



Richland County
Wahpeton, North Dakota

Audit Report

For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

JOSHUA C. GALLION
STATE AUDITOR

Office of the State Auditor
Division of Local Government

RICHLAND COUNTY
Wahpeton, North Dakota

TABLE OF CONTENTS
For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

	<u>Page(s)</u>
County Officials	1
Independent Auditor's Report	2 - 3
BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	
Statement of Net Position	4
Statement of Activities	5
Balance Sheet - Governmental Funds	6
Reconciliation of Governmental Funds Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Position	7
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds	8
Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances to the Statement of Activities	9
Statement of Fiduciary Assets and Liabilities - Agency Funds	10
Notes to the Financial Statements	11 - 32
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION	
Budgetary Comparison Schedules	33 - 38
Pension Schedules	39
Notes to Required Supplementary Information	40 - 41
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION	
Schedule of Fund Activity - County	42 - 43
Schedule of Fund Activity - Water Resource District	44
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	45 - 46
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs	47
Management's Letter	48 - 49

RICHLAND COUNTY
Wahpeton, North Dakota

COUNTY OFFICIALS

December 31, 2016

Nathan Berseth	Commissioner - Chairperson
Rollie Ehlert	Commissioner - Vice-Chairperson
Sid Berg	Commissioner
Tim Campbell	Commissioner
Dan Thompson	Commissioner
Harris Bailey	Auditor/Administrator
Leslie Hage	Treasurer
Joan Oland	Data Processing
Mary DelVal	Administrative Assistant
Sandy Fossum	Tax Equalization Director
Larry Leshovsky	Sheriff
Cindy Schmitz	Clerk of Court
Cyndy Kolle	Superintendent of Schools
Ron McBeth	State's Attorney
Kristen Hasbargen	Social Services
Brett Lambrecht	Emergency Management
Cyndy Kolle	Recorders Office
Vacant	County Engineer

WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT OFFICIALS

December 31, 2016

Don Moffet	Board Member - Chairperson
Robert Rostad	Board Member - Vice-Chairperson
Arv Burvee	Board Member
Gary Friskop	Board Member
James Haugen	Board Member
Monica Zentgraf	Secretary/Treasurer
Sean Fredricks	Attorney

STATE AUDITOR

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MANAGER – DAVID MIX
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OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR
STATE CAPITOL
600 E. BOULEVARD AVENUE - DEPT. 117
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA 58505

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of County Commissioners
Richland County
Wahpeton, North Dakota

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Richland County, Wahpeton, North Dakota, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

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

Auditor's Responsibility

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

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

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

Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Richland County, Wahpeton, North Dakota, as of December 31, 2016, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

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

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the *budgetary comparison information, pension schedules, and notes to the required supplementary information* on pages 33-41 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

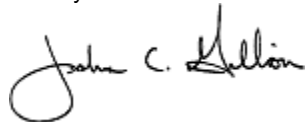
Other Information

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

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

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 18, 2017 on our consideration of Richland County's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Richland County's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Joshua C. Gallion
State Auditor

Fargo, North Dakota
March 18, 2017

RICHLAND COUNTY
 Wahpeton, North Dakota
 STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
 December 31, 2016

	Primary Governmental Activities	Water Resource District
ASSETS		
Cash and investments	\$ 8,392,953	\$ 4,556,601
Accounts receivable	35,367	-
Intergovernmental receivable	500,276	3,892
Road accounts receivable	4,346	-
Advance to other government	72,091	-
Taxes receivable	129,549	19,524
Loans receivable	776,905	-
Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated:		
Land	61,040	939,280
Construction in progress	4,440,578	1,549,989
Capital Assets (net of accumulated depreciation):		
Buildings	3,022,543	-
Equipment	3,013,224	6,364
Vehicles	807,205	-
Infrastructure	28,199,922	4,267,073
Total Capital Assets	<u>\$ 39,544,512</u>	<u>\$ 6,762,706</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 49,455,999</u>	<u>\$ 11,342,723</u>
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES:		
Pensions	<u>\$ 1,566,319</u>	<u>\$ 33,641</u>
Total Assets & Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>\$ 51,022,318</u>	<u>\$ 11,376,364</u>
LIABILITIES		
<u>Current Liabilities:</u>		
Accounts payable	\$ 128,948	\$ 17,756
Salaries payable	73,653	-
Grants received in advance	1,462,484	-
Retainage payable	202,877	63,851
Interest payable	19,961	4,803
<u>Non-Current Liabilities</u>		
Due Within One Year:		
Bonds payable	400,000	120,000
Capital leases payable	303,496	-
Compensated absences payable	108,038	1,274
Due After One Year:		
Bonds payable	815,000	1,505,000
Capital leases payable	1,039,779	-
Compensated absences payable	324,114	11,469
Net Pension Liability	<u>5,103,757</u>	<u>100,788</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 9,982,107</u>	<u>\$ 1,824,941</u>
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES:		
Pensions	<u>\$ 664,080</u>	<u>\$ 13,114</u>
Total Liabilities & Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>\$ 10,646,187</u>	<u>\$ 1,838,055</u>
NET POSITION		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$ 36,966,276	\$ 6,762,706
Restricted for:		
Highways and bridges	809,661	-
Conservation of natural resources	326,298	2,775,603
Emergencies	221,485	-
Economic development	988,259	-
Capital projects	98	-
Unrestricted	<u>1,064,054</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 40,376,131</u>	<u>\$ 9,538,309</u>

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

RICHLAND COUNTY
Wahpeton, North Dakota

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Program Revenues			Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position	
		Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Primary Governmental Activities	Component Unit Water Resource District
<u>Governmental Activities:</u>						
General government	\$ 2,952,771	\$ 114,978	\$ 13,931	\$ -	\$ (2,823,862)	\$ -
Public safety	3,244,978	778,050	41,840	-	(2,425,088)	-
Highways and bridges	3,147,959	227,215	1,111,391	3,574,853	1,765,500	-
Flood repair	157,674	-	157,674	-	-	-
Health and welfare	3,048,702	312,063	891,261	-	(1,845,378)	-
Culture and recreation	117,353	-	-	-	(117,353)	-
Conservation of natural resources	333,217	55,718	-	-	(277,499)	-
Economic development	45,212	28,478	-	-	(16,734)	-
Emergencies	171	-	-	-	(171)	-
Interest on long-term debt	84,683	-	-	-	(84,683)	-
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 13,132,720	\$ 1,516,502	\$ 2,216,097	\$ 3,574,853	\$ (5,825,268)	\$ -
Water Resource District	\$ 744,188	\$ 2,300	\$ 171,773	\$ 809,128	\$ -	\$ 239,013
<u>General Revenues:</u>						
Taxes:						
Property taxes; levied for general purposes					\$ 4,893,613	\$ 353,340
Property taxes; levied for special purposes					3,601,762	1,349,417
State revenue sharing (non restricted grant)					1,100,895	(1,030)
Unrestricted investment earnings					72,021	1,249
Miscellaneous revenue					672,673	39,427
Total General Revenues					\$ 10,340,964	\$ 1,742,403
Change in Net Position					\$ 4,515,696	\$ 1,981,416
Net Position - January 1					\$ 35,860,435	\$ 7,556,893
Net Position - December 31					\$ 40,376,131	\$ 9,538,309

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

RICHLAND COUNTY
Wahpeton, North Dakota

BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
December 31, 2016

	General	Highway	15 Mill Road	Social Services	FEMA Disaster Reimb.	Job Develop. Authority	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS								
Cash and investments	\$ 3,606,211	\$ 288,047	\$ 2,334,403	\$ 691,698	\$ 276,133	\$ 209,190	\$ 987,271	\$ 8,392,953
Intergovernmental receivable	168,863	164,401	113,818	19,459	-	2,919	30,816	500,276
Accounts receivable	-	-	-	-	-	-	35,367	35,367
Advance to other government	72,091	-	-	-	-	-	-	72,091
Loans receivable	-	-	-	-	-	776,905	-	776,905
Road receivables	-	4,346	-	-	-	-	-	4,346
Taxes receivable	76,316	12,124	19,079	15,670	-	1,545	4,815	129,549
Total Assets	\$ 3,923,481	\$ 468,918	\$ 2,467,300	\$ 726,827	\$ 276,133	\$ 990,559	\$ 1,058,269	\$ 9,911,487
LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES								
Liabilities:								
Accounts payable	\$ 57,471	\$ 33,053	\$ -	\$ 14,763	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 23,661	\$ 128,948
Salaries payable	-	38,045	-	35,608	-	-	-	73,653
Grants received in advance	-	-	1,186,351	-	276,133	-	-	1,462,484
Total Liabilities	\$ 57,471	\$ 71,098	\$ 1,186,351	\$ 50,371	\$ 276,133	\$ -	\$ 23,661	\$ 1,665,085
Deferred Inflows of Resources:								
Road receivables	\$ -	\$ 4,346	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,346
Taxes receivable	76,316	12,124	19,079	15,670	-	1,545	4,815	129,549
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	\$ 76,316	\$ 16,470	\$ 19,079	\$ 15,670	\$ -	\$ 1,545	\$ 4,815	\$ 133,895
Total Liabilities and Deferred Inflows of Resources	\$ 133,787	\$ 87,568	\$ 1,205,430	\$ 66,041	\$ 276,133	\$ 1,545	\$ 28,476	\$ 1,798,980
Fund Balances:								
Nonspendable:								
Loan receivable	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 776,905	\$ -	\$ 776,905
Advance to other government	72,091	-	-	-	-	-	-	72,091
Restricted:								
Public safety	-	-	-	-	-	-	118,741	118,741
Highways and bridges	-	381,350	1,261,870	-	-	-	10,529	1,653,749
Health and welfare	-	-	-	660,786	-	-	294,713	955,499
Conservation of natural resources	-	-	-	-	-	-	376,840	376,840
Emergency	-	-	-	-	-	-	228,574	228,574
Economic development	-	-	-	-	-	212,109	-	212,109
Capital projects	-	-	-	-	-	-	98	98
General government	-	-	-	-	-	-	298	298
Unassigned	3,717,603	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,717,603
Total Fund Balances	\$ 3,789,694	\$ 381,350	\$ 1,261,870	\$ 660,786	\$ -	\$ 989,014	\$ 1,029,793	\$ 8,112,507
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balances	\$ 3,923,481	\$ 468,918	\$ 2,467,300	\$ 726,827	\$ 276,133	\$ 990,559	\$ 1,058,269	\$ 9,911,487

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

RICHLAND COUNTY
Wahpeton, North Dakota

RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET
TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
December 31, 2016

Total *Fund Balances* for Governmental Funds \$ 8,112,507

Total *net position* reported for government activities in the statement of net position is different because:

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and are not reported in the governmental funds.

