STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office of the State Auditor



Rebecca Otto State Auditor

LAKE COUNTY TWO HARBORS, MINNESOTA

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

Description of the Office of the State Auditor

The mission of the Office of the State Auditor is to oversee local government finances for Minnesota taxpayers by helping to ensure financial integrity and accountability in local governmental financial activities.

Through financial, compliance, and special audits, the State Auditor oversees and ensures that local government funds are used for the purposes intended by law and that local governments hold themselves to the highest standards of financial accountability.

The State Auditor performs approximately 150 financial and compliance audits per year and has oversight responsibilities for over 3,300 local units of government throughout the state. The office currently maintains five divisions:

Audit Practice - conducts financial and legal compliance audits of local governments;

Government Information - collects and analyzes financial information for cities, towns, counties, and special districts;

Legal/Special Investigations - provides legal analysis and counsel to the Office and responds to outside inquiries about Minnesota local government law; as well as investigates allegations of misfeasance, malfeasance, and nonfeasance in local government;

Pension - monitors investment, financial, and actuarial reporting for approximately 700 public pension funds; and

Tax Increment Financing - promotes compliance and accountability in local governments' use of tax increment financing through financial and compliance audits.

The State Auditor serves on the State Executive Council, State Board of Investment, Land Exchange Board, Public Employees Retirement Association Board, Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, and the Rural Finance Authority Board.

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Year Ended December 31, 2014



Audit Practice Division Office of the State Auditor State of Minnesota



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ORGANIZATION DECEMBER 31, 2014

			Term Expires
Elected			
Commissioner	Peter Walsh	District 1	January 2015
Commissioner	Derrick Goutermont	District 2	January 2017
Commissioner	Brad Jones	District 3	January 2017
Commissioner	Jeremy Hurd	District 4	January 2015
Commissioner	Rich Sve	District 5	January 2017
Attorney	Laura M. Auron	District	January 2015
Interim Auditor/Treasurer	Lola Haus		January 2015
Recorder	Erica Koski		January 2015
Sheriff	Carey Johnson		January 2015
Sheriii	Carey Johnson		Junuary 2015
Appointed			
Assessor	Jack Renick		December 2015
Examiner of Titles	David Adams (St. Louis		Indefinite
	County)		
Health Officer	Harold B. Leppink, M.D.		Indefinite
Highway Engineer	Krysten Foster		May 2018
Veterans Service Officer	Nazareth V. Sando		September 2015
Clerk of the Board	Laurel Buchanan		Indefinite
County Administrator	Matthew Huddleston		Indefinite
Human Services			
Board Members	Peter Walsh		January 2015
	Derrick Goutermont		January 2017
	Brad Jones		January 2017
	Jeremy Hurd		January 2015
	Rich Sve		January 2017
	Kathy Goedel		Indefinite
	Christine Johnson		Indefinite
Director	Vickie Thompson		Indefinite
	-		







STATE OF MINNESOTA OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of County Commissioners Lake County Two Harbors, Minnesota

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Lake County, Minnesota, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2014, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements, as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

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

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of 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 County'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 County's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

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

Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Lake County as of December 31, 2014, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

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

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise Lake County's basic financial statements. The supplementary information as listed in the table of contents is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The supplementary information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other

additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued a report dated September 22, 2015, on our consideration of Lake County's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, 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 Lake County's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Report on Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards Required by OMB Circular A-133

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the basic financial statements. The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA) is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by OMB Circular A-133 and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the SEFA is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

/s/Rebecca Otto

/s/Greg Hierlinger

REBECCA OTTO STATE AUDITOR GREG HIERLINGER, CPA DEPUTY STATE AUDITOR

September 22, 2015







MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS DECEMBER 31, 2014 (Unaudited)

