 2023. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under general accepted auditing standards (and, if applicable, *Government Auditing Standards* and the Uniform Guidance), as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated March 6, 2024. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you with the following information related to our audit.

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by Burleigh County are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted, and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2023. We noted no transactions entered into by Burleigh County during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

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 governmental activities financial statements were:

Management's estimate of the useful lives of capital assets is based on past history of each classification of capital assets. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the useful lives capital assets in determining that is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

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

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

2023 Adjustments - Primary Government	Audit Adjustments			ents
		Debit		Credit
General Fund Establish a Due From Other Funds Asset to Offset Negative Cash Balances in Special Revenue and Debt Service Funds Due From Other Funds Cash	\$	1,721,451 -	\$	- 1,721,451
Remove February 2024 State Aid from Intergovernmental Receivables Revenue Intergovernmental Receivable		496,424 -		- 496,424
Reclassify Interest Income to Change in Investment Market Value OFS Interest Income Change in Investment Market Value		156,293 -		- 156,293
To Record Reimbursement from Morton County for BMDC Expenditures Charge for Service Revenues		148,099 -		- 148,099
Reclassify Salary Expenses to Contracted Service Expenses Contracted Service Expenses Salary Expenses		120,370 -		- 120,370
Reclassify Interest Income from Interal Service Fund to Transfer In Interest Earnings Transfer In		75,671 -		- 75,671
Special Revenue Fund Establish a Due to Other Funds Asset to Offset Negative Cash Balances in Special Revenue Fund with the General Fund Cash Due to Other Funds	\$	1,691,164 -	\$	- 1,691,164
Adjustment to Decrease Inventory for 2023 Used Amount Expenditures Inventory		579,738 -		- 579,738
Adjustment to Record Retainage Payable Expenditures Retainage Payable		82,390 -		- 82,390
Reclassify Interest Income to Change in Investment Market Value OFS Interest Income Change in Investment Market Value		271,702 -		- 271,702

2023 Adjustments - Primary Government	Audit Adjustments			nents
		Debit		Credit
Special Revenue Fund Reclassify Prairie Dog Funds from a Transfer In to Intergovernmental				
Revenue Transers In Intergovernmental Revenue		4,160,080 -		- 4,160,080
Reclassify Miscellaneous Revenue to Intergovernmental Revenue and Sale of Assets				
Miscellaneous Revenue Sale of Assets	\$	755,539 -	\$	- 330,000
Intergovernmental Revenue		-		425,539
Debt Serivce Fund Establish a Due to Other Funds Asset to Offset Negative Cash Balances in Debt Service Fund with the General Fund	_			
Cash Due to Other Funds	\$	30,286 -	\$	- 30,286
Adjustment to Record Off-Book Activity for the 2020 Sales Tax Bond Cash		31,924,816		-
Intergovernmental Receivable Fund Balance, December 31, 2023		2,106,392 -		34,031,208
Principal Expense Interest & Fees Expense		2,647,750 781,718		- -
Net Change Fund Balance, December 31, 2023 Sales Tax Revenue Interest Earnings		9,338,908 - -		- 11,518,431 208,780
Miscellaneous Revenue		-		1,041,165
Internal Service Fund Prior Period Adjustment to Record Missed Payable from 2022				
Net Position, January 1, 2023 PPA Accounts Payable PPA	\$	224,159 -	\$	- 224,159
Reclassify Interest Expense to Transfer Out Transfer Out		75,671		-
Interest Expense		-		75,671
Government Wide Activities Prior Period Adjustment to Remove 66th St Project from CIP, Reclassify Assets 4578 & 4579 to CIP, and to add back Asset 4053 to Capital				
Asssets Net Position, January 1, 2023 PPA Capital Assets - Nondepreciable PPA		351,030 -		- 30,758
Capital Assets, Depreciable, Net PPA		-		320,272
Adjustment to Record Current Period Capital Asset Additions for Assets 4578 & 4579		.		
Capital Assets - Nondepreciable Expenditures		61,450 -		61,450

2023 Adjustments - Water Resource District	Audit Adju	ustments
Fund Level Adjustments	Debit	Credit
To Record Audit Found Payables		
Expenditures	150,829	-
Accounts Payable	-	150,829
To Record Retainage Payable		
Expenditures	11,050	-
Retainage Payable	-	11,050

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 July 1, 2024.

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.

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.

Other Matters

We applied certain limited procedures to the *budgetary comparison information, 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* which are required supplementary information (RSI) that supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding 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 did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

We were engaged to report on the *schedule of expenditures of federal awards* and *notes to the schedule of expenditures of federal awards*, which accompany the financial statements but are not RSI. With respect to this supplementary information, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

Governance Communication - Continued

Restrictions on Use

This information is intended solely for the use of the board of county commissioners and management of Burleigh 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 Burleigh 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 Burleigh County.

/S/

Joshua C. Gallion State Auditor

Bismarck, North Dakota July 1, 2024



NORTH DAKOTA STATE AUDITOR JOSHUA C. GALLION

NORTH DAKOTA STATE AUDITOR'S OFFICE

600 E. Boulevard Ave. Dept. 117 | Bismarck, North Dakota 58505