Cost of Capital Assets	\$ 51,526,824	
Less Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(11,982,312)</u>	39,544,512

Property taxes & road accounts will be collected after year-end, but are not available soon enough to pay for the current period's expenditures and, therefore are reported as deferred revenues in the funds.

Property Taxes Receivable	\$ 129,549	
Road Department Accounts Receivable	<u>4,346</u>	133,895

Deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions are applicable to future periods and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.

Deferred Outflows Related to Pensions	\$ 1,566,319	
Deferred Inflows Related to Pensions	<u>(664,080)</u>	902,239

Long-term liabilities applicable to the County's governmental activities are not due and payable in the current period and accordingly are not reported as fund liabilities. Interest on long-term debt is not accrued in governmental funds, but rather is recognized as an expenditure when due. All liabilities-both current and long-term- are reported in the statement of net position. Balances at December 31, 2016 are:

Bonds Payable	\$ (1,215,000)	
Capital Leases Payable	(1,343,275)	
Interest Payable	(19,961)	
Retainage Payable	(202,877)	
Compensated Absences	(432,152)	
Net Pension Liability	<u>(5,103,757)</u>	<u>(8,317,022)</u>

Total Net Position of Governmental Activities \$ 40,376,131

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

RICHLAND COUNTY
Wahpeton, North Dakota

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

	General	Highway	15 Mill Road	Social Services	FEMA Disaster Reimb.	Job Develop. Authority	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues:								
Taxes	\$ 4,881,570	\$ 810,730	\$ 1,218,720	\$ 936,851	\$ -	\$ 99,649	\$ 528,649	\$ 8,476,169
Intergovernmental	896,620	1,620,708	3,096,171	579,078	157,674	13,040	528,554	6,891,845
Charges for services	480,143	225,883	-	22,773	-	28,478	755,223	1,512,500
Licenses, permits and fees	2,670	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,670
Interest income	72,021	-	-	-	-	-	-	72,021
Miscellaneous	483,740	4,546	-	40,258	-	-	144,129	672,673
Total Revenues	\$ 6,816,764	\$ 2,661,867	\$ 4,314,891	\$ 1,578,960	\$ 157,674	\$ 141,167	\$ 1,956,555	\$ 17,627,878
Expenditures:								
Current:								
General government	\$ 2,951,320	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,951,320
Public safety	2,232,613	-	-	-	-	-	836,593	3,069,206
Highways and bridges	-	2,300,669	3,457,169	-	-	-	444,348	6,202,186
Flood repair	-	-	-	-	157,674	-	-	157,674
Health and welfare	23,437	-	-	1,605,015	-	-	1,331,236	2,959,688
Culture and recreation	117,331	-	-	-	-	-	-	117,331
Conserv. of natural resources	7,000	-	-	-	-	-	317,750	324,750
Economic development	-	-	-	-	-	45,102	-	45,102
Capital outlay	-	-	-	-	-	-	38,305	38,305
Debt Service:								
Principal	-	-	1,560,000	-	-	-	159,512	1,719,512
Interest and fees	-	-	55,019	-	-	-	29,320	84,339
Total Expenditures	\$ 5,331,701	\$ 2,300,669	\$ 5,072,188	\$ 1,605,015	\$ 157,674	\$ 45,102	\$ 3,157,064	\$ 17,669,413
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	\$ 1,485,063	\$ 361,198	\$ (757,297)	\$ (26,055)	\$ -	\$ 96,065	\$ (1,200,509)	\$ (41,535)
Other Financing Sources (Uses):								
Bond proceeds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,215,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,215,000
Bond discount	-	-	(6,075)	-	-	-	-	(6,075)
Lease financing	-	-	-	-	-	-	181,466	181,466
Transfers in	801,459	31,875	-	-	-	-	1,978,781	2,812,115
Transfers out	(1,573,156)	(312,000)	-	(22,500)	-	-	(904,459)	(2,812,115)
Total Other Financing Sources and Uses	\$ (771,697)	\$ (280,125)	\$ 1,208,925	\$ (22,500)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,255,788	\$ 1,390,391
Net Change in Fund Balances	\$ 713,366	\$ 81,073	\$ 451,628	\$ (48,555)	\$ -	\$ 96,065	\$ 55,279	\$ 1,348,856
Fund Balances - January 1	\$ 3,076,328	\$ 300,277	\$ 810,242	\$ 709,341	\$ -	\$ 892,949	\$ 974,514	\$ 6,763,651
Fund Balances - December 31	\$ 3,789,694	\$ 381,350	\$ 1,261,870	\$ 660,786	\$ -	\$ 989,014	\$ 1,029,793	\$ 8,112,507

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

RICHLAND COUNTY
Wahpeton, North Dakota

RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

Net Change in *Fund Balances* - Total Governmental Funds \$ 1,348,856

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. This is the amount by which capital outlays and capital contributions exceeded depreciation expense in the current year:

Current Year Capital Outlay	\$ 1,243,346	
Capital Grants and Contributions	3,574,853	
Current Year Depreciation Expense	<u>(1,565,208)</u>	3,252,991

In the statement of activities, only the gain on the sale of the capital 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 loss on the capital assets sold.

(122,411)

Repayment of debt principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position. This is the amount by which debt repayments exceeded debt issuance:

Repayment of Debt - Leases	\$ 159,512	
Repayment of Debt - Bonds	1,560,000	
Issuance of Debt - Capital Leases	(181,466.00)	
Issuance of Debt - Bonds	<u>(1,215,000)</u>	323,046

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.

Increase in Compensated Absences	\$ (15,057)	
Decrease in Interest Payable	5,731	
Increase in Retainage Payable	<u>(97,973)</u>	(107,299)

The Net Pension Liability, and related Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources are reported in the government wide statements; however, activity related to these pension items do not involve current financial resources, and are not reported in the funds.

Increase in Net Pension Liability	\$ (1,275,149)	
Increase in Deferred Outflows of Resources Related to Pensions	1,162,102	
Increase in Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions	<u>(86,978)</u>	(200,025)

Some revenues reported on the statement of activities are not reported as revenues in the governmental funds since they do not represent available resources to pay current expenditures.

Increase in Taxes Receivable	\$ 19,206	
Increase in Road Department Reveivables	<u>1,332</u>	<u>20,538</u>

Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities \$ 4,515,696

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

RICHLAND COUNTY
Wahpeton, North Dakota

STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AGENCY FUNDS
December 31, 2016

	<u>Agency Funds</u>
<u>Assets:</u>	
Cash and investments	<u>\$ 7,548,298</u>
<u>Liabilities:</u>	
Due to other governments	<u>\$ 7,548,298</u>

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

RICHLAND COUNTY
Wahpeton, North Dakota

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
December 31, 2016

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

A. Reporting Entity

The accompanying financial statements present the activities of Richland County. The county has considered all potential component units for which the county is financially accountable, and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationships with the county such that exclusion would cause the county's financial statements to be misleading to exclude. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability and misleading to exclude in GASB Statement No. 61 "The Financial Reporting Entity". This criteria requires a legally separate entity to be included as a component unit if (1) it is fiscally dependent on the primary government, and (2) a financial benefit or burden relationship exists.

Richland County (primary government) is financially accountable if it appoints a voting majority of an organization's governing body, and (1) it is able to impose its will on that organization, or (2) there is a potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on Richland County, regardless of whether the organization has a separately elected governing board, or a governing board appointed by a higher level of government, or a jointly appointed board.

An organization has a financial benefit or burden relationship with the primary government if any of the following conditions exists:

- The primary government is legally entitled to or can otherwise access the organization's resources;
- The primary government is legally obligated or has otherwise assumed the obligation to finance the deficits of, or provide financial support to, the organization;
- The primary government is obligated in some manner for the debt of the organization.

Based on GASB Statement No. 61 criteria, there is one discretely presented component unit and one blended component unit to be included within Richland County's reporting entity.

COMPONENT UNITS

In conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as amended by GASB Statement No. 61, the financial statements of the Water Resource District have been included in the financial reporting entity as a discretely presented component unit.

Discretely Presented Component Unit: The component unit column in the basic financial statements includes the financial data of the county's discretely presented component unit. This component unit is reported in a separate column to emphasize that it is legally separate from the county, and is considered a major component unit.

RICHLAND COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

Richland County Water Resource District - The primary government's governing board appoints a voting majority of the members of the Richland County Water Resource District Board and can impose its will on the District. The county has the authority to approve or modify the Water Resource District operational and capital budgets. The county also must approve the tax levy established by the Water Resource District. No significant transactions were noted between the County and the Water Resource District.

Blended Component Unit: Blended component units, although legally separate entities, are, in substance, part of the government's operations and so data from this unit is combined with data from the primary government in the funds. Criteria outlined in GASB Statement No. 61 for blending component units occurs under these circumstances: (a) the component units governing body is substantively the same as the governing body of the primary government, and there is a financial benefit or burden relationship, or management of the primary government has operational responsibility for the component unit. Operational responsibility exists if it manages the component unit in essentially the same manner in which it manages its own programs, departments, or agencies; (b) the component unit provides services entirely, or almost entirely, to the primary government, or exclusively, or almost exclusively, benefits the primary government even though it does not provide services directly to it; (c) the component units total debt outstanding is expected to be repaid entirely or almost entirely with resources of the primary government.

When a component unit is blended, the funds of the component unit are subject to the same financial reporting requirements as the primary government's funds.

Richland County Job Development Authority – The County's governing board appoints a voting majority of the members of the Richland County Job Development Authority. The governing body of the JDA is essentially the same as the governing body of the primary government. The county has the authority to approve or modify the Job Development Authority's operational and capital budgets. The county's governing board must approve the tax levy established by the Job Development Authority. The JDA has the authority to issue bonded debt. The activities of the JDA are blended at the government-wide level in the appropriate activities, and shown as a major (special revenue) fund at the fund level.