Lake County's Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) provides an overview of the County's financial activities for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014. Since this information is designed to focus on the current year's activities, resulting changes, and currently known facts, it should be read in conjunction with the County's financial statements.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Governmental activities have a total net position of \$114,043,950, of which \$87,085,577 is the net investment in capital assets and \$2,896,200 is restricted to specific purposes.
- Business-type activities have a total net position of \$1,732,567. Net investment in capital assets represents \$9,578,498 of the total.
- Lake County's net position increased by \$4,801,042 for the year ended December 31, 2014. The Lake County Housing and Redevelopment Authority is shown as the "Discretely Presented Component Unit." The net position of the County's discretely presented component unit increased by \$21,349.
- The net cost of governmental activities was \$7,691,844 for the current fiscal year. The net cost was funded by general revenues and other items totaling \$11,788,568.
- Governmental funds' fund balances increased by \$4,488,348.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This MD&A is intended to serve as an introduction to the basic financial statements. Lake County's basic financial statements consist of three parts: government-wide financial statements, fund financial statements, and notes to the financial statements. The MD&A (this section), certain budgetary comparison schedules, and the Schedule of Funding Progress - Other Postemployment Benefits are required to accompany the basic financial statements and, therefore, are included as required supplementary information.

There are two government-wide financial statements. The statement of net position and the statement of activities provide information about the activities of the County as a whole and present a longer-term view of the County's finances. Fund financial statements report the County's operations in more detail than the government-wide statements by providing information about the County's most significant funds. For governmental activities, these statements tell how these services were financed in the short term as well as what remains for future spending. The remaining statements provide financial information about activities for which the County acts solely as a trustee or agent for the benefit of those outside of the government.

Government-Wide Financial Statements--The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities

The statement of net position and the statement of activities report information about the County as a whole and about its activities in a way that helps the reader determine whether the County's financial condition has improved or declined as a result of the year's activities. These statements include all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These two statements report the County's net position and changes in them. You can think of the County's net position--the difference between assets and liabilities--as one way to measure the County's financial health or financial position. Over time, increases or decreases in the County's net position are one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. You will need to consider other nonfinancial factors, however, such as changes in the County's property tax base and the condition of County roads, to assess the overall health of the County.

In the statement of net position and the statement of activities, we divide the County into three kinds of activities:

- Governmental activities--Most of the County's basic services are reported here, including general government, public safety, highways and streets, sanitation, human services, health, culture and recreation, conservation of natural resources, and economic development. Property taxes and state and federal grants finance most of these activities.
- Business-type activities--The County charges a fee to customers to help it cover all or most of the cost of services it provides. The County's broadband activities are reported here.
- Component unit--The County includes another separate legal entity in its report. The entity, the Lake County Housing and Redevelopment Authority, is presented in a separate column. Although legally separate, this "component unit" is important because the County is financially accountable for it. Further financial information for this component unit is available in separately issued and audited financial statements.

The government-wide financial statements can be found in Exhibits 1 and 2.

(Unaudited)

Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements provide detailed information about the most significant funds--not the County as a whole. Some funds are required to be established by state law and by bond covenants. However, the County Board establishes some funds to help it control and manage money for a particular purpose or to show that it is meeting legal responsibilities for using certain taxes, grants, and other money. The County's two kinds of funds--governmental and proprietary--use different accounting methods.

• Governmental funds--All of the County's basic services are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows in and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. These funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting. This method measures cash and all other financial assets that can be readily converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the County's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the County's programs. We describe the relationship (or differences) between governmental activities (reported in the statement of net position and the statement of activities) and governmental funds in reconciliation in a statement following each governmental fund financial statement.

The basic financial statements for governmental funds can be found in Exhibits 3 through 6.

• Proprietary funds--When the County charges customers for services it provides--whether to outside customers or to other units of the County--these services are generally reported in proprietary funds. Proprietary funds are reported in the same way that all activities are reported in the statement of net position and the statement of activities. In fact, the County's proprietary funds are substantially the same as the business-type activities we report in the government-wide statements but provide more detail and additional information, such as cash flows, for proprietary funds.

