

Traill County Hillsboro, North Dakota

Audit Report

For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

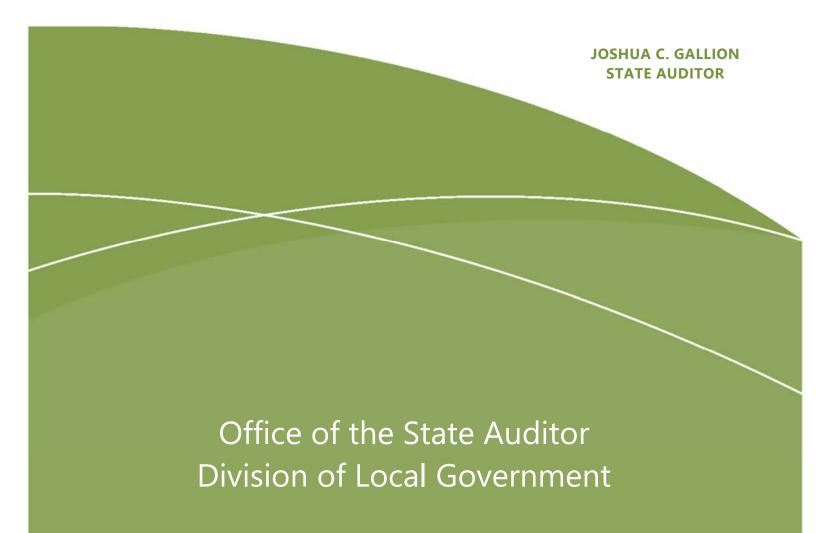


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COUNTY OFFICIALS

December 31, 2016

Kurt Elliott

Kendall Nesvig

Thomas Eblen Steven Larson Leslie Amb

Glenda Haugen Connie Weber Steven Hunt Marlene Eblen Stuart A. Larson Paulette Bowersox Chairperson

Vice Chairperson

Commissioner Commissioner Commissioner

Auditor Treasurer Sheriff County Recorder State's Attorney Clerk of District Court



Local Government Division: FARGO OFFICE MANAGER – DAVID MIX Phone: (701) 239-7252

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA 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 Traill County Hillsboro, North Dakota

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Traill County, Hillsboro, 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 did not audit the financial statements of the Traill County Water Resource District, which represent 96 percent, 97 percent, and 79 percent, and the Traill County Economic Development Commission, which represent 1 percent, 1 percent, and 7 percent, of the assets and deferred outflows, net position, and revenues of the aggregate discretely presented component units, respectively. Those statements were audited by other auditors whose reports also have been furnished to us, and in our opinion insofar as it relates to the amounts included for the Traill County Water Resource District and the Traill County Economic Development Commission, is based solely on the report of the other auditors. 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, based on our audit and the reports of other auditors, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Traill County, Hillsboro, North Dakota, as of December 31, 2016, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in conformity 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 35-44 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 and other auditors 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 Traill 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 basic financial statements.

The schedule of fund activity arising from cash transactions is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America by us and other auditors. 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.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated November 21, 2017 on our consideration of Traill 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 Traill County's internal control over financial.

/S/

Joshua C. Gallion State Auditor

Fargo, North Dakota November 21, 2017

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION December 31, 2016

	G	Primary Sovernment	C	Com	ponent Uni	ts	
	G	overnmental Activities	Water Resource District		District Health Unit	De	Economic evelopment ommission
ASSETS Cash, and cash equivalents Intergovernmental receivable Accounts receivable Due from county	\$	4,428,897 253,152 14,709	\$ 3,520,945 - - -	\$	281,065 14,219 1,000 278	\$	103,632 - - -
Interest receivable Taxes receivable		- 69,991	2,765		- 2,534		696 2,204
Special assessments - uncertified Special assessments - certified Special assessments - including liens		-	3,053,198 543,028 33,711		-		-
Economic development loans receivable Prepaid rent		-	-		-		74,161 700
Capital Assets (not being depreciated): Land Construction in progress Capital Assets (being depreciated):		15,822 2,587,466	1,466,986 1,420,034		-		-
Machinery and equipment Office equipment Technology		1,545,328 1,637 -	11,399 - -		- -		- - 384
Vehicles Buildings Infrastructure		193,518 1,326,201 18,049,413	4,975,354		15,299 - -		-
Total Capital Assets Total Assets	<u>\$</u>	23,719,385	\$ 7,873,773 \$ 15,027,420	\$ ¢	15,299	\$	384 181,777
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES Pension	<u> </u>	28,486,134	\$ 15,027,420 \$ 28,824	\$	<u>314,395</u> 40,220	\$ \$	24,287
Total Assets and Deferred Outflows of Resources		29,233,583	\$ 15,056,244	\$	354,615	\$	206,064
<u>LIABILITIES</u> Accounts payable Salaries payable	\$	286,672 39,066	\$ 164,635 -	\$	- 4,433	\$	3,009
Other liability Grants received in advance Retainages payable Long-Term Liabilities:		- 29,491 228,523	1,781 - -		104 - -		- - -
Due Within One Year: Sinking fund bonds payable Compensated absences payable Due After One Year:		- 12,389	617,699 -		- 838		- -
Sinking fund bonds payable Compensated absences payable		111,506	4,700,467		7,544		-
Net pension liability Total Liabilities	\$	2,635,310 3,342,957	101,426 \$ 5,586,008	\$	154,649 167,568	\$	85,552 88,561
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES Pension	\$	230,909	\$ 13,317	\$	21,081	\$	7,496
Total Liabilities & Deferred Inflows of Resources	\$	3,573,866	\$ 5,599,325	\$	188,649	\$	96,057
NET POSITION Invested in capital assets, net of related debt Restricted for:	\$	23,719,385	\$ 2,555,607	\$	15,299	\$	384
Debt service Capital projects Highways and bridges		676 913,819 815,581	-		-		- -
Health and welfare Culture and recreation Conservation of natural resources		19,717 9,860 51,262	-		150,667 - -		-
Emergencies Economic development Revolving loans		440,380 - -	-		- -		- 34,766 74,857
Maintenance and construction projects Unrestricted		- (310,963)	7,061,154 (159,842)		-		-
Total Net Position	\$	25,659,717	\$ 9,456,919	\$	165,966	\$	110,007

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

							Ν	let (Expense) F Changes in N			
							Primary	Changes in N			
		P	rogra	am Reven	ues		Government	C	omponent Ur	nits	
				perating		Capital		Water			conomic
	_	Charges for				Frants and	Governmental	Resource	District		velopment
Functions/Programs	Expenses	Services	Cor	ntributions	Сс	ontributions	Activities	District	Health Unit	Co	mmission
Primary Government: Governmental Activities:											
General government	\$ 2,161,413	\$ 48,177	¢	30,435	¢	_	\$ (2,082,801)				
Public safety	1,091,073	610,919	Ψ	27,185	Ψ	-	(452,969)				
Highways and bridges	2,485,698	91,783	1	1,160,167		1,744,993	511,245				
Flood repair	101,693	-		101,693		-	-				
Health and welfare	1,106,817	-		298,661		-	(808,156)				
Culture and recreation	17,313	-		-		-	(17,313)				
Conserv. of natural resources	167,229	10,781		-		-	(156,448)				
Interest on long-term debt	1,838	-		-		-	(1,838)				
Total Governmental Activities	<u>\$ 7,133,074</u>	\$ 761,660	\$ 1	1,618,141	\$	1,744,993	\$ (3,008,280)				
Component Units:											
Water resource district	\$ 1,038,215	\$ 254,168	\$	-	\$	467,319		\$ (316,728)		\$	-
District health unit	317,927	29,043		18,896		-		-	(269,988)		-
Economic develop. commission	191,818	-		26,036		-		-	-		(165,782)
Total Component Units	\$ 1,547,960	\$ 283,211	\$	44,932	\$	467,319		\$ (316,728)	\$ (269,988)	\$	(165,782)
	General Reve	nues:									
	Taxes:						• (• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	* · • · • • · -	• · • = • · ·	•	
	Property taxe						\$ 1,886,993	\$1,012,845	\$ 185,844	\$	-
	Property taxe	,			es		2,832,355	-	-		138,626
	Property taxe Non restricted						81,374 759,941	-	- 76,522		-
	Other general		onui	DULIONS			7 59,94 1	- 54,432	70,522		-
	Unrestricted in		rninc	10			9,263	4,482	- 147		1,898
	Miscellaneous		ič	JJ			122,595	-,+02	461		3,524
	mooonariooda	rovondo					122,000		101		0,021
	Total General	Revenues					\$ 5,692,521	\$1,071,759	\$ 262,974	\$	144,048
	Change in Ne	t Position					\$ 2,684,241	\$ 755,031	\$ (7,014)	\$	(21,734)
	Net Position -	January 1					\$ 22,975,476	\$8,701,888	\$ 172,980	\$	131,741
	Net Position -	December 3	1				\$ 25,659,717	\$9,456,919	\$ 165,966	\$	110,007

BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS December 31, 2016

December	U 1,	20	10

	Ge	neral	N	arm to larket Road		County Road		lighway Tax stribution		Human Services		Capital rovements	Go	Other overnmental Funds	Go	Total overnmental Funds
ASSETS Cash and investments Intergovernmental receivable Accounts receivable	•	87,086 57,907 -	\$1,4	424,048 32,254 -	\$	64,833 6,829 -	\$	527,988 80,072 -	\$	134,648 41,835 -	\$	894,542 - -	\$	1,045,752 34,255 14,709	\$	4,428,897 253,152 14,709
Taxes receivable	2	20,029		14,982		3,447		-		11,046		-		20,487		69,991
Total Assets	\$ 41	15,022	\$1,4	471,284	\$	75,109	\$	608,060	\$	187,529	\$	894,542	\$	1,115,203	\$	4,766,749
LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES Liabilities:					•	- /	•		•							
Accounts payable Salaries payable	•	15,040 10,896	\$	82,391	\$	51,973	\$	30,378	\$	1,638 4,669	\$	103,129	\$	2,123 23,501	\$	286,672 39,066
Grants received in advance		-		-		-		-		-		-		29,491		29,491
Total Liabilities	\$ 2	25,936	\$	82,391	\$	51,973	\$	30,378	\$	6,307	\$	103,129	\$	55,115	\$	355,229
Deferred Inflows of Resources: Taxes receivable	\$ 2	20,029	\$	14,982	\$	3,447	\$	-	\$	11,046	\$	-	\$	20,487	\$	69,991
Total Liabilities and Deferred Inflows of Resources	\$ 4	15,965	\$	97,373	\$	55,420	\$	30,378	\$	17,353	\$	103,129	\$	75,602	\$	425,220
<u>Fund Balances:</u> <u>Restricted for:</u> Capital projects	\$		\$		\$		\$		\$		\$	791,413	\$	122.406	\$	913.819
Public safety	φ	-	φ	-	φ	-	φ	-	φ	-	φ	191,413	φ	231,283	φ	231,283
Highways and bridges		-	1,3	373,911		19,689		577,682		-		-		119,259		2,090,541
Health and welfare		-		-		-		-		170,176		-		244		170,420
Culture and recreation Conservation of natural resources		-		-		-		-		-		-		12,340		12,340
Emergencies		-		-		-		-		-		-		82,549 438,934		82,549 438,934
Other purposes & general government		-		-		-		-		_				32,586		32,586
<u>Unassigned</u>	36	69,057		-		-		-		-		-				369,057
Total Fund Balances	\$ 36	69,057	\$1,3	373,911	\$	19,689	\$	577,682	\$	170,176	\$	791,413	\$	1,039,601	\$	4,341,529
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balances	\$ 41	15,022	\$1,4	471,284	\$	75,109	\$	608,060	\$	187,529	\$	894,542	\$	1,115,203	\$	4,766,749

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

Total Fund Balances for Governmental Funds		\$ 4,341,529
Total <i>net position</i> reported for government activities in the statement of net position is different because:		
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.		
Cost of Capital Assets Less Accumulated Depreciation	\$29,311,583 (5,592,198)	23,719,385
Property taxes and road receivables will be collected after year-end, but are not available soon enough to pay for the current period's expenditures and, therefore, are reported as deferred revenues in the funds.		
Property Taxes Receivable		69,991
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 Deferred Inflows Related to Pensions	\$ 747,449 (230,909)	516,540
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 expenditure when due. All liabilities-both current and long-term- are reported in the statement of net position. Balances at December 31, 2015 are:		
Compensated Absences Payable Retainage Payable Net Pension Liability	\$ (123,895) (228,523) (2,635,310)	 (2,987,728
Total Net Position of Governmental Activities		\$ 25,659,717

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

	General	Farm to Market Road	County Road and Bridge	Highway Tax Distribution	Human Services	Capital Improvements	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
<u>Revenues:</u> Taxes Intergovernmental Charges for services Licenses, permits and fees	\$ 1,869,601 306,500 193,577 355	\$ 1,146,274 2,171,238 -	\$ 220,252 32,364 -	\$- 887,264 -	\$ 736,946 412,033 -	\$ - - -	\$ 831,302 313,676 570,459	\$ 4,804,375 4,123,075 764,036 355
Interest income Miscellaneous	5,879 88,711	187 -	-	-	-	321	2,876 33,884	9,263 122,595
Total Revenues	\$ 2,464,623	\$ 3,317,699	\$ 252,616	\$ 887,264	\$1,148,979	\$ 321	\$ 1,752,197	\$ 9,823,699
<u>Expenditures:</u> Current:								
General government Public safety	\$ 2,100,418 556,412	-	\$ - -	\$ - -	\$-	\$ - -	\$- 501,742	\$ 2,100,418 1,058,154
Highways and bridges Flood repairs and maintenance Health and welfare	-	2,578,475	194,379 -	874,825	- - 1,055,776	-	754,657 101,693 41,544	4,402,336 101,693 1,097,320
Culture and recreation Conserv. of natural resources Capital outlay	- 13,961 5,000 -	-	-	-	- - -	- - 359,404	- 160,208 -	13,961 165,208 359,404
Debt Service: Principal Interest and fees	146,000 1,838	-	-	-	-	-	-	146,000 1,838
Total Expenditures	\$ 2,823,629	\$ 2,578,475	\$ 194,379	\$ 874,825	\$1,055,776	\$ 359,404	\$ 1,559,844	\$ 9,446,332
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	\$ (359,006)	\$ 739,224	\$ 58,237	\$ 12,439	\$ 93,203	\$ (359,083)	\$ 192,353	\$ 377,367
<u>Other Financing Sources (Uses):</u> Transfers in Transfers out	\$ - -	\$ - -	\$ - -	\$ - -	\$ - -	\$ - -	\$ 75,000 (75,000)	\$ 75,000 (75,000)
Total Other Financing Sources and Uses	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$-	\$
Net Change in Fund Balances	\$ (359,006)	\$ 739,224	\$ 58,237	\$ 12,439	\$ 93,203	\$ (359,083)	\$ 192,353	\$ 377,367
Fund Balances - January 1	\$ 728,063	\$ 634,687	\$ (38,548)	\$ 565,243	\$ 76,973	\$ 1,150,496	\$ 847,248	\$ 3,964,162
Fund Balances - December 31	\$ 369,057	\$ 1,373,911	\$ 19,689	\$ 577,682	\$ 170,176	\$ 791,413	\$ 1,039,601	\$ 4,341,529

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		\$ 377,367
The change in <i>net position</i> 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 contribution exceeded depreciation in the current year.		
Current Year Capital Outlay Capital Contributions to Infrastructure Current Year Depreciation Expense	\$ 1,421,932 1,744,993 (800,977)	2,365,948
The proceeds of debt issuances are reporting as financing sources in governmental funds and thus contribute to the change in fund balance. In the statement on net position, issuing debt increases long-term liabilities and does not affect the statement of activities. Repayment of debt principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position. This is the amount of debt repayment.		
Repayment of Debt - Loans		146,000
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 Increase in Retainage Payable	\$ (52) (63,460)	(63,512)
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. This consists of the decrease in taxes receivable and road receivables.		
Decrease in Taxes Receivable Decrease in Road Department Receivables	\$ (3,653) (2,731)	(6,384)
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 Increase in Deferred Outflows of Resources Related to Pensions Increase in Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions	\$ (714,502) 595,758 (16,434)	(135,178)
Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities		\$2,684,241

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

	Agency Funds
Assets: Cash and investments	\$ 5,067,493
Liabilities: Due to other governments/entities	\$ 5,067,493

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS December 31, 2016

NOTE 1: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

A. Reporting Entity

The accompanying financial statements present the activities of Traill County. The county has considered all potential component units for which the county is financially accountable and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationships with the county such that exclusion would cause the county's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. This criteria includes appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body and (1) the ability of Traill County to impose its will on that organization or (2) the potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on Traill County.