Component Unit Financial Statements: The financial statements of the discretely presented component unit and the blended component unit are presented in the County's basic financial statements. Complete financial statements of the individual discretely presented component unit can be obtained from the Secretary-Treasurer, Richland County Water Resource District, 418 2nd Ave. N., Wahpeton, North Dakota, 58030. Complete financial statements of the blended component unit can be obtained from the County Auditor (Office of Finance and Administration), Richland County, 418 2nd Ave. N., Wahpeton, ND 58030.

B. Basis of Presentation

Government-wide statements: The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the primary government, Richland County and its component units, including the discretely presented component unit and blended component unit. These statements include the financial activities of the overall government, except for fiduciary activities. Eliminations have been made, when applicable, 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 and the component unit'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 taxes, interest & non-restricted grants and contributions, are presented as general revenues.

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

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.

Highway Fund. This fund accounts for repair and improvement of highways that are legally restricted from taxes levied and highway tax distribution from the state. The major sources of revenues are a restricted tax levy and State/Federal grants/reimbursements.

15 Mill Road Fund. This fund accounts for repair and improvement of the farm to market road that are legally restricted from tax and grant funds. The major source of revenues are restricted State/Federal project reimbursements.

Social Services Fund. This fund accounts for the costs of providing social service benefits and programs to needy residents of the county. The major primary sources of revenues are a restricted tax levy and State/Federal grants/reimbursements.

FEMA Disaster Reimbursement Fund. This fund accounts for state and federal grants for flood disaster repairs and the related disbursements. The major primary source of revenue is restricted Federal and State grants/reimbursements for flood related repairs

Job Development Authority Fund. This fund accounts for operations of the Job Development Authority, a blended component unit of the county. The Job Development Authority issues loans to business for either startup costs or expansion costs. The major primary source of revenues is a restricted tax levy.

Additionally, the County reports the following fund type:

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

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

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

RICHLAND COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

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 position 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.

D. Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments

Cash and cash equivalents include amounts in demand deposits, money market accounts and highly liquid short-term investments with original maturities of 3 months or less.

E. Capital Assets

PRIMARY GOVERNMENT:

Capital assets, which include property, plant, and equipment, are reported in the governmental activities column in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the government as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than \$5,000. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date of donation.

General infrastructure assets acquired prior to January 1, 2004 consisting of various road and bridge network assets are not reported in the financial statements, as the County was required to prospectively report infrastructure assets beginning January 1, 2004 as a Phase III GASB 34 implementation entity. The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets lives are not capitalized. Interest incurred during the construction phase of capital assets is not capitalized.

Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed.

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

Assets	Years
Buildings	50
Building Improvements	15 - 40
Office Equipment	5 - 20
Machinery & Equipment	15 - 30
Vehicles	5 - 10
Infrastructure - Highways	20
Infrastructure - Bridges	75

DISCRETELY PRESENTED COMPONENT UNIT:

Richland County Water Resource District:

Capital assets of the Richland County Water Resource District, a discretely presented component unit of Richland County, include plant and equipment. Assets are reported in a discretely presented component unit column in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the government as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than \$5,000. Such assets are recorded at 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.

RICHLAND COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

General infrastructure assets acquired prior to January 1, 2004 consisting of various drain projects are not reported in the financial statements, as the County was required to prospectively report infrastructure assets beginning January 1, 2004 as a Phase III GASB 34 implementation entity.

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

Assets	Years
Infrastructure	30
Equipment	7

F. Compensated Absences

Vacation leave is earned at the rate of one to two working days per month by county employees depending on years of service. Sick leave benefits are earned by full-time employees at the rate of one day per month regardless of the years of service. Unused sick leave benefits will be allowed to accumulate to a limit of 100 days. When that limit is reached, employees may trade additional earned sick leave for vacation days at the rate of 6 days sick leave for 1 day of vacation. Any employee hired prior to October 1, 1988 and who has twenty or more consecutive years of employment or who has reached the age of 65 prior to employment termination will be eligible to receive payment for sick leave at a rate of 50% of the unused balance to a limit of 50 days. A liability for the vested or accumulated vacation and sick leave is reported in government-wide statement of net position.

G. Long-Term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the governmental activities statement of net position for the primary government and the discretely presented component unit. Bond premiums, discounts and issuance costs are recognized in the current period since the amounts are not material.

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund types recognize bond premiums, discounts and issuance costs in the current period. The face amount of the debt is reported as other financing sources. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing sources while discounts on debt issuances are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs are reported as debt service expenditures.

H. Pension

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

I. Fund Balances / Net Position

GASB Statement No. 54 established new fund balance classifications that comprise a hierarchy based on the extent to which the government is bound to honor constraints (restrictions or limitations) imposed upon the use of the resources reported in governmental funds.

Fund Balance Spending Policy:

It is the policy of Richland 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.

RICHLAND COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

Major Special Revenue Fund Purposes & Revenue Sources:

Purposes and major revenue sources of the major special revenue funds (highway, social services, 15 mill road, FEMA disaster reimbursement, and job development authority) are disclosed in more detail in Note 1B.

Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions

Fund balance amounts are to be properly reported within one of the fund balance categories listed below.

CLASSIFICATION	DEFINITION	EXAMPLES
Nonspendable	Amounts that cannot be spent because they are either (a) not in spendable form or (b) legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.	Inventories, prepaid amounts (expenses), long-term receivables, endowment funds.
Restricted	Fund balance is reported as restricted when constraints are placed on the use of resources that are either (a) Externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments. (b) Imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.	Funds restricted by State Statute, unspent bond proceeds, grants earned but not spent, debt covenants, taxes raised for a specific purpose.
Committed	A committed fund balance includes amounts that can only be used for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the government's highest level of decision-making authority, the governing board. Formal action is required to be taken to establish, modify or rescind a fund balance commitment.	By board action, construction, claims and judgments, retirements of loans and notes payable, capital expenditures and self-insurance.
Assigned	Assigned fund balances are amounts that are constrained by the government's intent to be used for specific purposes, but are under the direction of the board and the business manager.	By board action, construction, claims and judgments, retirements of loans and notes payable, capital expenditures and self-insurance.
Unassigned	Unassigned fund balance is the lowest classification for the General Fund. This is fund balance that has not been reported in any other classification. (a) The General Fund is the only fund that can report a positive unassigned fund balance; (b) A negative unassigned fund balance may be reported in other governmental funds, if expenditures incurred for specific purposes exceeded the amounts restricted, committed, or assigned to those purposes.	Available for any remaining general fund expenditure.

Richland County only has non-spendable, restricted, and unassigned fund balances at December 31, 2016.

RICHLAND COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

Non-spendable Fund Balances:

Non-spendable fund balance is reported in the job development authority major fund for loans receivable, and an amount advanced to other governments from the general.

Restricted Fund Balances – consist of the following items at December 31, 2016:

Restricted fund balances are shown by primary function on the balance sheet for public safety, highways & bridges, health & welfare, culture & recreation, conservation of resources, emergencies, economic development, debt service, and other purposes (reported in the other governmental funds). Restricted fund balances are restricted by enabling legislation (primarily state law for tax levies) and by outside 3rd parties (State & Federal governments for various grants & reimbursements).

Special Revenue Funds – Restricted & Committed Fund Balances:

(a) Restricted by specified tax levies and/or restricted Federal & State grants/reimbursements:

- Restricted tax levies – includes fund balances for various tax levies other than the general fund.
- Restricted grants/reimbursements – primarily includes FEMA funds, other grant funds, and highway tax distribution.

Unassigned Fund Balances:

Unassigned fund balances are shown for the positive fund balance of the general fund.

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, and any related debt used to finance the purchase or construction of those capital assets. These assets are not available for future spending.

Restrictions of net position shown in the net position statement are due to restricted tax levies and restricted Federal & State grants/reimbursements. Net position in the statement of net position is also shown by primary function restricted for highways and bridges, flood repair, health & welfare, culture & recreation, conservation of resources, emergencies, and economic development.

Unrestricted net position is primarily unrestricted amounts related to the general fund. The unrestricted net position is available to meet the County's ongoing obligations.

I. 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.

RICHLAND COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

NOTE 2: DEPOSITS

In accordance with North Dakota Statutes, Richland County maintains deposits at the depository banks designated by the governing board. All depositories are members of the Federal Reserve System.

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

Authorized collateral includes bills, notes, or bonds issued by the United States government, its agencies or instrumentalities, all bonds and notes guaranteed by the United States government, Federal land bank bonds, bonds, notes, warrants, certificates of indebtedness, insured certificates of deposit, shares of investment companies registered under the Investment Companies Act of 1940, and all other forms of securities issued by the State of North Dakota, its boards, agencies or instrumentalities or by any county, city, township, school County, park County, 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 any other state of the United States or such other securities approved by the banking board.

At year ended December 31, 2016, the county's carrying amount of deposits was \$15,939,662 and the bank balances totaled \$14,054,017. Of the bank balances, \$1,777,300 was covered by Federal Depository Insurance. The remaining bank balances were collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's agent in the government's name.

At year ended December 31, 2016, the Water Resource District's carrying amount of deposits was \$4,556,601 and the bank balances totaled \$4,691,877. 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.

Credit Risk:

The county may invest idle funds as authorized in North Dakota Statutes, as follows:

- (a) Bonds, treasury bills and notes, or other securities that are a direct obligation insured or guaranteed by, the treasury of the United States, or its agencies, instrumentalities, or organizations created by an act of congress.
- (b) Securities sold under agreements to repurchase written by a financial institution in which the underlying securities for the agreement to repurchase are the type listed above.
- (c) Certificates of Deposit fully insured by the federal deposit insurance corporation.
- (d) Obligations of the state.

As of December 31, 2016, the county had certificates of deposit totaling \$1,484,350.

Concentration of Credit Risk:

The county does not have a limit on the amount it may invest in any one issuer.

RICHLAND COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

NOTE 3: TAXES RECEIVABLE

The taxes receivable represents the past two years of delinquent uncollected taxes. No allowance has been established for uncollectible taxes receivable because any defaults will be covered by enforcement of the liens.

The county treasurer acts as an agent to collect property taxes levied in the county for all taxing authorities. Any material collections are distributed after the end of the month.

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.

Most property owners choose to pay property taxes on or before February 15 and receive the 5% discount on the property taxes.

NOTE 4: ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

Accounts receivable of the primary government consists of amounts due for E-911 fees earned but not collected prior to year-end.

NOTE 5: ROAD / ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

Road department receivables of the primary government consists of amounts due for road work for townships and individuals.