Proprietary fund financial statements may be found in Exhibits 7 through 9.

Reporting the County's Fiduciary Responsibilities

The County is the trustee, or fiduciary, over assets that can be used only for the trust beneficiaries, based on the trust arrangement. All of the County's fiduciary activities are reported in a separate statement of fiduciary net position. We exclude these activities from the County's other financial statements because the County cannot use these assets to finance its operations. The County is responsible for ensuring that the assets reported in these funds are used for their intended purposes.

The fiduciary funds financial statement is Exhibit 10.

LAKE COUNTY AS A WHOLE

Our analysis below focuses on the net position (Table 1) and changes in net position (Table 2) of the County's governmental activities.

Table 1 Net Position (in Thousands)

	Governmental Activities				Business-Type Activities				Total Primary Government			
		2014		2013		2014		2013		2014		2013
Assets												
Current and other assets	\$	29,940	\$	23,156	\$	(3,419)	\$	(627)	\$	26,521	\$	22,529
Capital assets		90,699		92,621	_	44,282		23,619		134,981		116,240
Total Assets	\$	120,639	\$	115,777	\$	40,863	\$	22,992	\$	161,502	\$	138,769
Liabilities												
Long-term debt outstanding	\$	4,924	\$	4,323	\$	33,053	\$	17,721	\$	37,977	\$	22,044
Other liabilities		1,671		1,507		6,077		3,879		7,748		5,386
Total Liabilities	\$	6,595	\$	5,830	\$	39,130	\$	21,600	\$	45,725	\$	27,430
Deferred Inflows of Resources	\$		\$		\$		\$	364	\$		\$	364
Net Position												
Net investment in capital assets	\$	87,086	\$	89,530	\$	9,579	\$	5,034	\$	96,665	\$	94,564
Restricted		2,896		1,776		-		-		2,896		1,776
Unrestricted	_	24,062	_	18,641		(7,846)	_	(4,006)		16,216	_	14,635
Total Net Position	\$	114,044	\$	109,947	\$	1,733	\$	1,028	\$	115,777	\$	110,975

Table 2 Changes in Net Position (in Thousands)

		Governmen	tal Act	tivities	Е	Business-T	уре Ас	tivities	Total Primary Government			
			2013		2014			2013	2014		2013	
Revenues												
Program revenues												
Fees, fines, charges, and other	\$	3,249	\$	1,691	\$	192	\$	-	\$	3,441	\$	1,691
Operating grants and												
contributions		12,665		12,837		-		-		12,665		12,837
Capital grants and												
contributions		2,715		191		3,372		1,859		6,087		2,050
General revenues												
Property taxes		8,043		7,884		-		-		8,043		7,884
Other taxes		2,033		2,055		-		-		2,033		2,055
Unrestricted grants and												
contributions		1,183		1,087		-		-		1,183		1,087
Investment earnings		355		(247)		-		-		355		(247)
Gain on sale of capital assets		11		20		-		-		11		20
Miscellaneous		164		75				483		164		558
Total Revenues	\$	30,418	\$	25,593	\$	3,564	\$	2,342	\$	33,982	\$	27,935

		Governmen	tal Ac	tivities	В	usiness-T	ype Act	tivities	Total Primary Government			
	_	2014		2013		2014		2013		2014		2013
Expenses												
General government	\$	4,366	\$	4,421	\$	-	\$	-	\$	4,366	\$	4,421
Public safety		4,863		4,846		-		-		4,863		4,846
Highways and streets		8,657		4,611		-		-		8,657		4,611
Sanitation		302		262		-		-		302		262
Human services		3,273		3,254		-		-		3,273		3,254
Health		2,684		2,481		-		-		2,684		2,481
Culture and recreation		974		1,314		-		-		974		1,314
Conservation of natural												
resources		770		810		-		-		770		810
Economic development		339		176		2,860		1,446		3,199		1,622
Interest		93		126		-		-		93		126
Total Expenses	\$	26,321	\$	22,301	\$	2,860	\$	1,446	\$	29,181	\$	23,747
Increase (Decrease) in Net												
Position	\$	4,097	\$	3,292	\$	704	\$	896	\$	4,801	\$	4,188
Net Position, January 1		109,947		106,655		1,028		132		110,975		106,787
Net Position, December 31	\$	114,044	\$	109,947	\$	1,732	\$	1,028	\$	115,776	\$	110,975