Based on these criteria, there are four component units to be included within Traill County as a reporting entity.

Component Units

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

<u>Blended Component Unit</u>: Blended component units, although legally separate entities, are, in substance, part of the government's operations and so data from these units are combined with data of the primary government.

<u>County Park</u> - The Traill County Park is governed by substantively the same governing board as the county. The County Park does not have the right to sue in its own name without recourse to the county. Therefore the County Park is reported as if it were part of the county's operations.

<u>Aggregate Discretely Presented Component Units</u>: The component units' column in the basic financial statements includes the financial data of the county's three component units. These units are reported in separate columns to emphasize that they are legally separate from the county.

<u>Traill County District Health Unit</u> - The County's governing board appoints a voting majority of the members of the Health District Board. The County has the authority to approve or modify the Health District operational and capital budgets. The County's governing board must approve the tax levy established by the Health District.

<u>Traill County Water Resource District</u> - The County's governing board appoints a voting majority of the members of the Traill County Water Resource District Board. The county has the authority to approve or modify the Water Resource District operational and capital budgets. The county also must approve the tax levy established by the Water Resource District. The financial statements of the Water Resource District are audited by other auditors and a separate standalone audit report is issued. A complete audit report may be obtained from Brady Martz, Certified Public Accountants and Consultants, 401 Demers Avenue Suite 300 P.O. Box 14296, Grand Forks, North Dakota, 58208-4296.

<u>Traill County Economic Development Commission</u> - The County's governing board appoints a voting majority of the members of the Economic Development Commission Board. The County has the authority to approve or modify the Economic Development Commission's operational and capital budgets. The County's governing board must approve the tax levy established by the Economic Development Commission are audited by other auditors and a separate standalone audit report is issued. A complete audit report may be obtained from Overmoe & Nelson, LTD, Certified Public Accountants, 200 1st Avenue North, Grand Forks, North Dakota, 58206.

<u>Component Unit Financial Statements</u>: The financial statements of the aggregately discretely presented component units are presented in the County's basic financial statements and are presented in accordance with GAAP. Complete financial statements of the Health District component unit can be obtained from the Traill County Auditor at P.O. Box 429, Hillsboro, North Dakota, 58045 or as noted above for the Water Resource District and Economic Development Commission.

B. Basis of Presentation

Government-wide statements: The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the primary government, Traill County and its component units. 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 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 and non-restricted grants and contributions, are presented as general revenues.

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

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.

Farm to Market Road Fund. This fund accounts for repair and improvement of highways and bridges that are legally restricted from taxes levied.

County Road Fund. This fund accounts for repair and improvement of highways and bridges that are legally restricted from taxes levied.

Highway Tax Distribution Fund. This fund accounts for repair and improvement of highways that are legally restricted from highway tax distribution from the state.

Human Services Fund. This fund accounts for financial resources related to health and welfare for needy residents of the county that are legally restricted from taxes levied and restricted intergovernmental grants/reimbursements

Capital Improvements Fund. This fund accounts for capital projects incurred by the county.

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 primarily to account for property taxes collected on behalf of other governments.

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

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

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

Under the terms of grant agreements, the County funds certain programs by a combination of specific cost-reimbursement grants and general revenues. Thus, when program expenses are incurred, there is 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 \$2,500. 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
Land	Indefinite
Buildings	25 - 100
Machinery and Equipment	5 - 20
Infrastructure	40
Vehicles	3 - 20
Office Equipment	3 - 15

Discretely Presented Component Units

Traill County Health District:

Capital assets of the Traill County Health District, a discretely presented component unit of Traill County, consist of a vehicle. Capital assets are reported at historical cost, or estimated historical cost for assets where actual historical cost is not available. 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. The capitalization threshold used is \$5,000 per item for all capital assets. The Health District uses the County capitalization threshold and method, but uses the following estimated use lives for depreciation:

Assets	Years
Vehicles	5 - 7
Office Equipment	3 - 5

Traill County Economic Development Commission:

Capital assets of the Traill County Economic Development Commission, a discretely presented component unit of Traill County, are reported at historical cost, or estimated historical cost if historical cost is not available. Capital assets are updated for additions and retirements during the year. Donated capital assets are valued at their estimated fair market value on the date received. The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend asset lives are not capitalized. All reported capital assets are depreciated except for construction in progress, and deposits on undelivered equipment. The commission maintains a \$700 capitalization threshold for office equipment and technology. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

Assets	Years
Technology	3
Office Equipment	7

Traill County Water Resource District:

Capital assets of the Traill County Water Resource District, a discretely presented component unit of Traill County, are reported at historical cost, or estimated historical cost for assets where actual historical cost is not available. Donated assets are reported as capital assets at their estimated fair market value at the date of donation. The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend asset lives are not capitalized. Capital assets are recorded in the government wide financial statements in a discretely presented component unit column. Capital assets are depreciated using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives. Useful lives vary from 5 to 7 years for equipment and vehicles. Useful lives of land improvements are 50 years. Capital assets not being depreciated include land.

F. Compensated Absences

Vacation leave is earned at the rate of one to two days per month depending on years of service. For non-social service employees up to 80 hours of vacation leave may be carried over at December 31 of each year. Sick leave benefits are earned at the rate of one day per month regardless of the years of service. Up to 800 hours of sick leave hours may be carried over and employees are paid for one-tenth of their accumulated sick leave at retirement to a limit of 800 hours. On December 31st of each year if an employee has accumulated 880 hours of sick leave or more, the employee may trade 80 hours of sick leave for 8 hours of vacation. For social services employees up to 240 hours of vacation leave may be carried over at year-end. A liability for the vested or accumulated vacation and sick leave is reported in government-wide statement of net position.

Vacation leave is earned as follows:

Years of Service	Hours Per Month
1 through 3 years	8
4 through 7 years	10
8 through 12 years	12
13 through 18 years	14
19 years and above	16

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. 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

Fund Balance

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 Traill 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.

Major Special Revenue Fund Purposes & Revenue Sources:

Purposes and major revenue sources of the major special revenue funds 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	Inventories, prepaid amounts
	(a) not in spendable form or (b) legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.	(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.

Traill County only has restricted and unassigned fund balances at December 31, 2016.

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 debt service, capital projects, public safety, highways and bridges, health and welfare, culture and recreation, conservation of natural resources, emergencies, and other purposes & general government. 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.

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.

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

Net investment in capital assets is reported for capital assets less accumulated depreciation. The resources needed to repay this related debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets are not used to liquidate these liabilities. 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 shown by primary function and is restricted for capital projects, public safety, highways and bridges, health and welfare, culture and recreation, conservation of natural resources, emergencies, and other purposes & general government (health insurance, insurance reserve, veteran's service officer, and social security).

J. Special Assessments

Special assessments of the Traill County Water Resource District are certified to Traill County each year for collection in the following year.

Special assessments are levied to landowners who own property on that area that a project is taking place. Special assessments are recognized as revenue in the government wide financial statements in the year that the special assessment begins.

NOTE 2: DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

In accordance with North Dakota Statutes, Traill 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 district, park district, or other political subdivision of the state of North Dakota. Whether payable from special revenues or supported by the full faith and credit of the issuing body and bonds issued by 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 \$9,060,749 and the bank balances totaled \$9,077,845. Of the bank balances, deposits totaling \$4,482,525 were held at the Bank of North Dakota that are backed by the full faith and credit of the state of North Dakota and do not require pledges, \$1,697,979 was covered by Federal Depository Insurance, and 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 District Health Unit's carrying amount of deposits was \$281,064 and bank balances totaled \$284,726, all of which were covered by Federal Depository Insurance.