NOTE 6: INTERGOVERNMENTAL RECEIVABLE

Intergovernmental receivables consist of amounts due from the state for the state and federal share of various social service programs, state aid and other grants.

NOTE 7: ADVANCE TO OTHER GOVERNMENT

Richland County entered into transactions as of December 31, 2016 that involved loans to townships that would enable them to fix roads that were damaged during spring flooding. The amounts will be paid back to Richland County by the townships once the applicable FEMA reimbursements are received.

RICHLAND COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

NOTE 8: JOB DEVELOPMENT LOANS RECEIVABLE

The Job Development Authority, a blended component unit of Richland County, provides loans to businesses for either startup costs or expansion costs. The Development Authority receives applications from various businesses within the community and either approves or denies the applications based on majority board decision. The Authority had the following activity in loans outstanding for the year ended December 31, 2016.

Name/Business	Balance January 1	New Loans/ Additions	Principal Payments	Balance December 31
Aurora Group Inc.	\$ 25,693	\$ -	\$ 25,693	\$ -
Barth Investments	48,542	-	-	48,542
Berger Body and Glass	4,582	-	-	4,582
Blotske, Jason & Larie	23,056	-	2,638	20,418
Boutain Inc.	-	-	-	-
Precision Powder Coating	2,786	-	111	2,675
Giant Snacks, Inc.	42,070	-	42,070	-
Hankinson CDC (Heartland Candies, Inc.)	26,133	-	2,148	23,985
Hankinson Hardware	5,952	-	5,042	910
Hot Cakes & Lodging, Inc. (1)	1,230	-	1,230	-
Dee's Bar and Grill	10,307	-	2,177	8,130
Lost Sock Laundry, LLLP	18,667	-	3,177	15,490
Machine Design Inc	22,578	-	-	22,578
Jeff's Tree Service	-	-	-	-
Lidgerwood Market	34,533	-	10,151	24,382
M&T Repair Inc.	29,364	-	4,721	24,643
Northcreek Dental, P.C.	40,806	-	6,570	34,236
Barth Investments	17,507	-	-	17,507
Noel Clean & Stor, Inc.	68,461	-	4,199	64,262
Geothermal Solutions Inc.	47,276	-	9,951	37,325
Smykowski, Breanna	24,545	-	130	24,415
Mr. Mike & Lynda Storbakken	24,550	-	2,285	22,265
Karizma Salon	2,821	-	1,449	1,372
Mr. Nathan & Janell Berseth	16,338	-	2,690	13,648
Hankinson Hardware, Inc	3,266	-	2,150	1,116
Mike and Lynda Storbakken	11,490	-	1,710	9,780
Wahpeton Fabrication	3,359	-	1,072	2,287
Anderson Offroad, LLC	12,110	-	-	12,110
Brad Bladow (Bladow Shop)	22,926	-	4,933	17,993
Ron & Tina Kill (Diamond 1 Stop)	23,011	-	4,392	18,619
Crooked Lane Farm Folk School	20,000	-	4,745	15,255
Colfax Farmers Elevator Inc.	52,023	-	-	52,023
Advanced Machining & Design LLC	9,428	-	-	9,428
Berger Body and Glass	12,241	-	-	12,241
MDI Inc.	5,608	-	-	5,608
Gary Page (Heitkamp Construction)	-	42,578	-	42,578
Colonel Hankinson's Historic Barn	-	20,000	1,347	18,653
DMS Enterprises, LLC	-	45,000	1,763	43,237
City View Properties	-	45,000	581	44,419
Lovdokken Auto & Convenience Store	-	45,000	2,346	42,654
Heartland Candies, LLC	-	20,000	589	19,411
Total	\$ 713,259	\$ 217,578	\$ 152,060	\$ 778,777
Allowance for Doubtful Accounts	\$ (1,872)	\$ -	\$ -	(1,872)
Net Loans Receivable	\$ 711,387	\$ 217,578	\$ 152,060	\$ 776,905

RICHLAND COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

NOTE 9: CAPITAL ASSETS

The following is a summary of changes in capital assets for Richland County for the year ended December 31, 2016:

Governmental Activities:	Balance January 1	Increases	Decreases	Transfers	Balance December 31
<i>Capital assets not being depreciated:</i>					
Land	\$ 41,040	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 61,040
Construction in Progress	2,853,188	4,152,677	38,269	(2,527,018)	4,440,578
Total Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated	\$ 2,894,228	\$ 4,172,677	\$ 38,269	\$ (2,527,018)	\$ 4,501,618
<i>Capital assets, being depreciated:</i>					
Buildings	\$ 4,737,179	\$ 14,659	\$ -	\$ 860,579	\$ 5,612,417
Equipment	5,476,708	522,440	323,050	-	5,676,098
Vehicles	1,698,902	108,423	50,057	-	1,757,268
Infrastructure	32,312,986	-	-	1,666,439	33,979,425
Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated	\$ 44,225,775	\$ 645,522	\$ 373,107	\$ 2,527,018	\$ 47,025,208
<i>Less accumulated depreciation for:</i>					
Buildings	\$ 2,473,004	\$ 116,870	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,589,874
Equipment	2,489,154	412,628	238,908	-	2,662,874
Vehicles	846,624	153,496	50,057	-	950,063
Infrastructure	4,897,289	882,214	-	-	5,779,503
Total Accumulated Depreciation	\$ 10,706,071	\$ 1,565,208	\$ 288,965	\$ -	\$ 11,982,314
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated, Net	\$ 33,519,704	\$ (919,686)	\$ 84,142	\$ 2,527,018	\$ 35,042,894
Governmental Activities-Capital Assets, Net	\$ 36,413,932	\$ 3,252,991	\$ 122,411	\$ -	\$ 39,544,512

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

Governmental Activities:	Amounts
General Government	\$ 80,857
Public Safety	167,243
Highways	1,293,039
Conservation of Natural Resources	18,075
Health and Welfare	5,994
Total Depreciation Expense - Governmental Activities	\$ 1,565,208

Richland County Water Resource District:

The following is a summary of changes in capital assets for the Richland County Water Resource District, a discretely presented component unit of Richland County, for the year ended December 31, 2016:

Governmental Activities:	Balance January 1	Increases	Decreases	Transfers	Balance December 31
<i>Capital assets not being depreciated:</i>					
Land	\$ 724,571	\$ 214,709	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 939,280
Construction in Progress	705,466	1,705,147	-	(860,624)	1,549,989
Total Capital Assets, Not Being Depreciated	\$ 1,430,037	\$ 1,919,856	\$ -	\$ (860,624)	\$ 2,489,269
<i>Capital assets, being depreciated:</i>					
Equipment	\$ 5,057	\$ 6,364	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,421
Infrastructure	3,519,635	626,331	-	860,624	5,006,590
Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated	\$ 3,524,692	\$ 632,695	\$ -	\$ 860,624	\$ 5,018,011
<i>Less accumulated depreciation for:</i>					
Equipment	\$ 4,335	\$ 722	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,057
Infrastructure	621,018	118,499	-	-	739,517
Total Accumulated Depreciation	\$ 625,353	\$ 119,221	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 744,574
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated, Net	\$ 2,899,339	\$ 513,474	\$ -	\$ 860,624	\$ 4,273,437
Governmental Activities-Capital Assets, Net	\$ 4,329,376	\$ 2,433,330	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,762,706

RICHLAND COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

Depreciation expense totaling \$119,221 was charged to the conservation of natural resources function.

NOTE 10: DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES

Deferred outflows of resources in the government wide financial statements consist of amounts related to pensions. See more detail about deferred outflows of resources in Note 19.

NOTE 11: ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Accounts payable consists of a liability account reflecting amounts on open accounts owing to private persons or organizations for goods and services received prior to December 31, 2016.

NOTE 12: SALARIES PAYABLE

Salaries payable consists of a liability account reflecting amounts owing to employees for work provided on behalf of the county prior to December 31 of each year-end.

NOTE 13: GRANTS RECEIVED IN ADVANCE

Grants received in advance consist of funds received in the FEMA fund, and in the 15 mill road fund include amounts where fund were received, but the eligibility requirements have not been met at December 31, 2016.

NOTE 14: RETAINAGES PAYABLE

Retainages payable consists of a liability account reflecting amounts owing to contractors on open contracts at December 31, 2016 by the Water Resource District (component unit).

NOTE 15: INTEREST PAYABLE

Interest payable consists of the portion of interest accrued on long-term debt (bonds payable and leases payable) outstanding at December 31, 2016.

NOTE 16: LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONSPrimary Government:

Changes in Long-Term Liabilities - During the year ended December 31, 2016; the following changes occurred in governmental activities long-term liabilities for Richland County:

Governmental Activities:	Balance January 1	Increases	Decreases	Balance December 31	Due Within One Year
Bonds Payable	\$ 1,560,000	\$ 1,215,000	\$ 1,560,000	\$ 1,215,000	\$ 400,000
Leases Payable	1,321,321	181,466	159,512	1,343,275	303,496
Compensated Absences *	417,095	15,057	-	432,152	108,038
Net Pension Liability *	3,828,608	1,275,149	-	5,103,757	-
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 7,127,024	\$ 2,686,672	\$ 1,719,512	\$ 8,094,184	\$ 811,534

* The change in compensated absences and net pension liability is shown as a net change because changes in salary prohibit exact calculations of additions and reductions at a reasonable cost.

RICHLAND COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

Bonds Payable

\$1,215,000 due in annual installments from \$400,000 to \$410,000 through May 1, 2019; interest from 0.80% to 1.25%. \$1,215,000

Debt Refunding – the county issued \$1,215,000 of general obligation refunding bonds, series 2016, to advance refund (defease) the remaining 2009 series general obligation bonds totaling \$1,190,000 to obtain cost savings over the life of the new bonds. The 2016 bonds issued resulted in a net present value savings of \$23,719 and a cash flow savings of \$24,179.

Capital Leases - The primary government entered into lease agreements as lessee for financing the acquisition of road department equipment. These lease agreements qualify as capital leases for accounting purposes and, therefore, have been recorded at the present value of the future minimum lease payments as of the inception date.