Lake County's business-type activities is the broadband project that started in 2012. This is primarily funded by capital grants and contributions, which includes a Broadband Initiatives Program Grant of \$3,372,375 and a Broadband Initiatives Program Loan of \$34,703,063.

The increase in highways and streets expenses can be attributed to construction projects that were outside of Lake County's regular construction program. These expenses were offset by operating grants and contributions received from state and federal sources.

Governmental Activities

The cost of all governmental activities this year was \$26,320,766. However, as shown in the statement of activities, the amount that our taxpayers ultimately financed for these activities through County taxes and other general revenues was \$7,691,844, because some of the cost was paid by those who directly benefited from the programs (\$3,249,408) or by other governments and organizations that subsidized certain programs with grants and contributions (\$15,379,514). Table 3 presents the cost of each of the County's five largest program functions, as well as each function's net cost (total cost, less revenues generated by the activities). The net cost shows the financial burden that was placed on the County's taxpayers by each of these functions.

Table 3
Governmental Activities
(in Thousands)

		Total Cost	of Servic	es	Net Cost of Services				
		2014		2013		2014	2013		
Canaral acycermment	¢	1 266	¢	4.420	ď	735	¢	940	
General government	\$	4,366	\$	4,420	\$		\$		
Public safety		4,863		4,846		4,150		3,607	
Highways and streets		8,657		4,611		1,840		142	
Human services		3,273		3,254		736		1,431	
Health		2,684		2,481		781		229	
All others		2,478		2,689		(550)		1,233	
Total	\$	26,321	\$	22,301	\$	7,692	\$	7,582	

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE GOVERNMENT'S FUNDS

As noted earlier, Lake County uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

Governmental Funds

The focus of the County's governmental funds is to provide information on short-term inflows, outflows, and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the County's financing requirements.

The County's governmental funds reported a combined fund balance of \$24,304,976 in 2014, compared with \$19,816,628 in 2013, an increase of \$4,488,348. Fund balances that are classified as restricted are either nonspendable or restricted and have specific (usually external) constraints placed on their use. Fund balances that are classified as unrestricted are either committed, assigned, or unassigned fund balances. Committed and assigned fund balances are fund balances for which the County has identified a specific purpose. Unassigned fund balances do not have a specific use identified, but generally support cash flows of the County.

Governmental funds reported restricted fund balance for 2014 of \$3,216,599, or 13.2 percent, of total fund balance. Restricted fund balance was \$360,167 nonspendable and \$2,856,432 restricted. Unrestricted fund balance was \$21,088,377, or 86.8 percent, of total fund balance. Unrestricted fund balance was \$4,656,880 committed, \$7,307,482 assigned, and \$9,124,015 unassigned. Committed fund balances are approved by the County Board. For example, the Board has decided, by resolution, to set aside monies to fund a portion of the County's broadband project. Assigned fund balances are amounts that are to be used for specific purposes, but are neither restricted nor committed. Unassigned fund balance is fund balance that has not been reported in any other classification and is only used in the General Fund unless there are deficit fund balances in other funds.

The General Fund is the main operating fund of the County. At December 31, 2014, unrestricted fund balance for the General Fund was \$12,661,058, compared to \$11,038,131 in 2013. This increase in the fund balance of the General Fund is due to an unbudgeted increase in intergovernmental revenues. Unrestricted fund balance at the end of the year represented 106.80 percent of the General Fund's operating revenues and 123.15 percent of operating expenditures.