At year ended December 31, 2016, the Economic Development Commission's carrying amount of deposits was \$103,632, and the bank balances totaled \$108,781, all of which were covered by Federal Depository Insurance.

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, Traill County had certificates of deposit totaling \$99,111, the District Health Unit had certificates of deposit totaling \$94,206, and the Economic Development Commission had certificates of deposit totaling \$73,886.

Interest Rate Risk:

The County and its component units do not have a formal deposit policy that limits maturities as a means of managing exposure to fair losses arising from increasing interest rates.

Concentration of Credit Risk:

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

NOTE 3: INTERGOVERNMENTAL RECEIVABLE

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

NOTE 4: ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

Accounts receivable consists of amounts due for fees and services provided.

NOTE 5: ROAD ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

Road accounts receivable consist of amounts due for road work for townships, cities and private citizens.

NOTE 6: TAXES RECEIVABLE

The taxes receivable represents the past four 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 7: LOANS RECEIVABLE

Traill County Economic Development Commission:

The Traill County Economic Development Commission had the following activity in Economic Development loans receivable during fiscal year 2016.

	Ba	Balance January 1		Loans		Loan	Balance		
	Ja			January 1 Issued		ssued	Re	payments	December 31
Paddlewheel (L. Morris)	\$	2,135	\$	-	\$	2,135	\$	-	
Buxton Daycare		560		-		560		-	
Chad's Excavating (3.75%)		6,768		-		-		6,768	
Hillsboro Body Shop (5.25%)		9,988		-		6,070		3,918	
Maertens Welding & Machine (5.50%)				13,000		1,003		11,997	
Wallgren Morehouse - Tot Spot (2.50%)				13,000		1,522		11,478	
Hillsboro Economic Development (1.50%)				40,000		-		40,000	
Total	\$	19,451	\$	66,000	\$	11,290	\$	74,161	

Concentration of Credit Risk:

The Commission participates in numerous unsecured economic development loans. These loans are generally to small local start-up business located within Traill County. The risk of non-payment is significant due to the economic climate in the small rural communities that are located in the county. The Commission attempts to limit its risk by limiting the loan amounts per business to a relatively small amount, although there is no formal policy limiting the amount of exposure to any one client.

NOTE 8: CAPITAL ASSETS

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

	Γ	Balance							Balance
Primary Government:		January 1	- h	ncreases	De	creases	Transfers	D	ecember 31
Governmental Activities:									
Capital assets not being depreciated:									
Land	\$	15,822	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	\$	15,822
Construction Progress		2,677,101		2,636,832		-	(2,726,467)		2,587,466
Total Capital Assets, not being depreciated	\$	2,692,923	\$	2,636,832	\$	-	\$ (2,726,467)	\$	2,603,288
Capital assets being depreciated:									
Machinery and Equipment	\$	2,967,744	\$	265,136	\$	135,000	\$ -	\$	3,097,880
Office Equipment		258,584		-		5,690	-		252,894
Vehicles		918,224		78,020		24,113	-		972,131
Buildings		1,918,873		-		-	-		1,918,873
Infrastructure		17,553,113		186,937		-	2,726,467		20,466,517
Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated	\$	23,616,538	\$	530,093	\$	164,803	\$ 2,726,467	\$	26,708,295
Less Accumulated Depreciation for:									
Machinery and Equipment	\$	1,517,369	\$	170,183	\$	135,000	\$ -	\$	1,552,552
Office Equipment		251,309		5,638		5,690	-		251,257
Vehicles		730,009		72,717		24,113	-		778,613
Buildings		551,896		40,776		-	-		592,672
Infrastructure		1,905,441		511,663		-	-		2,417,104
Total Accumulated Depreciation	\$	4,956,024	\$	800,977	\$	164,803	\$ -	\$	5,592,198
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated, Net	\$	18,660,514	\$	(270,884)	\$	-	\$ 2,726,467	\$	21,116,097
Governmental Activities- Capital Assets, Net	\$	21,353,437	\$	2,365,948	\$	-	\$ -	\$	23,719,385

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

Governmental Activities:	A	mounts
General Government	\$	29,276
Public Safety		30,721
Highways and Bridges		733,594
Health and Welfare		4,241
Culture and Recreation		3,145
Total Depreciation Expense-Governmental Activities	\$	800,977

Traill County Water Resource District:

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

		Balance						Balance
Traill County Water Resource District	.	January 1	h	ncreases	De	creases	De	cember 31
Governmental Activities:								
Capital assets not being depreciated:								
Land	\$	1,112,644	\$	354,342	\$	-	\$	1,466,986
Construction Progress		326,140		1,448,659		354,765		1,420,034
Total Capital Assets, not being depreciated	\$	1,438,784	\$	1,803,001	\$	354,765	\$	2,887,020
Capital assets being depreciated:								
Equipment	\$	83,336	\$	-	\$	-	\$	83,336
Infrastructure		5,372,112		354,765		-		5,726,877
Total Capital Assets, Being Depreciated	\$	5,455,448	\$	354,765	\$	-	\$	5,810,213
Less Accumulated Depreciation for:								
Equipment	\$	65,808	\$	6,129	\$	-	\$	71,937
Infrastructure		642,122		109,401		-		751,523
Total Accumulated Depreciation	\$	707,930	\$	115,530	\$	-	\$	823,460
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated, Net	\$	4,747,518	\$	239,235	\$	-	\$	4,986,753
Governmental Activities- Capital Assets, Net	\$	6,186,302	\$	2,042,236	\$	354,765	\$	7,873,773

Traill County Health District:

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

	B	alance					B	alance
Traill County District Health Unit	Ja	nuary 1	In	creases	Dec	creases	Dec	ember 31
Governmental Activities:								
Capital assets being depreciated:								
Vehicles	\$	25,498	\$	-	\$	-	\$	25,498
Less Accumulated Depreciation for:								
Vehicles	\$	7,649	\$	2,550	\$	-	\$	10,199
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated, Net	\$	17,849	\$	(2,550)	\$	-	\$	15,299

Traill County Economic Development Commission:

The following is a summary of changes in capital assets for the Traill County Economic Development Commission, a discretely presented component unit of Traill County, for the year ended December 31, 2016.

	В	alance					E	Balance
Traill County Economic Development Comm.	Ja	nuary 1	Inc	creases	Dee	creases	De	cember 31
Governmental Activities:								
Capital assets being depreciated:								
Vehicles	\$	24,402	\$	-	\$	-	\$	24,402
Less Accumulated Depreciation for:								
Vehicles	\$	23,251	\$	767	\$	-	\$	24,018
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated, Net	\$	1,151	\$	(767)	\$	-	\$	384

NOTE 9: DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES

Deferred outflows of resources in the government wide financial statements consist of amounts related to pensions.

NOTE 10: ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Accounts payable consists of amounts on open account for goods and services received prior to December 31, 2016 and chargeable to the appropriations for the years then ended, but paid for subsequent to that date.

NOTE 11: SALARIES PAYABLE

Salaries payable consists of amounts earned by employees prior to year-end, but paid subsequent to year-end.

NOTE 12: 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, this includes amounts related to pensions. Deferred inflows of resources in the balance sheet represent the amount of uncollected taxes and road receivables 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 are measurable but not available.

NOTE 13: RETAINAGES PAYABLE

Retainages payable consists of amounts withheld on construction projects in progress at yearend that will not be paid until the end of the construction projects.

NOTE 14: GRANTS RECEIVED IN ADVANCE

Unearned revenue consists of funds received in the FEMA fund where the eligibility requirements have not all been met at December 31, 2016. Asset recognition criteria have been met, but revenue recognition criteria have not been met.

NOTE 15: LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

Primary Government:

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

	Balance			Balance	Due Within
Primary Government	January 1	Increases	Decreases	December 31	One Year
Loans Payable	\$ 146,000	\$-	\$ 146,000	\$-	\$-
Compensated Absences *	123,843	52	-	123,895	12,389
Net Pension Liability*	1,920,808	714,502	-	2,635,310	-
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 2,190,651	\$ 714,554	\$ 146,000	\$ 2,759,205	\$ 12,389

* 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.