The annual requirements to amortize the outstanding county debt, excluding compensated absences and net pension liability, are as follows:

GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES				
Year Ending December 31	G.O. Bonds Payable		Capital Leases	
	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest
2017	\$ 400,000	\$ 11,180	\$ 303,496	\$ 29,890
2018	405,000	7,353	472,400	24,548
2019	410,000	2,562	200,176	12,839
2020	-	-	195,811	7,447
2021	-	-	171,392	2,801
Total	\$ 1,215,000	\$ 21,095	\$ 1,343,275	\$ 77,525

DISCRETELY PRESENTED COMPONENT UNIT:

Richland County Water Resource District:

Changes in Long-Term Liabilities - During the year ended December 31, 2016, the following changes occurred in governmental long-term liabilities of the County:

Governmental Activities:	Balance January 1	Increases	Decreases	Balance December 31	Due Within One Year
Bonds Payable	\$ -	\$ 1,625,000	\$ -	\$ 1,625,000	\$ 120,000
Compensated Absences *	11,052	1,691	-	12,743	1,274
Net Pension Liability *	70,054	-	-	70,054	-
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 81,106	\$ 1,626,691	\$ -	\$ 1,707,797	\$ 121,274

* The change in compensated absences and net pension liability is shown as a net change because changes in salary prohibit exact calculations of additions and reductions at a reasonable cost.

Bonds Payable

\$785,000 due in annual installments from \$40,000 to \$90,000 through May 1, 2026; interest from 0.95% to 1.75%. \$ 785,000

\$840,000 due in annual installments from \$80,000 to \$170,000 through May 1, 2022; interest from 0.85% to 1.50%. 840,000

Total Bonds Payable \$1,625,000

RICHLAND COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

The annual requirements to amortize the Water Resource District bonds payable are as follows:

Year Ending December 31	Bonds Payable	
	Principal	Interest
2017	\$ 120,000	\$ 25,361
2018	120,000	21,368
2019	255,000	19,456
2020	255,000	16,163
2021	255,000	12,337
2022-2026	620,000	21,312
Total	\$ 1,625,000	\$ 115,997

NOTE 17: DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES

Deferred inflows of resources in the government wide financial statements consist of amounts for which asset recognition criteria have been met, but for which revenue recognition criteria have not been met. Under the accrual basis of accounting, such amounts include the amount for pensions. See more detail in Note 19 about deferred inflows of resources.

Deferred inflows of resources in the balance sheet represent the amount of uncollected taxes and the road accounts receivable in the fund financial statements for which asset recognition criteria have been met, but for which revenue recognition criteria have not been met. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, uncollected taxes and road accounts receivable are measurable but not available.

NOTE 18: TRANSFERS

The following is reconciliation between transfers in and transfers out as reported in the basic financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2016:

	Transfers In	Transfers Out
Major Funds:		
General Fund	\$ 801,459	\$ 1,573,156
Highway Fund	31,875	312,000
Social Services Fund	-	22,500
Special Revenue Funds:		
Road and Bridge Equipment	312,000	-
911 Communications	549,000	-
911 Wireless	-	103,000
NDIRN Fees	-	6,500
Capital Projects Fund	619,000	792,000
Drug Court	13,500	-
Water Rescue Team Fund	2,500	-
Special Response	1,000	-
Veteran's Service Officer	-	1,500
Public Health Fund	322,500	-
Home Health Care Holding Fund	130,000	-
Family Planning Fund	28,000	-
County Park	-	1,459
Sheriff-Counteract Fund	1,281	-
Total Transfers	\$ 2,812,115	\$ 2,812,115

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

NOTE 19: PENSION PLAN**General Information about the NDPERS Pension Plan*****North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System (Main System)***

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

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

Responsibility for administration of the NDPERS defined benefit pension plan is assigned to a Board comprised of seven 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; and one member elected by the retired public employees. Effective July 1, 2015, the board was expanded to include two members of the legislative assembly appointed by the chairman of the legislative management

Pension Benefits

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

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

Death and Disability Benefits

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

RICHLAND COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

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 of disabled is set by the NDPERS in the North Dakota Administrative Code.

Refunds of Member Account Balance

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

Member and Employer Contributions

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

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

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

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

At December 31, 2016, Richland County reported a liability of \$5,103,757 for its proportionate share of net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2016, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The district's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the district'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, 2016, the Employer's proportion was .523678 percent, which was a decrease of .039367 percent from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2015.

For the year ended December 31, 2016, the Employer recognized pension expense of \$596,966. At December 31, 2016, the Employer reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ 76,669	\$ 47,257
Changes of Assumptions	470,502	253,555
Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Investment Earnings on Pension Plan Investments	712,048	-
Changes in Proportion and Differences Between Employer Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	-	363,268
District Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date	307,101	-
Total	\$ 1,566,319	\$ 664,080

RICHLAND COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

\$307,101 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, 2016.

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

2017	\$ 92,286
2018	92,286
2019	247,617
2020	130,525
2021	32,425

Actuarial Assumptions

The total pension liability in the July 1, 2016 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	3.50%
Salary Increases	4.50% per annum
Investment Rate of Return	8.00%, net of investment expenses
Cost-of-Living Adjustments	None

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

The actuarial assumptions used were based on the results of an actuarial experience study completed in 2015. They are the same as the assumptions used in the July 1, 2015, funding actuarial valuation for NDPERS.

As a result of the 2015 actuarial experience study, the NDPERS board adopted several changes to the actuarial assumptions effective July 1, 2015. This includes changes to the mortality tables, disability incidence rates, retirement rates, administrative expenses, salary scale, and percent married assumption.

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%	6.90%
International Equity	21%	7.55%
Private Equity	5%	11.30%
Domestic Fixed Income	17%	1.52%
International Fixed Income	5%	.45%
Global Real Assets	20%	5.38%
Cash Equivalents	1%	0.00%

RICHLAND COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

Discount rate. The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 8 percent as of June 30, 2015. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes that member and employer contributions will be made at rates equal to those based on the July 1, 2015, Actuarial Valuation Report. For this purpose, only employer contributions that are intended to fund benefits of current plan members and their beneficiaries are included. Projected employer contributions that are intended to fund the service costs of future plan members and their beneficiaries, as well as projected contributions from future plan members, are not included. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments for current plan members as of June 30, 2015. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability as of June 30, 2015.

Sensitivity of the Employer's 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 8 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 (7 percent) or 1-percentage-point higher (9 percent) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (7%)	Current Discount Rate (8%)	1% Increase (9%)
County's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 7,239,581	\$ 5,103,757	\$ 3,304,215

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 20: RISK MANAGEMENT

Richland 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 (NDRIF), a public entity risk pool currently operating as a common risk management and insurance program for the state and over 2,000 political subdivisions. Richland County pays an annual premium to NDRIF for its general liability, automobile, and inland marine insurance coverage. The coverage by NDRIF is limited to losses of one million dollars per occurrence for general liability and automobile and \$6,134,475 for mobile equipment and portable property. The coverage for the Water Resource District by NDRIF is limited to losses of two million dollars for general liability and automobile and \$12,700 for mobile equipment and portable property. Richland County also has Hartford Steam Boiler Insurance which has multiple coverage and dollar limits.

Richland County also participates in the North Dakota Fire and Tornado Fund and the State Bonding Fund. Richland 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 Richland County with blanket fidelity bond coverage in the amount of \$2,000,000 for its employees, while the Water Resource District carries \$1,337,000 coverage. The State Bonding Fund does not currently charge any premium for this coverage.

Settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded insurance coverage in any of the past three years.

RICHLAND COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

NOTE 21: JOINT VENTURES

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

The following is a summary of financial information on the joint venture as of and for the year ended December 31, 2015, which is the most current audited information available.

	Red River Joint Water Resource District
Total Assets	\$ 7,770,996
Total Liabilities	104,554
Net Position	\$ 7,666,442
Revenues	\$ 2,423,290
Expenses	2,582,765
Change in Net Position	\$ (159,475)

NOTE 22: CONDUIT DEBT

From time to time, Richland County has issued Industrial Revenue Bonds 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 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 facilities transfers to the private-sector entity served by the bond issuance. Neither the County, State, nor any political subdivision thereof is obligated in any manner for repayment of the loans. Accordingly, the bonds are not reported as liabilities in the accompanying financial statements.

As of December 31, 2016, there are three series of Industrial Revenue Bonds with a principal amount outstanding of \$28,055,000. The county is in no way liable to repay the Industrial Revenue Bonds.

NOTE 23: CONSTRUCTION COMMITMENTS

Richland County had the following open construction commitments as of December 31, 2016 as follows:

Project	Amended Contract	Total Completed	Retainage	Remaining Balance w/Retainages	Percent Complete
Cty Rd #1 Cty Rd #3 Cty Rd #15	\$ 2,521,356	\$ 2,549,883	\$ 63,747	\$ 35,220	101.13%
Cty Rd #21N Cty Rd #3 Cty Rd #19	2,472,453	2,378,901	118,945	212,497	96.22%
Cty Rd 21E	506,590	412,586	8,252	102,256	81.44%
Cty Rd #8	241,738	238,664	11,933	15,007	98.73%
Cty Rd #22-2	2,953,464	2,699,225	-	254,239	91.39%
Total Commitments	\$ 8,695,601	\$ 8,279,259	\$ 202,877	\$ 619,219	95.21%

RICHLAND COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

Richland County Water Resource District:

Project	Amended Contract	Total Completed	Retainage	Remaining Balance w/Retainages	Percent Complete
Drain #2	\$ 621,704	\$ 525,296	\$ 31,085	\$ 127,493	84.49%
Drain #5	655,322	645,325	32,766	42,763	98.47%
Total Commitments	\$ 1,277,026	\$ 1,170,621	\$ 63,851	\$ 170,256	91.67%

NOTE 24: TAX ABATEMENTS

Richland County and political subdivisions within the county can negotiate property tax abatement agreements with individuals and various commercial entities/businesses. Richland County and the political subdivisions within have the following types of tax abatement agreements with various individuals and commercial entities at December 31, 2016.

Richland County will state individually the parties whom received a benefit of the reduction in taxes of 20% or greater when compared to the total reduction of taxes for all tax abatement programs.

New and Expanding Business:

Businesses that are primarily industrial, commercial, retail or service are eligible for property tax incentives for new and expanding businesses if they meet state requirements (NDCC 40.57.1) and the guidelines stated below. The following criteria are only guidelines.