The Road and Bridge Special Revenue Fund's unrestricted fund balance increased to \$156,645 in 2014, compared to a negative unrestricted fund balance of \$172,681 in 2013. In 2014, there was an increase in construction projects undertaken by the Road and Bridge Department. Unrestricted fund balance at the end of the year represented 2.05 percent of the fund's operating revenues and 2.14 percent of operating expenditures.

The Human Services Special Revenue Fund's unrestricted fund balance was \$7,106,974 in 2014, compared to \$6,868,357 in 2013. The increase in the fund balance of the Human Services Special Revenue Fund is attributed to lower expenditures than what was budgeted. Unrestricted fund balance at the end of the year represented 117.20 percent of the fund's operating revenues and 122.00 percent of operating expenditures.

Proprietary Fund

The County's proprietary fund for broadband provides the same type of information found in the government-wide financial statements, only in more detail. The broadband fund's net position was \$1,732,567 in 2014, compared to \$1,028,249 in 2013. Net position increased due to an increase in grant funds received for the construction of the broadband system. In 2014, the County's broadband fund began operations, collecting operating revenues and incurring operating expenditures. The broadband fund was originally started in 2012 to track the construction and related expenses of the County's broadband project.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

Over the course of the year, the County Board reviews the County's General Fund budget and may make budget amendments. These budget amendments fall into three categories: new information changing original budget estimations, greater than anticipated revenues or costs, and final agreement reached on employee contracts. There was one immaterial budget amendment in the General Fund budget in 2014.

In the General Fund, the actual charges to appropriations (expenditures) were \$102,103 less than the final budget amounts. Unbudgeted expenditures included \$262,192 of unbudgeted trail expenditures, \$246,198 of unbudgeted small cities development program expenditures, and \$156,489 of unbudgeted emergency management expenditures. These were offset by savings in various other General Fund departments.

Resources available for appropriation were also above the final budgeted amount by \$1,276,808. This was primarily due to greater than expected collections in intergovernmental revenues.

(Unaudited)

CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

Capital Assets

At the end of 2014, the County had \$134,429,822 invested in a broad range of capital assets, including land, buildings, highways and streets, and equipment. (See Table 4.)

Table 4
Capital Assets at Year-End
(Net of Depreciation, in Thousands)

	G	Governmental Activities				Susiness-Typ	tivities	Totals				
		2014		2013		2014		2013	_	2014		2013
Land	\$	4,021	\$	4,021	\$	-	\$	-	\$	4,021	\$	4,021
Construction in progress				-		31,519		22,078		31,519		22,078
Buildings and improvements Machinery, vehicles, furniture,		9,682		10,116		1,440		1,404		11,122		11,520
and equipment		2,110		2,338		1,805		137		3,915		2,475
Infrastructure		74,886		76,146		9,518		-		84,404		76,146
Totals	\$	90,699	\$	92,621	\$	44,282	\$	23,619	\$	134,981	\$	116,240

The County's fiscal year 2014 capital budget calls for it to spend another \$174,500 for miscellaneous improvements at various buildings, \$283,000 on vehicles for various departments, \$281,967 on equipment for various departments, and \$5,500,000 for road construction. The road construction will be funded by state-aid construction funds.

Debt

At year-end, the County had \$2,410,000 in bonds and notes outstanding versus \$1,690,000 last year--an increase of 42.6 percent--as shown in Table 5. Capital leases payable decreased by \$197,461. The Rural Utilities Service Broadband Loan on the business-type activities portion has a balance of \$34,703,063.

Table 5
Outstanding Debt at Year-End
(in Thousands)

	(Governmen	tal Act	ivities	Business-Type Activities					Totals				
		2014		2013		2014		2013		2014		2013		
General obligation bonds	\$	2,410	\$	1,690	\$	-	\$	-	\$	2,410	\$	1,690		
Capital leases		1,204		1,401		-		-		1,204		1,401		
Loans payable		-		-		34,703		18,584		34,703		18,584		
Compensated absences Net other postemployment		1,433		1,373		-		-		1,433		1,373		
benefits		357		311		-				357		311		
Total	\$	5,404	\$	4,775	\$	34,703	\$	18,584	\$	40,107	\$	23,359		

The state limits the amount of net debt that the County can issue to three percent of the market value of all taxable property in the County. The County's outstanding net debt is below this state-imposed limit.