DISCRETELY PRESENTED COMPONENT UNITS:

Traill County Water Resource District:

<u>Changes in Long-Term Liabilities</u> - During the year ended December 31, 2016, the following changes occurred in governmental long-term liabilities of the District:

	Balance			Balance	Due Within
Water Resource District	January 1	Increases	Decreases	December 31	One Year
Bonds Payable	\$3,945,000	\$1,945,000	\$ 532,696	\$ 5,357,304	\$ 620,866
Bond Discounts	(32,120)	(10,446)	3,428	(39,138)	(3,167)
Net Pension Liability*	77,674	23,752	-	101,426	-
Total Governmental Activities	\$3,990,554	\$1,958,306	\$ 536,124	\$ 5,419,592	\$ 617,699

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

Outstanding debt (excluding compensated absences and leases payable) at December 31, 2016 for the Water Resource District governmental activities consists of the following individual issues.

Sinking Fund Bonds:

g	
Traill County Drains #6, #17a, #23-40, #30 lateral #62 - \$960,000 Refunding Improvement Bonds of 2014 due in annual installments of \$45,000 to \$70,000 through May 1, 2028, interest payable semiannually at 0.65 percent to 3.25 percent.	\$ 775,000
Traill County Drain #5 - \$560,000 Refunding Improvement Bonds of 2014 due in annual installments of \$40,000 through May 1, 2029, interest payable semiannually at 1.65 percent to 3.15 percent	520,000
Traill County Drains #9, #18, #29, #13, #30, #58, #6 - #1,325,000 Refunding Improvement Bonds of 2009 due in annual installments of \$125,000 to \$160,000 through May 1, 2018, interest payable semiannually at 1.75 percent to 3.3 percent.	285,000
Moen Drain Reconstruction Refunding Improvement Bond of 2015 due in annual installments of \$140,000 to \$150,000 through May 1, 2021, interest payable semiannually at 0.65 percent to 1.55 percent.	735,000
Traill County Water Drains #80 and #28 Improvement Bonds of 2015 due in annual installments of \$25,000 to \$40,000 through May 1, 2029, interest payable semiannually at 1.30 percent to 3.00 percent.	455,000
Bloomfield 46, Christopherson 50, Garfield 32, Roseville 19 – 2015 Maintenance Bonds due in semiannual installments of \$6,187 to \$7,167 through September 15, 2021, interest payable semiannually at 3.25 percent.	67,304
Norway #38 - \$680,000 G.O. Refunding Bonds of 2004 payable in annual installments of \$25,000 to \$45,000 through May 1, 2019, with interest payable semiannually at 2.00 percent to 4.75 percent	90,000
Steenerson-Leirness \$34-20 Drainage System Improvement Bonds Series 2008 due in annual installments of \$55,000 - \$80,000 through May 1, 2023, interest payable semiannually at 2.50 percent to 5.00 percent.	485,000
Buxton & Thoreson Drainage System Improvement Bonds Series 2016 due in annual installments of \$75,000 - \$115,000 through May 1, 2036, interest payable semi annually at 0.8 percent to 3.25 percent.	 1,945,000
Total Water Resource District – Sinking Fund Bonds	\$ 5,357,304

Debt service requirements on long-term debt for the water resource district governmental activities for loans and bonds payable at December 31, 2016 are as follows:

WRD - GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES								
Year Ending	Bonds Payable							
December 31	Principal	Interest						
2017	\$ 617,699	\$ 123,626						
2018	603,115	117,795						
2019	478,544	104,536						
2020	463,986	94,201						
2021	463,960	84,411						
2022 - 2026	1,330,000	299,252						
2027 - 2031	885,000	146,660						
2032 - 2036	515,000	51,275						
Totals	\$ 5,357,304	\$ 1,021,756						

Health District:

<u>Changes in Long-Term Liabilities</u> – During the year ended December 31, 2016; the following changes occurred in governmental activities long-term liabilities for the Traill County Health District:

	E	Balance					Balance		Due Within	
District Health Unit	Ja	anuary 1	In	creases	De	creases	Dec	ember 31	One	Year
Compensated Absences *	\$	8,067	\$	315	\$	-	\$	8,382	\$	838
Net Pension Liability*		118,473		36,176		-		154,649		-
Total Governmental Activities	\$	126,540	\$	36,491	\$	-	\$	163,031	\$	838

* 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.

Economic Development Commission:

<u>Changes in Long-Term Liabilities</u> – During the year ended December 31, 2016; the following changes occurred in governmental activities long-term liabilities for the Traill County Economic Development Commission:

	Balance			Balance	Due Within
Econ. Dev. Commission	January 1	Increases	Decreases	December 31	One Year
Net Pension Liability*	\$ 63,756	\$ 21,796	\$-	\$ 85,552	\$ -

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

NOTE 16: 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:

	Tra	nsfers In	Transfers Out		
Special Revenue Funds:					
Emergency 911	\$	75,000	\$	-	
E911 Wireless		-		75,000	
Total Transfers	\$	75,000	\$	75,000	

NOTE 17: 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.

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, Traill County reported a liability of \$2,635,310 for its proportionate share of net pension liability, Traill County Water Resource District reported a liability of \$101,426, Traill County District Health Unit reported a liability of \$154,649, and Traill County Economic Development Commission reported a liability of \$85,552. 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 plan relative to the covered payroll of all participating Main System employers. At June 30, 2016, the Traill County's proportion was 0.270400 percent, Traill County Water Resource District's proportion was 0.01041 percent, Traill County District Health Unit's proportion was 0.15868 percent, and Traill County Economic Development Commission's proportion was 0.008778 percent, which was a decrease of 0.012079, 0.00101, 0.001555 percent, and .000094 percent, respectively, from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2015.

For the year ended December 31, 2016, the Traill County recognized pension expense of \$334,117, Traill County Water Resource District recognized pension expense of \$11,787, Traill County District Health Unit recognized pension expense of \$17,956, and Traill County Economic Development Commission recognized pension expense of \$10,847. At December 31, 2016, the Employer reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Defe	erred Outflows	Defe	erred Inflows
Main System - Primary Government	o	f Resources	of	Resources
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$	39,588	\$	24,401
Changes of Assumptions		242,942		130,922
Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Investment				
Earnings on Pension Plan Investments		367,663		-
Changes in Proportion and Differences Between Employer				
Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions		-		75,586
District Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date		97,255		-
Total	\$	747,449	\$	230,909

		red Outflows		rred Inflows
Main System - Water Resource District	of Resources of Resourc		Resources	
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$	1,524	\$	939
Changes of Assumptions		9,350		5,039
Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Investment				
Earnings on Pension Plan Investments		14,150		-
Changes in Proportion and Differences Between Employer				
Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions		-		7,339
District Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date		3,800		
Total	\$	28,824	\$	13,317

	Deferred Outflows	Deferred Inflows
Main System - District Health Unit	of Resources	of Resources
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ 2,323	\$ 1,432
Changes of Assumptions	14,257	7,683
Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Investment		
Earnings on Pension Plan Investments	21,576	-
Changes in Proportion and Differences Between Employer		
Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	-	11,966
District Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date	2,064	-
Total	\$ 40,220	\$ 21,081

	Deferred Outflows	Deferred Inflows
Main System - Economic Development Commission	of Resources	of Resources
Differences Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ 1,285	\$ 792
Changes of Assumptions	7,887	4,250
Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Investment		
Earnings on Pension Plan Investments	11,936	-
Changes in Proportion and Differences Between Employer		
Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	-	2,454
District Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date	3,180	-
Total	\$ 24,287	\$ 7,496

\$97,255, \$3,800, \$2,064, and \$3,180 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, 2017.