General criteria — In evaluation applications for property tax exemption, the Rugby Job Development Authority Board of Directors will consider the following factors:

- Economic impact through increased construction activity, equipment purchases, additional product purchases, additional work activity, immediate and projected increases in property values, and impact on future tax collections.
- Number of jobs created and employee benefits (types of jobs — professional, managerial, technical, skilled, unskilled with emphasis on full-time positions)
- Diversification of economic base
- Growth potential of company and industry and potential spin-off benefits
- Impact on city services: Can the company be accommodated within existing service levels, or will additional capacity be needed? Is the company locating where better use of existing services will take place or further the development plans of the City?
- Utilization of local resources: Will the company be an exporter from our region? Will it provide support services to existing companies? Use of raw materials and services developed in the area

Exemption Criteria:

Amount of exemption will be according to the following schedule: Year 1 — 100%, Year 2 — 100%, Year 3 — 75%, Year 4 — 50%, Year 5 — 25%.

Annual reports — By February 15 of each year, the recipient of the exemption will file an annual employment verification report with the Rugby Job Development Authority. A qualified project may receive up to 100% exemption in each of years 3, 4 and 5 provided that at the end of year two at least one full-time job has been created for every \$250,000 of the building's true and full value subject to the tax exemption. Jobs must be maintained in years 3, 4, and 5.

2016 Reduction in Taxes:

Total County Only Taxes - \$29,407

Single Family Residence:

Single Family property owners are eligible for property tax incentives for the specified property that meet state requirements (NDCC 57-02-08(35)).

General Criteria -- Up to one hundred fifty thousand dollars of the true and full value of all new single-family and condominium and townhouse residential property, exclusive of the land on which it is situated, is exempt from taxation for the first two taxable years after the taxable year in which construction is completed and the residence is owned and occupied for the first time if all the following conditions are met:

- a. The governing body of the city, for property within city limits, or the governing body of the county, for property outside city limits, has approved the exemption of the property by resolution. A resolution adopted under this subsection may be rescinded or amended at any time. The governing body of the city or county may limit or impose conditions upon exemptions under this subsection, including limitations on the time during which an exemption is allowed.
- b. Special assessments and taxes on the property upon which the residence is situated are not delinquent.

2016 Reduction in Taxes:

Total County Only Taxes – \$85,543

Renaissance Zone:

Under authority of the Renaissance Zone Act created by the North Dakota State Legislature as outlined in NDCC Chapter 40-63, any taxpaying entity in good standing with the State and the City may be eligible for tax incentives when they:

- Construct a new building within the Zone;
- Rehabilitate a building in the Zone;
- Buy a building or primary residence in the Zone and make significant improvements;
- Lease space in the Zone for a new or expanding business;
- Continue a lease in a building being rehabilitated as a Zone project;

The minimum level of investment to qualify as a Renaissance Zone Project varies based on the type of project. Designation as a Renaissance Zone Project is necessary to be eligible for any incentives. Potential projects must be approved by the Renaissance Zone Authority, City Council and the North Dakota Department of Commerce/Division of Community Services prior to any work being completed or any lease signed.

Incentives are in the form of 5-year property tax exemptions, 5-year state income tax exemptions, and historic tax credits. The tax abatements are offered primarily to stimulate new home and business construction, and to stimulate home and business improvements within city limits.

Current Residential Property: If the owner makes all necessary improvements to eliminate poor conditions and meets the greater of: 20% of true and full value prior to improvements OR \$20,000 of capital investment, then the city *may offer* a 5-year property tax exemption on improvements only.

New Residential Property: a 5-year declining partial property tax exemption may be offered. However, if the owner opts for the standard 2-year property tax exemption on the first \$150,000 value of the home, then there is no zone project.

New Commercial Construction or Additions: A 5-year declining partial property tax exemption *may* be offered if there is a minimum investment of \$20 per square foot in capital improvements.

RICHLAND COUNTY

Notes to the Financial Statements – Continued

Current Commercial Property: Property owner must make capital improvements equal to the greater of: 50% of true and full value prior to improvements, or \$10,000 in capital investment. The City *may* offer a 100% tax exemption for 5 years on the improvements only.

2016 Reduction in Taxes:

Total County Only Taxes – \$5,628

Commercial and Residential:

Under NDCC 57-02.2-03 improvements to commercial and residential buildings and structures as defined in this chapter may be exempt from assessment and taxation for up to five years from the date of commencement of making the improvements, if the exemption is approved by the governing body of the city, for property within city limits, or the governing body of the county, for property outside city limits. The governing body of the city or county may limit or impose conditions upon exemptions under this section, including limitations on the time during which an exemption is allowed. A resolution adopted by the governing body of the city or county under this section may be rescinded or amended at any time. The exemption provided by this chapter shall apply only to that part of the valuation resulting from the improvements which is over and above the assessed valuation, exclusive of the land, placed upon the building or structure for the last assessment period immediately preceding the date of commencement of the improvements. Any person, corporation, limited liability company, association, or organization owning real property and seeking an exemption under this chapter shall file with the assessor a certificate setting out the facts upon which the claim for exemption is based. The assessor shall determine whether the improvements qualify for the exemption based on the resolution of the governing body of the city or county, and if the assessor determines that the exemption should apply, upon approval of the governing body, the exemption is valid for the prescribed period and shall not terminate upon the sale or exchange of the property but shall be transferable to subsequent owners. If the certificate is not filed as herein provided, the assessor shall regard the improvements as nonexempt and shall assess them as such.

2016 Reduction in Taxes:

Total County Only Taxes – \$9,623

RICHLAND COUNTY
Wahpeton, North Dakota

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE
GENERAL FUND
For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
<u>Revenues:</u>				
Taxes	\$ 4,810,820	\$ 4,810,820	\$ 4,881,570	\$ 70,750
Intergovernmental	1,301,927	1,301,927	896,620	(405,307)
Charges for services	442,268	442,268	480,143	37,875
Licenses, permits and fees	3,330	3,330	2,670	(660)
Interest income	31,000	31,000	72,021	41,021
Miscellaneous	475,700	475,700	483,740	8,040
Total Revenues	\$ 7,065,045	\$ 7,065,045	\$ 6,816,764	\$ (248,281)
<u>Expenditures:</u>				
Current:				
General government	\$ 3,023,576	\$ 3,078,576	\$ 2,951,320	\$ 127,256
Public safety	2,392,147	2,392,147	2,232,613	159,534
Health and welfare	28,400	28,400	23,437	4,963
Culture and recreation	81,500	110,800	117,331	(6,531)
Conservation of natural resources	7,000	7,000	7,000	-
Total Expenditures	\$ 5,532,623	\$ 5,616,923	\$ 5,331,701	\$ 285,222
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	\$ 1,532,422	\$ 1,448,122	\$ 1,485,063	\$ 36,941
<u>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</u>				
Transfers in	\$ 804,965	\$ 804,965	\$ 801,459	\$ (3,506)
Transfers out	(1,693,800)	(1,693,800)	(1,573,156)	120,644
Net Change in Fund Balances	\$ 643,587	\$ 559,287	\$ 713,366	\$ 154,079
Fund Balances - January 1	\$ 3,076,328	\$ 3,076,328	\$ 3,076,328	\$ -
Fund Balances - December 31	\$ 3,719,915	\$ 3,635,615	\$ 3,789,694	\$ 154,079

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

RICHLAND COUNTY
Wahpeton, North Dakota

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE
HIGHWAY FUND
For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
<u>Revenues:</u>				
Taxes	\$ 801,120	\$ 801,120	\$ 810,730	\$ 9,610
Intergovernmental	2,061,219	2,061,219	1,620,708	(440,511)
Charges for services	205,000	205,000	225,883	20,883
Miscellaneous	5,000	5,000	4,546	(454)
Total Revenues	\$ 3,072,339	\$ 3,072,339	\$ 2,661,867	\$ (410,472)
<u>Expenditures:</u>				
Current:				
Highways and bridges	\$ 2,759,026	\$ 2,759,026	\$ 2,300,669	\$ 458,357
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	\$ 313,313	\$ 313,313	\$ 361,198	\$ 47,885
<u>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</u>				
Transfers in	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 31,875	\$ 31,875
Transfers out	(253,827)	(253,827)	(312,000)	(58,173)
Total Other Financing Sources and Uses	\$ (253,827)	\$ (253,827)	\$ (280,125)	\$ (26,298)
Net Change in Fund Balances	\$ 59,486	\$ 59,486	\$ 81,073	\$ 21,587
Fund Balances - January 1	\$ 300,277	\$ 300,277	\$ 300,277	\$ -
Fund Balances - December 31	\$ 359,763	\$ 359,763	\$ 381,350	\$ 21,587

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

RICHLAND COUNTY
Wahpeton, North Dakota

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE
15 MILL ROAD FUND
For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
<u>Revenues:</u>				
Taxes	\$ 1,202,230	\$ 1,202,230	\$ 1,218,720	\$ 16,490
Intergovernmental	4,188,833	4,188,833	3,096,171	(1,092,662)
Total Revenues	\$ 5,391,063	\$ 5,391,063	\$ 4,314,891	\$ (1,076,172)
<u>Expenditures:</u>				
Current:				
Highways and bidges	\$ 6,030,000	\$ 6,030,000	\$ 3,457,169	\$ 2,572,831
Debt Service:				
Principal	370,000	370,000	1,560,000	(1,190,000)
Interest & Service Charges	44,080	44,080	55,019	(10,939)
Total Expenditures	\$ 6,444,080	\$ 6,444,080	\$ 5,072,188	\$ 1,371,892
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	\$ (1,053,017)	\$ (1,053,017)	\$ (757,297)	\$ 295,720
<u>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</u>				
Bond Proceeds	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,215,000	\$ 1,215,000
Bond Discount	-	-	(6,075)	(6,075)
Transfers Out	(365,173)	(365,173)	-	365,173
Total Other Financing Sources and Uses	\$ (365,173)	\$ (365,173)	\$ 1,208,925	\$ 1,574,098
Net Change in Fund Balances	\$ (1,418,190)	\$ (1,418,190)	\$ 451,628	\$ 1,869,818
Fund Balances - January 1	\$ 810,242	\$ 810,242	\$ 810,242	\$ -
Fund Balances - December 31	\$ (607,948)	\$ (607,948)	\$ 1,261,870	\$ 1,869,818

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

RICHLAND COUNTY
Wahpeton, North Dakota

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE
SOCIAL SERVICES FUND
For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
<u>Revenues:</u>				
Taxes	\$ 922,310	\$ 922,310	\$ 936,851	\$ 14,541
Intergovernmental	609,227	609,227	579,078	(30,149)
Charges for servcies	16,550	16,550	22,773	6,223
Miscellaneous	39,000	39,000	40,258	1,258
Total Revenues	\$ 1,587,087	\$ 1,587,087	\$ 1,578,960	\$ (8,127)
<u>Expenditures:</u>				
Current:				
Health and welfare	\$ 1,637,300	\$ 1,637,300	\$ 1,605,015	\$ 32,285
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	\$ (50,213)	\$ (50,213)	\$ (26,055)	\$ 24,158
<u>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</u>				
Transfers out	\$ (22,500)	\$ (22,500)	\$ (22,500)	\$ -
Net Change in Fund Balances	\$ (72,713)	\$ (72,713)	\$ (48,555)	\$ 24,158
Fund Balances - January 1	\$ 709,341	\$ 709,341	\$ 709,341	\$ -
Fund Balances - December 31	\$ 636,628	\$ 636,628	\$ 660,786	\$ 24,158

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

RICHLAND COUNTY
Wahpeton, North Dakota

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE
FEMA DISASTER REIMBURSEMENT FUND
For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
<u>Revenues:</u>				
Intergovernmental	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 157,674	\$ 97,674
<u>Expenditures:</u>				
Current:				
Flood repair	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000	\$ 157,674	\$ 102,326
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	\$ (200,000)	\$ (200,000)	\$ -	\$ 200,000
Fund Balances - January 1	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Fund Balances - December 31	\$ (200,000)	\$ (200,000)	\$ -	\$ 200,000

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

RICHLAND COUNTY
Wahpeton, North Dakota

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE
JOB DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FUND
For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
<u>Revenues:</u>				
Taxes	\$ 100,785	\$ 100,785	\$ 99,649	\$ (1,136)
Intergovernmental	20,110	20,110	13,040	(7,070)
Charges for services	85,000	85,000	28,478	(56,522)
Total Revenues	<u>\$ 205,895</u>	<u>\$ 205,895</u>	<u>\$ 141,167</u>	<u>\$ (64,728)</u>
<u>Expenditures:</u>				
Current:				
Economic development	<u>\$ 301,700</u>	<u>\$ 301,700</u>	<u>\$ 45,102</u>	<u>\$ 256,598</u>
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	<u>\$ (95,805)</u>	<u>\$ (95,805)</u>	<u>\$ 96,065</u>	<u>\$ 191,870</u>
Fund Balances - January 1	<u>\$ 892,949</u>	<u>\$ 892,949</u>	<u>\$ 892,949</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Fund Balances - December 31	<u>\$ 797,144</u>	<u>\$ 797,144</u>	<u>\$ 989,014</u>	<u>\$ 191,870</u>

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

RICHLAND COUNTY
Wahpeton, North Dakota

PENSION SCHEDULES
For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

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

	2016	2015	2014
District's proportion of the net pension liability (asset)	0.523678%	0.563045%	0.597879%
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset)	\$ 5,103,757	\$ 3,828,608	\$ 3,726,677
District's covered-employee payroll	\$ 5,277,442	\$ 5,016,048	\$ 4,945,900
District's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	96.71%	76.33%	75.35%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	70.46%	77.15%	77.70%

*Complete data for this schedule is not available prior to 2014.

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

	2016	2015	2014
Statutorily required contribution	\$ 375,754	\$ 357,143	\$ 352,148
Contributions in relation to the statutorily required contribution	\$ (375,754)	\$ (357,143)	\$ (352,148)
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
District's covered-employee payroll	\$ 5,277,442	\$ 5,016,048	\$ 4,945,900
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	7.12%	7.12%	7.12%

*Complete data for this schedule is not available prior to 2014.

RICHLAND COUNTY
Wahpeton, North Dakota

NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
December 31, 2016

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 required by section 11-11-05 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: LEGAL COMPLIANCE - BUDGETS

BUDGET AMENDMENTS

The board of county commissioners amended the county expenditure budget for 2015 for various funds as follows:

Fund	EXPENDITURES		
	Original Budget	Amendment	Amended Budget
Major Funds:			
General Fund	\$ 5,192,722	\$ 84,300	5,277,022
Nonmajor Special Revenue Funds:			
Road & Bridge Equipment	294,090	60,000	354,090
Emergency Assistance	3,000	3,400	6,400
NDIRN Fees	8,380	1,200	9,580
Water Rescue Team	2,500	900	3,400
Public Health Program	663,997	51,500	715,497
Home Health	334,486	3,800	338,286
Jail Concessions	16,000	3,100	19,100
Sobriety Test	13,000	10,400	23,400
Sheriff Counteract	500	1,000	1,500

RICHLAND COUNTY

Notes to the Required Supplementary Information - Continued

NOTE 3: PENSIONS - CHANGES OF ASSUMPTIONS

Amounts reported in 2016 reflect actuarial assumption changes effective July 1, 2015 based on the results of an actuarial experience study completed in 2015. This includes changes to the mortality tables, disability incidence rates, retirement rates, administrative expenses, salary scale, and percent married assumption.

RICHLAND COUNTY
Wahpeton, North Dakota

SCHEDULE OF FUND ACTIVITY
ARISING FROM CASH TRANSACTIONS
For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

	Balance 1-1-16	Receipts	Transfers In	Other Financing Sources	Transfers Out	Disbursements	Balance 12-31-16
Major Funds:							
General Fund	\$ 2,756,153.92	\$ 6,986,528.42	\$ 801,458.52	\$ -	\$ 1,573,156.00	\$ 5,364,772.96	\$ 3,606,211.90
Special Revenue Funds:							
Highway Fund	\$ 154,013.50	\$ 2,701,245.73	\$ 31,875.00	\$ -	\$ 312,000.00	\$ 2,287,087.08	\$ 288,047.15
15 Mill Road	1,469,646.99	4,881,979.69	-	1,208,925.00	-	5,226,148.25	2,334,403.43
Social Services Fund	729,567.67	1,613,162.46	-	-	22,500.00	1,628,532.20	691,697.93
FEMA Disaster Reimb. Fund	278,346.11	155,460.97	-	-	-	157,674.36	276,132.72
Job Development Authority	183,794.39	293,998.66	-	-	-	268,603.30	209,189.75
Total Major Special Revenue Funds	\$ 2,815,368.66	\$ 9,645,847.51	\$ 31,875.00	\$ 1,208,925.00	\$ 334,500.00	\$ 9,568,045.19	\$ 3,799,470.98
Total Major Funds	\$ 5,571,522.58	\$ 16,632,375.93	\$ 833,333.52	\$ 1,208,925.00	\$ 1,907,656.00	\$ 14,932,818.15	\$ 7,405,682.88
Nonmajor Special Revenue Funds:							
Bridge Replacement	\$ 36.59	\$ 110,432.85	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,412.15	\$ 10,057.29
Road and Bridge Equipment	783.15	40,338.50	312,000.00	-	-	352,649.51	472.14
Emergency Assistance Fund	2,912.73	6,386.60	-	-	-	6,300.18	2,999.15
Emergency Fund	225,574.38	-	-	-	-	-	225,574.38
911 Communications	974.27	189,250.83	549,000.00	-	-	738,703.76	521.34
911 Wireless	343.65	132,905.53	-	-	103,000.00	29,687.58	561.60
NDIRN Fees	234.87	15,831.00	-	-	6,500.00	9,489.27	76.60
Capital Projects Fund	118.02	243,215.43	619,000.00	-	792,000.00	70,235.00	98.45
Special Assessments-Co. Property	297.84	-	-	-	-	-	297.84
Drug Court	198.65	-	13,500.00	-	-	13,415.55	283.10
Water Rescue Team Fund	77.90	1,000.00	2,500.00	-	-	3,353.63	224.27
Special Response	48.31	1,500.00	1,000.00	-	-	2,514.39	33.92
County Agent	94,535.26	152,955.45	-	-	-	120,871.22	126,619.49
Veteran's Service Officer	141.33	66,691.41	-	-	1,500.00	54,080.04	11,252.70
Weed Control Levy	285,752.70	143,457.22	-	-	-	184,088.26	245,121.66
Public Health Fund	193,021.46	384,512.00	322,500.00	-	-	715,432.59	184,600.87
Home Health Care Holding Fund	75,038.12	202,824.17	130,000.00	-	-	338,192.74	69,669.55
Family Planning Fund	23,916.21	105,785.28	28,000.00	-	-	142,472.77	15,228.72
WIC Program Fund	751.67	71,637.99	-	-	-	71,787.19	602.47
Hazardous Chemicals Fund	11,738.00	3,175.00	-	-	-	5,011.48	9,901.52
Jail Concession Fund	54,376.05	31,329.75	-	-	-	19,094.17	66,611.63
Sobriety Test Fund	6,190.02	31,901.00	-	-	-	23,338.90	14,752.12
County Park	-	1,458.52	-	-	1,458.52	-	-
Sheriff-Counteract Fund	195.73	-	1,281.00	-	-	1,476.73	-
County Agent Special Account	3,936.62	969.53	-	-	-	3,196.07	1,710.08
Off-Book Activity	750.00	-	-	-	-	750.00	-
Total Nonmajor Special Revenue Funds	\$ 981,943.53	\$ 1,937,558.06	\$ 1,978,781.00	\$ -	\$ 904,458.52	\$ 3,006,553.18	\$ 987,270.89
Total Governmental Funds	\$ 6,553,466.11	\$ 18,569,933.99	\$ 2,812,114.52	\$ 1,208,925.00	\$ 2,812,114.52	\$ 17,939,371.33	\$ 8,392,953.77
Agency Funds:							
State Medical Center	\$ 426.34	\$ 81,830.87	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 81,990.38	\$ 266.83
Game and Fish	27,029.00	27,850.00	-	-	-	54,879.00	-
Three Rivers Crisis Center	-	4,217.20	-	-	-	4,217.20	-
Garrison Diversion	426.34	87,814.04	-	-	-	87,973.55	266.83
Domestic Violence	105.00	2,905.00	-	-	-	2,835.00	175.00
Township Share Gas & Oil Taxes	-	464,661.84	-	-	-	464,661.84	-
Telecommunications Tax Fund	-	185,292.44	-	-	-	185,292.44	-
State Aid Distribution	-	151,647.49	-	-	-	151,647.49	-
SEMCA Program Fund	1,090.82	236,804.19	-	-	-	226,121.30	11,773.71
ND State Income Tax W/H Fund	10,733.77	45,618.83	-	-	-	44,834.81	11,517.79
Senior Citizens	426.34	154,592.99	-	-	-	154,752.50	266.83
Historical Society	106.59	21,718.91	-	-	-	21,758.80	66.70
Soil Conservation District	426.34	84,197.96	-	-	-	84,357.47	266.83
Water Management Levy	1,705.29	350,596.90	-	-	-	351,234.79	1,067.40
Red River Joint Water Resource	852.70	168,877.85	-	-	-	169,196.83	533.72
Estimated Real Estate Tax	1,862.18	44,796.48	-	-	-	33,733.91	12,924.75
Taxes Paid in Advance	7,253,817.08	7,449,399.02	-	-	-	7,253,817.08	7,449,399.02
Total Cities	27,100.09	4,222,274.29	-	-	-	4,232,991.88	16,382.50
Total Park Districts	2,305.41	668,523.22	-	-	-	668,666.30	2,162.33

Continued on next page...