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

	Primary	Water Resource	District Health	Economic Development
	Government	District	Unit	Commission
2017	\$ 89,172	\$ 1,869	\$ 5,233	\$ 2,895
2018	89,172	1,869	5,233	2,895
2019	169,377	4,956	9,940	5,499
2020	108,595	2,622	6,373	3,525
2021	38,553	391	2,262	1,252

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%

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 und 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 District'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:

			Current		
Proportionate Share of the		1%	Discount		1%
Net Pension Liability	De	crease (7%)	Rate (8%)	Ine	crease (9%)
Primary Government	\$	3,738,136	\$ 2,635,310	\$	1,706,122
Water Resource District		143,871	101,426		65,664
District Health Unit		219,367	154,649		100,121
Economic Development Authority		121,354	85,552		55,387

Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position

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

NOTE 18: RISK MANAGEMENT

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

In 1986, state agencies and political subdivisions of the state of North Dakota joined together to form the North Dakota Insurance Reserve Fund (NDIRF), a public entity risk pool currently operating as a common risk management and insurance program for the state and over 2,000 political subdivisions. Traill County pays an annual premium to NDIRF for its general liability, automobile, and inland marine insurance coverage. The coverage by NDIRF is limited to losses of two million dollars per occurrence for general liability and automobile and \$3,412,943 for mobile equipment and portable property (public assets). The coverage for the Water Resource District and the Economic Development Commission by NDIRF is limited to losses of one million dollars for general liability and automobile.

Traill County also participates in the North Dakota Fire and Tornado Fund and the State Bonding Fund. Traill 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 Traill County with blanket fidelity bond coverage in the amount of \$2,000,000 for its employees, while the Water Resource District carries \$890,000 coverage. The State Bonding Fund does not currently charge any premium for this coverage.

Traill County and the water resource district have worker's compensation with the Workforce, Safety and Insurance. The water resource district purchases commercial insurance for employee health and accident insurance.

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

NOTE 19: JOINT VENTURE

Under authorization of state statutes, the Traill 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 Richland 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 fund equity 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, 2016.

Governmental Activities	Red River Joint WRD
Total Assets	\$ 7,233,622
Total Liabilities	43,309
Net Position	\$ 7,190,313
Revenues	\$ 2,649,394
Expenses	3,125,522
Change in Net Position	\$ (476,128)

NOTE 20: CONDUIT DEBT

From time to time, Traill 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 Industrial Revenue Bonds to the South Dakota Health and Educational Facilities Authority with an amount outstanding totaling \$174,325,000.

NOTE 21: COMMITMENTS

Commitments:

At December 31, 2016, Traill County had commitments for remaining project costs related to the Law Enforcement Center Remodel project. As of December 31, 2016, the remaining construction commitments are as follows:

	Total	Total		Remaining	Percent
Project	Contract	Completed	Retainage	Balance	Completed
LEC Remodel	\$ 3,047,724	\$ 2,285,230	\$ 228,523	\$ 991,017	74.98%

Traill County Water Resource District

The District is currently performing work on several different drains. The work that is improving existing drains or constructing new drains as is shown as Construction in Progress on the Statement of Net Position. These projects are being funded by various bonds, and special assessments and taxes. The total amount of future commitments related to these projects at December 31, 2016 is \$1,900,000.

Contingencies:

The County, Health District, and Economic Development Commission participated in several state and federal grant programs, which are governed by various rules and regulations of the grantor agencies. Costs charged to the respective grant programs are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor agencies. Therefore, to the extent that the County, Health District, and Economic Development Commission have not complied with rules and regulations governing the grants, refunds of any money received may be required and the collectability of any related receivable at December 31, 2016 may be impaired. In the opinion of the County, Health District, and Economic Development Commission, there are no significant contingent liabilities relating to compliance with the rules and regulations governing the respective grants; therefore, no provision has been recorded in the accompanying financial statements for such contingencies.

NOTE 22: OPERATING LEASES

Economic Development Commission:

On June 1, 2014, the Commission entered into a three year non-cancellable lease of its office space with LEP Management. Monthly rental fees of \$700 are due until the lease expires on May 31, 2017.

Subsequent to year end, the Commission entered into a three year non-cancellable lease of its office space with LEP Management for the lease term of June 1, 2017 through May 31, 2020. Rental payments under this new lease will be \$750 per month.

Future annual lease payments are as follows:

Fiscal Year	Amounts
2017	\$ 8,750
2018	9,000
2019	9,000
2020	3,750

NOTE 23: TAX ABATEMENTS

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

Traill 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.

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 of the following conditions are met:

- a. The governing body of the city/county, for property within city/county limits, or the governing body of the county, for property outside city/county 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 program reduction in county taxes – \$3,483

Public Charity Exemption:

Public Charities are eligible for property tax incentives if they meet state requirements (NDCC 57-02-08(8)) and the guidelines stated below. The following criteria are only guidelines.

All buildings belonging to institutions of public charity, including public hospitals and nursing homes licensed pursuant to section 23-16-01 under the control of religious or charitable institutions, used wholly or in part for public charity, together with the land actually occupied by such institutions not leased or otherwise used with a view to profit. The exemption provided by this subsection includes any dormitory, dwelling, or residential-type structure, together with necessary land on which such structure is located, owned by a religious or charitable organization recognized as tax exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code which is occupied by members of said organization who are subject to a religious vow of poverty and devote and donate substantially all of their time to the religious or charitable activities of the owner.

Exemption criteria:

Property exempt if the qualified facility is used wholly or in part for public charity, together with the land occupied by such institutions not leased or otherwise used with a view to profit.

2016 Reduction in Taxes:

Total program reduction in county taxes – \$59,744

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 40.57.1-03) and the guidelines stated below.

The following criteria are only guidelines.

General criteria — The governing body of the city or county may grant a partial or complete exemption from ad valorem taxation on all buildings, structure, fixtures, and improvements used in or necessary to the operation of a project for period not exceeding five years from the date of commencement of project operations. The governing body may also grant a partial or complete exemption from ad valorem taxation on buildings, structures, fixtures, and improvements used in or necessary to the operation of a project that produces or manufactures a product from agricultural commodities for all or part of the sixth year through the tenth year from the date of commencement of project operations.

2016 Reduction in Taxes: Total program reduction in county taxes – \$25,373

Commercial and Residential:

Commercial and Residential property are eligible for property tax incentives if they meet state requirements (NDCC 57-05.2-03) and the guidelines stated below. The following criteria are only guidelines.

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 program reduction in county taxes – \$61,320

Pollution Exemption:

Certain industrial or agricultural facilities are eligible for property tax incentives if they meet state requirements (NDCC 57-02-08 (37) and the guidelines for pollution abatement improvements as stated below. The following criteria are only guidelines.

A pollution abatement improvement. As used in this subsection, "pollution abatement improvement" means property, exclusive of land and improvements to the land such as ditching, surfacing, and leveling, that is: (1) Part of an agricultural or industrial facility which is used for or has for its ultimate purpose the prevention, control, monitoring, reducing, or eliminating of pollution by treating, pretreating, stabilizing, isolating, collecting, holding, controlling, measuring, or disposing of waste contaminants; or (2) Part of an agricultural or industrial facility and required to comply with local, state, or federal environmental quality laws, rules, regulations, or standards. b. The exemption under this subsection applies only to that portion of the valuation of property attributable to the pollution abatement improvement on which construction or installation was commenced after December 31, 1992, and does not apply to the valuation of any property that is not a necessary component of the pollution abatement improvement. The governing body of the city, for property within city limits, or the governing board of the county, for property outside city limits, shall determine whether the property proposed for exemption is a pollution abatement improvement and may grant an exemption for the pollution abatement improvement based upon the requirements of this subsection.

<u>2016 Reduction in Taxes:</u> Total program reduction in county taxes – \$39,583

NOTE 24: SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Traill County - Primary Government:

Subsequent to December 31, 2016, the County entered into an agreement with a local bank to borrow \$200,000 in certificates of indebtedness for a 2017 bridge loan. Proceeds of \$200,000 were received on August 22, 2017. The loan is repaid in annual installments of \$43,168 due May 1 of each year beginning in 2018 through 2022 with annual interest of 2.9%.

Traill County Water Resource District:

Subsequent to December 31, 2016, the Traill County Water Resource District authorized the issuance of bonds for \$1,995,000 for 2017 maintenance bonds for Stavenger/Belmont Drain 52, Carson Drain 10, and Murray Drain 17. The bonds had an interest rate of 3.25%.