RICHLAND COUNTY
Wahpeton, North Dakota

SCHEDULE OF FUND ACTIVITY
ARISING FROM CASH TRANSACTIONS
For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

CONTINUED	Balance 1-1-16	Receipts	Transfers In	Other Financing Sources	Transfers Out	Disbursements	Balance 12-31-16
<u>Agency Funds: Continued</u>							
Total School Districts	\$ 44,504.20	\$ 9,390,254.52	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,402,610.32	\$ 32,148.40
Total Townships	6,375.26	1,417,299.37	-	-	-	1,419,454.20	4,220.43
County Drain Assessments	13,998.13	1,301,045.41	-	-	-	1,312,874.73	2,168.81
Total Fire Protection Districts	3,287.90	614,589.31	-	-	-	615,724.80	2,152.41
Total Ambulance Districts	866.93	160,797.14	-	-	-	161,126.68	537.39
Total Vector Districts	-	139.17	-	-	-	139.17	-
Total Agency Funds	\$ 7,397,445.71	\$ 27,337,744.44	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 27,186,892.47	\$ 7,548,297.68
Total Primary Government	\$ 13,950,911.82	\$ 45,907,678.43	\$ 2,812,114.52	\$ 1,208,925.00	\$ 2,812,114.52	\$ 45,126,263.80	\$ 15,941,251.45
<u>Component Unit:</u>							
Water Resource District	\$ 3,236,948.42	\$ 1,888,040.19	\$ 129,521.16	\$ -	\$ 129,521.16	\$ 1,921,451.93	\$ 3,203,536.68
Total Primary Government	\$ 17,187,860.24	\$ 47,795,718.62	\$ 2,941,635.68	\$ 1,208,925.00	\$ 2,941,635.68	\$ 47,047,715.73	\$ 19,144,788.13

RICHLAND COUNTY WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT
Wahpeton, North Dakota

SCHEDULE OF FUND ACTIVITY ARISING FROM CASH TRANSACTIONS
WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT
For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

	Balance 1-1-16	Receipts	Transfers In	Debt Proceeds	Transfers Out	Disbursements	Balance 12-31-16
General Fund	\$ 158,658.69	\$ 368,822.07	\$ 4,521.16	\$ -	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 259,787.88	\$ 147,214.04
Special Revenue Funds:							
Drain #1	\$ 56,272.93	\$ 3,720.54	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,702.70	\$ 56,290.77
Drain #2	111,334.33	52,069.55	-	-	-	41,369.42	122,034.46
Drain #3	95,201.21	33,295.45	-	-	-	5,963.96	122,532.70
Drain #4	6,148.00	64,300.03	-	-	-	24,379.27	46,068.76
Drain #5	266,866.63	110,424.02	-	-	-	41,617.42	335,673.23
Drain #7	37,502.02	60,827.65	-	-	-	11,910.51	86,419.16
Drain #10	38,518.01	14,772.75	-	-	-	13,391.63	39,899.13
Drain #12	199,036.64	57,528.18	-	-	-	192,342.09	64,222.73
Drain #14	233,181.86	92,961.96	-	-	-	65,472.61	260,671.21
Drain #15	156,847.35	36,694.86	-	-	-	148,986.88	44,555.33
Drain #17	19,437.82	9,548.68	-	-	-	37,290.96	(8,304.46)
Drain #18	34,619.58	24,798.53	-	-	-	4,370.50	55,047.61
Drain #19	19,889.00	3,045.80	-	-	-	19.02	22,915.78
Drain #26	18,521.45	13,916.50	-	-	-	11,204.74	21,233.21
Drain #31	339,956.82	147,569.42	-	-	-	79,569.34	407,956.90
Drain #34	7,024.00	10,201.28	-	-	-	11,955.14	5,270.14
Drain #35	15,002.57	4,449.26	-	-	-	842.07	18,609.76
Drain #39	211,342.29	61,497.84	-	-	-	243,330.94	29,509.19
Drain #41	6,036.23	14,907.10	-	-	-	15,493.00	5,450.33
Drain #48	(18,254.19)	6,845.13	-	-	-	938.04	(12,347.10)
Drain #55	30,441.51	21,689.93	-	-	-	3,838.05	48,293.39
Drain #58	30,615.32	13,259.84	-	-	-	25,379.03	18,496.13
Drain #62	50,209.62	14,371.61	-	-	-	1,949.29	62,631.94
Drain #63	8,497.13	14,908.52	-	-	-	9,694.79	13,710.86
Drain #65	198,493.36	81,161.88	-	-	-	9,613.14	270,042.10
Drain #66	124,886.26	22,802.64	-	-	-	40,802.52	106,886.38
Drain #67-8	142,490.86	43,119.89	-	-	-	10,140.86	175,469.89
Drain #72	113,617.71	78,506.20	-	-	-	46,680.81	145,443.10
Drain #95	89,335.76	105,203.24	-	-	-	(20,596.38)	215,135.38
Drain #97	29,599.18	4,502.25	-	-	-	5,425.30	28,676.13
Drain RS #1	236,015.27	244,567.59	-	-	-	510,923.37	(30,340.51)
Drain #SW2	10,940.24	-	-	-	-	16.15	10,924.09
Waterways	186,377.98	51,750.00	125,000.00	-	-	62,471.32	300,656.66
FEMA Administrative Fee	5,696.72	-	-	-	4,521.16	1,175.56	-
Total Special Revenue Funds	\$ 3,111,701.47	\$ 1,519,218.12	\$ 125,000.00	\$ -	\$ 4,521.16	\$ 1,661,664.05	\$ 3,089,734.38
Total All Funds	\$ 3,270,360.16	\$ 1,888,040.19	\$ 129,521.16	\$ -	\$ 129,521.16	\$ 1,921,451.93	\$ 3,236,948.42

STATE AUDITOR

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STATE CAPITOL
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BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA 58505

**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
Richland County
Wahpeton, North Dakota

We have audited, in accordance with the 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 Richland County, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Richland County's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated March 18, 2017.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

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

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified. We did identify one deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying *schedule of findings and questioned costs* that we consider to be a significant deficiency [2016-001].

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Richland County's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

RICHLAND COUNTY

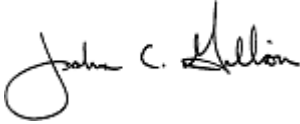
Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* - Continued

Richland County's Response to Findings

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

Purpose of this Report

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



Joshua C. Gallion
State Auditor

Fargo, North Dakota
March 18, 2017

RICHLAND COUNTY
Wahpeton, North Dakota

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

Section I - Summary of Auditor's Results

Financial Statements

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

Internal control over financial reporting:

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

Section II - Financial Statement Findings

2016-001 – LACK OF SEGREGATION OF DUTIES – WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT

Condition:

The Richland County WRD has one Secretary/Treasurer 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.

Criteria:

An accounting system should segregate the duties of authorizing transactions, posting of transactions, custody of assets, and reconciliation.

Effect:

The lack of segregation of duties in this key control area creates a higher risk that the financial statements could be misstated due to errors or fraud.

Recommendation:

Due to the size, complexity and the economic realities of Richland County Water Resource District, it is presently not feasible to obtain proper separation of duties. We recommend that if it becomes feasible to segregate duties in the future, that duties are segregated to the extent possible to reduce the potential risk of loss.

Views of Responsible Officials:

The Richland County Water Resource District agrees and will segregate duties as it becomes feasible.

STATE AUDITOR

JOSHUA C. GALLION
Phone (701) 328-2241
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Local Government Division:
FARGO OFFICE
MANAGER – DAVID MIX
Phone: (701) 239-7252 Fax: (701) 239-7251

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR
STATE CAPITOL
600 E. BOULEVARD AVENUE - DEPT. 117
BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA 58505

Board of County Commissioners
Richland County
Wahpeton, 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 Richland County, Wahpeton, North Dakota, for the year ended December 31, 2016 which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated March 18, 2017. Professional standards require that we provide you with the following information related to our audit.

OUR RESPONSIBILITY UNDER AUDITING STANDARDS GENERALLY ACCEPTED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

As stated in our engagement letter dated January 23, 2017, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to plan and perform our audit to obtain reasonable, but not absolute, assurance about whether the basic financial statements are free of material misstatement. Because of the concept of reasonable assurance and because we did not perform a detailed examination of all transactions, there is a risk that material errors, or fraud may exist and not be detected by us.

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

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

SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES/QUALITATIVE ASPECTS OF ACCOUNTING PRACTICES

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter, we will advise management about the appropriateness of accounting policies and their application. The significant accounting policies used by Richland County are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. We noted no transactions entered into by the governmental unit during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. There are no significant transactions that have been recognized in the financial statements in a different period than when the transaction occurred.

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

CORRECTED AND UNCORRECTED MISSTATEMENTS

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and report them to the appropriate level of management. None of the misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures were material, either individually or in the aggregate, to the financial statements taken as a whole.

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 March 18, 2017.

MANAGEMENT CONSULTATIONS WITH OTHER INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

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

DIFFICULTIES ENCOUNTERED IN PERFORMING THE AUDIT

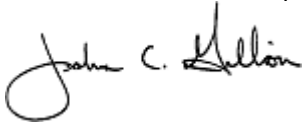
We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

OTHER AUDIT FINDINGS OR ISSUES

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

This information is intended solely for the use of the Board of County Commissioners and management of Richland County, 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 Richland 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 Richland County.



Joshua C. Gallion
State Auditor

Fargo, North Dakota
March 18, 2017

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