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 Intergovernmental Charges for services Licenses, permits and fees Interest income Miscellaneous	\$ 1,947,785 417,219 152,114 250 2,000 20,850	\$ 1,947,785 417,219 152,114 250 2,000 20,850	\$ 1,869,601 306,500 193,577 355 5,879 88,711	\$ (78,184) (110,719) 41,463 105 3,879 67,861
Total Revenues	\$ 2,540,218	\$ 2,540,218	\$ 2,464,623	\$ (75,595)
Expenditures: Current: General government Public safety Culture and Recreation Conservation of natural resources Debt service: Principal Interest	\$ 2,354,463 604,515 10,000 - 143,000 -	\$ 2,354,463 604,515 10,000 - 143,000 -	\$ 2,100,418 556,412 13,961 5,000 146,000 1,838	\$ 254,045 48,103 (3,961) (5,000) (3,000) (1,838)
Total Expenditures	\$ 3,111,978	\$ 3,111,978	\$ 2,823,629	\$ 288,349
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	\$ (571,760)	\$ (571,760)	\$ (359,006)	\$ 212,754
Fund Balances - January 1	\$ 728,063	\$ 728,063	\$ 728,063	\$-
Fund Balances - December 31	\$ 156,303	\$ 156,303	\$ 369,057	\$ 212,754

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE FARM TO MARKET ROAD FUND For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	 riance with nal Budget
<u>Revenues:</u> Taxes Intergovernmental Interest income	\$ 1,191,467 228,422 100	\$ 1,191,467 228,422 100	\$ 1,146,274 2,171,238 187	\$ (45,193) 1,942,816 87
Total Revenues	\$ 1,419,989	\$ 1,419,989	\$ 3,317,699	\$ 1,897,710
<u>Expenditures:</u> Current: Highways and bridges	\$ 1,685,989	\$ 2,590,292	\$ 2,578,475	\$ 11,817
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	\$ (266,000)	\$(1,170,303)	\$ 739,224	\$ 1,909,527
Fund Balances - January 1	\$ 634,687	\$ 634,687	\$ 634,687	\$
Fund Balances - December 31	\$ 368,687	\$ (535,616)	\$ 1,373,911	\$ 1,909,527

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

	Original Final Budget Budget		Actual	Variance with Final Budget		
<u>Revenues:</u> Taxes Intergovernmental	\$	237,727 48,773	\$ 237,727 48,773	\$ 220,252 32,364	\$	(17,475) (16,409)
Total Revenues	\$	286,500	\$ 286,500	\$ 252,616	\$	(33,884)
<u>Expenditures:</u> Current: Highways and bridges	\$	286,500	\$ 286,500	\$ 194,379	\$	92,121
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	\$	-	\$ -	\$ 58,237	\$	58,237
Fund Balances - January 1	\$	(38,548)	\$ (38,548)	\$ (38,548)	\$	
Fund Balances - December 31	\$	(38,548)	\$ (38,548)	\$ 19,689	\$	58,237

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

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget		
<u>Revenues:</u> Intergovernmental	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$	887,264	\$	(112,736)
<u>Expenditures:</u> Current: Highways and bridges	\$ 1,203,000	\$ 1,405,485	\$	874,825	\$	530,660
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	\$ (203,000)	\$ (405,485)	\$	12,439	\$	417,924
Fund Balances - January 1	\$ 565,243	\$ 565,243	\$	565,243	\$	-
Fund Balances - December 31	\$ 362,243	\$ 159,758	\$	577,682	\$	417,924

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

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	 riance with al Budget
<u>Revenues:</u> Taxes Intergovernmental	\$ 775,634 452,223	\$ 775,634 452,223	\$ 736,946 412,033	\$ (38,688) (40,190)
Total Revenues	\$ 1,227,857	\$ 1,227,857	\$ 1,148,979	\$ (78,878)
<u>Expenditures:</u> Current: Health and welfare	\$ 1,203,781	\$ 1,203,781	\$ 1,055,776	\$ 148,005
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues Over Expenditures	\$ 24,076	\$ 24,076	\$ 93,203	\$ 69,127
Fund Balances - January 1	\$ 76,973	\$ 76,973	\$ 76,973	\$ -
Fund Balances - December 31	\$ 101,049	\$ 101,049	\$ 170,176	\$ 69,127

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*

Primary Government	2016	2015	2014
District's proportion of the net pension liability			
(asset)	0.270400%	0.282479%	0.282392%
District's proportionate share of the net pension			
liability (asset)	\$ 2,635,310	\$ 1,920,808	\$ 2,073,075
District's covered-employee payroll	\$ 2,724,995	\$ 2,516,548	\$ 2,378,805
District's proportionate share of the net pension			
liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered-			
employee payroll	96.71%	76.33%	87.15%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of			
the total pension liability	70.46%	77.15%	77.70%

Water Resource District	2016	2015		
District's proportion of the net pension liability				
(asset)	0.010400%		0.011400%	
District's proportionate share of the net pension				
liability (asset)	\$ 101,426	\$	77,674	
District's covered-employee payroll	\$ 104,874	\$	101,766	
District's proportionate share of the net pension				
liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered-				
employee payroll	96.71%		76.33%	
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of				
the total pension liability	70.46%		77.15%	

District Health Unit		2016	2015	2014
District's proportion of the net pension liability				
(asset)		0.015868%	0.017423%	0.017792%
District's proportionate share of the net pension				
liability (asset)	\$	154,649	\$ 118,473	\$ 112,930
District's covered-employee payroll	\$	159,912	\$ 155,214	\$ 149,880
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	1			
the total pension liability		70.46%	77.15%	77.70%

Economic Development Commission	2016		2015		2014
District's proportion of the net pension liability					
(asset)		0.008778%		0.008872%	0.008869%
District's proportionate share of the net pension					
liability (asset)	\$	85,552	\$	60,329	\$ 65,111
District's covered-employee payroll	\$	88,463	\$	79,040	\$ 74,714
District's proportionate share of the net pension					
liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered-					
employee payroll		96.71%		76.33%	87.15%
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. Additionally, the water resource district implemented GASB Statement No. 68 for its fiscal year ended December 31, 2015.

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

Primary Government	2016		2015		2014
Statutorily required contribution	\$ 197,285	\$	190,956	\$	169,371
Contributions in relation to the statutorily					
required contribution	\$ 194,989	\$	187,607	\$	169,371
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$ 2,296	\$	3,349	\$	-
District's covered-employee payroll	\$ 2,724,995	\$	2,516,548	\$	2,378,805
Contributions as a percentage of covered-					
employee payroll	7.16%		7.45%		7.12%

Water Resource District	2016	2015
Statutorily required contribution	\$ 7,593	\$ 7,730
Contributions in relation to the statutorily		
required contribution	\$ 7,467	\$ 7,246
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$ 126	\$ 484
District's covered-employee payroll	\$ 104,874	\$ 101,766
Contributions as a percentage of covered-		
employee payroll	7.12%	7.12%

District Health Unit	2016	2015	2014		
Statutorily required contribution	\$ 11,577	\$ 11,790	\$	10,671	
Contributions in relation to the statutorily					
required contribution	\$ 11,357	\$ 11,051	\$	10,671	
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$ 220	\$ 739	\$	-	
District's covered-employee payroll	\$ 159,912	\$ 155,214	\$	149,880	
Contributions as a percentage of covered-					
employee payroll	7.10%	7.12%		7.12%	

Economic Development Commission		2016	2015	2014	
Statutorily required contribution	\$	6,405	\$ 6,004	\$	5,320
Contributions in relation to the statutorily					
required contribution	\$	6,330	\$ 5,898	\$	5,320
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$	75	\$ 105	\$	-
District's covered-employee payroll	\$	88,463	\$ 79,040	\$	74,714
Contributions as a percentage of covered-					
employee payroll		7.16%	7.46%		7.12%

* Complete data for this schedule is not available prior to 2014. Additionally, the water resource district implemented GASB Statement No. 68 for its fiscal year ended December 31, 2015.

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 the modified accrual basis of accounting.
- The county auditor prepares an annual budget for the general fund and each special revenue fund of the county. NDCC section 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 section 11-23-04
- The board of county commissioners, on or before the October meeting shall determine the amount of taxes that shall be levied for county purposes and shall levy all such taxes in specific amounts. NDCC section 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 section 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 budget for 2016 as follows:

	EXPENDITURES							
	Original		Amended					
	Budget	Amendment	Budget					
Major Funds:								
Farm to Market Road	\$ 1,685,989	\$ 904,303	\$ 2,590,292					
Highway Distribution	1,203,000	202,485	1,405,485					
Capital Improvements	-	256,275	256,275					
Special Revenue Funds:								
Hatton Policing	-	103,474	103,474					
Mayville Policing	-	192,187	192,187					
Document Preservation	-	3,406	3,406					
Sheriff Designated	-	35,744	35,744					
Homeland Security	-	3,700	3,700					
E911 Wireless	-	88,044	88,044					
Traffic Safety Grant	-	4,281	4,281					
2011 Disaster Fund	-	101,693	101,693					
24/7	-	23,878	23,878					
Victim Witness & Advocacy	-	10,207	10,207					

NOTE 3: PENSIONS - CHANGES OF ASSUMPTIONS

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

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

	Balance 1-1-16	Receipts		Transfers In		Debt oceeds	-	Transfers Out	Disbursements		Balance 12-31-16
Major Governmental Funds:											
General Fund	\$ 681,660.22	\$ 2,485,202.55	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 2,829,776.23	\$	337,086.54
Farm to Market Road	688,521.06	3,325,847.23		-		-		-	2,590,319.87		1,424,048.42
County Road	52,897.91	254,341.40		-		-		-	242,406.66		64,832.65
Highway Distribution	580,355.96	906,661.37		-		-		-	959,029.48		527,987.85
County Human Services	34,176.64	1,162,242.97		-		-		-	1,061,772.06		134,647.55
Capital Improvements	1,150,495.68	320.71		-		-		-	256,274.50		894,541.89
Total Major Funds	\$3,188,107.47	\$ 8,134,616.23	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 7,939,578.80	\$	3,383,144.90
Nonmajor Governmental Funds:											
Special Revenue Funds:	* * * * * * * * * *	*	•		•		•		A 000 500 00	•	0.004.00
County Road & Bridge	\$ 10,548.37	. ,	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 696,538.29	\$	2,601.06
County Bridge	166,151.47	238.75		-		-		-	52,448.73		113,941.49
Emergency Fund	340,166.42	103,018.65		-		-		-	6,053.00		437,132.07
Veteran's Service Officer	2,153.67	51,822.57		-		-		-	42,500.76		11,475.48
Hatton/Portland Policing	1,219.48	107,120.60		-		-		-	103,474.72		4,865.36
Mayville Policing	2,130.76	222,183.01		-		-		-	192,186.62		32,127.15
Document Preservation	42,950.82	10,780.50		-		-		-	3,406.26		50,325.06
County Agent	15,629.20	73,978.40		-		-		-	79,000.74		10,606.86
Sheriff Designated	7,974.93	36,299.17		-		-		-	35,744.17		8,529.93
Homeland Security	3,884.70	-		-		-		-	3,700.00		184.70
Sheriff Designated - Drug Dog	149.22	-		-		-		-	-		149.22
Weed Control	19,882.12	74,689.32		-		-		-	78,185.27		16,386.17
Capital Project - Jail Fund		136,778.29		-		-		_	14,372.74		122,405.55
Seat Belt Safety	244.24	-		-		_		_	-		244.24
Emergency 911	24,642.52	41,032.59		75,000.00					103,696.85		36,978.26
DES Hazardous Chemicals	5,462.59	1,250.00		73,000.00		-		-	100,000.00		6,712.59
E911 Wireless		72,836.75		-		-		-	13,043.92		117,953.06
	133,160.23			-		-		75,000.00	,		
Traffic Safety Grant	91.46	5,273.34		-		-		-	4,281.02		1,083.78
FEMA 2011 Disaster	96,150.93	5,541.57		-				-	101,692.50		-
FEMA 2013 Disaster	29,491.42							-	-		29,491.42
24/7 Fund	9,152.25	24,449.00		-		-		-	23,878.07		9,723.18
Community Service Program	100.00	100.00		-		-		-	-		200.00
Victim & Witness Advocacy	29,156.48	13,686.46		-		-		-	10,207.02		32,635.92
Total Nonmajor Special Rev. Funds	\$ 940,493.28	\$ 1,669,669.95	\$	75,000.00		-	\$	75,000.00	\$ 1,564,410.68		1,045,752.55
Total Governmental Funds	\$4,128,600.75	\$ 9,804,286.18	\$	75,000.00	\$	-	\$	75,000.00	\$ 9,503,989.48	\$	4,428,897.45
Agency Funds: Airport	\$ 71.08	\$ 11,588.75	¢	_	\$	_	\$	_	\$ 11,640.96	¢	18.87
Ambulance	\$ 71.08 757.87	462,642.88	φ	-	φ	-	φ	-	462,663.68	φ	737.07
		,		-		-		-	,		
Job/Economic Development	263.87	163,846.84		-		-		-	163,871.09		239.62
County Historical Society	36.38	19,908.58		-		-		-	19,922.95		22.01
Water Resource District (County)	303.15	184,375.16		-		-		-	184,404.16		274.15
Senior Citizens	75.77	91,409.88		-		-		-	91,407.68		77.97
Health District (County)	308.94	186,442.59		-		-		-	186,473.13		278.40
State Taxes	75.77	45,980.04		-		-		-	45,977.18		78.63
Part Payment	3,220.26	24,658.01		-		-		-	27,878.27		-
Wetlands	-	1,021.00		-		-		-	1,021.00		-
Prepaid Taxes	5,174,852.88	4,997,014.02		-		-		-	5,174,852.88		4,997,014.02
Game and Fish Licenses	5,602.26	2,505.00		-		-		-	7,920.00		187.26
Mobile Homes	5,462.84	-		-		-		-	-		5,462.84
Garrison Diversion	85.46	50,204.44		-		-		-	50,204.12		85.78
Domestic Violence	35.00	1,540.00		-		-		-	1,505.00		70.00
UCC Funds	408.80	-		-		-		-	-		408.80
County Agent Special	4,790.42	2,228.00		-		_		_	4,239.95		2,778.47
Unclaimed Property	81.38	252.77							81.38		252.77
Clerk of Court Checking	10,969.86	217,047.19		-		-		-	225,824.05		2,193.00
Red River Joint Water Resources	150.18			-		-		-	99,139.24		155.54
		99,144.60		-		-		-			
Soil Conservation District	75.77	47,848.19		-		-		-	47,845.33		78.63
2016 Senior Citizens Grant	-	2,450.00		-		-		-	2,450.00		-
Total Cities	9,334.65	2,122,048.74		-		-		-	2,117,086.60		14,296.79
Total Park Districts	804.48	177,312.37		-		-		-	177,488.07		628.78
Total School Districts	7,566.33	3,984,202.92		-		-		-	3,984,358.41		7,410.84
Total Townships	936.83	1,143,894.81		-		-		-	1,143,969.65		861.99
Drains (County)	196.71	1,495,954.98		-		-		-	1,462,314.76		33,836.93
Total Rural Fire Protection Districts	73.21	135,813.39		-		-		-	135,842.72		43.88
Total Agency Funds	\$5,226,540.15	\$ 15,671,335.15	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 15,830,382.26	\$	5,067,493.04



Local Government Division: FARGO OFFICE MANAGER – DAVID MIX Phone: (701) 239-7252

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

Board of County Commissioners Traill County Hillsboro, 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 aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Traill County, Hillsboro, North Dakota, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Traill County's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated November 21, 2017. Our report includes reference to other auditors who audited the financial statements of the Traill County Water Resource District and the Traill County Economic Development Commission, as described in our report on Traill County's financial statements. This report does not include results of the other auditors' testing of internal control over financial reporting or on compliance and other matters that are reported on separately by those auditors.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Traill 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 Traill County's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Traill 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. 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.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Traill 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*.

Purpose of this Report

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

/S/

Joshua C. Gallion State Auditor

Fargo, North Dakota November 21, 2017

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

Section I - Summary of Auditor's Results

Financial Statements

Type of Auditor's Report Issued? Governmental Activities Component Unit – Water resource district Major Funds Aggregate Remaining Fund Information	Unmodified Unmodified Unmodified Unmodified	
Internal Control Over Financial Reporting:		
Material weaknesses identified?	Yes	X None noted
Significant deficiencies identified not considered to be material weaknesses?	Yes	X None noted
Noncompliance material to financial statements noted?	Yes	X None noted

Section II – Financial Statement Findings

No matters reported.

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