Other obligations include accrued vacation pay, sick leave payable, and net other postemployment benefits. More detailed information about the County's long-term liabilities is presented in the notes to the financial statements.

ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGETS AND RATES

The County's elected and appointed officials considered many factors when setting the fiscal year 2015 budget and tax rates.

- County General Fund expenditures for 2015 are budgeted to increase 3.5 percent over 2014.
- Property tax levies increased 9.0 percent for 2015.

CONTACTING LAKE COUNTY'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, customers, and investors and creditors with a general overview of the County's finances and to show the County's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report, or need additional financial information, contact the County Auditor/Treasurer, Linda Libal, Lake County Courthouse, 601 - 3rd Avenue, Two Harbors, Minnesota 55616.









EXHIBIT 1

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION DECEMBER 31, 2014

			Prima	ary Government		ousing and development
	G	Fovernmental Activities	В	usiness-Type Activities	Total	Authority nponent Unit
		Activities		Activities	 Total	 iiponent Cint
Assets						
Cash and pooled investments	\$	11,200,161	\$	-	\$ 11,200,161	\$ 786,034
Receivables - net		8,240,758		6,570,624	14,811,382	144,957
Due from component unit		196,189		-	196,189	-
Internal balances		9,989,411		(9,989,411)	-	-
Inventories		300,167		-	300,167	-
Prepaid items		13,096		-	13,096	-
Restricted assets for security						
deposits		-		-	-	15,015
Capital assets						
Non-depreciable capital assets		4,021,386		31,518,771	35,540,157	-
Depreciable capital assets - net of						
accumulated depreciation		86,678,154		12,762,790	 99,440,944	1,072,820
Total Assets	\$	120,639,322	\$	40,862,774	\$ 161,502,096	\$ 2,018,826
<u>Liabilities</u>						
Accounts payable and other current						
liabilities	\$	1,016,364	\$	4,427,144	\$ 5,443,508	\$ 103,497
Accrued interest payable		28,869		-	28,869	-
Due to primary government		-		-	-	196,189
Unearned revenue		146,567		-	146,567	-
Payable from restricted assets						
Security deposits payable		-		-	-	15,015
Long-term liabilities						
Due within one year		479,387		1,649,519	2,128,906	50,000
Due in more than one year		4,567,448		33,053,544	37,620,992	670,369
Other postemployment benefits		356,737			356,737	 <u> </u>
Total Liabilities	\$	6,595,372	\$	39,130,207	\$ 45,725,579	\$ 1,035,070

EXHIBIT 1 (Continued)

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION DECEMBER 31, 2014

			Prima	ry Government			ousing and levelopment
	Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Total		Authority ponent Unit
Net Position							
Net investment in capital assets	\$	87,085,577	\$	9,578,498	\$ 96,664,075	\$	352,451
Restricted for							
General government		521,602		-	521,602		-
Public safety		601,563		-	601,563		-
Highways and streets		134,053		-	134,053		-
Conservation of natural resources		68,696		_	68,696		-
Debt service		1,570,286		_	1,570,286		-
Unrestricted		24,062,173		(7,845,931)	 16,216,242		631,305
Total Net Position	\$	114,043,950	\$	1,732,567	\$ 115,776,517	\$	983,756

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

	 Expenses	es, Charges, es, and Other	Program Revenues Operating Grants and Contributions			
<u>Functions/Programs</u>						
Primary government						
Governmental activities						
General government	\$ 4,365,817	\$ 561,996	\$	3,068,683		
Public safety	4,863,073	160,929		551,754		
Highways and streets	8,656,739	85,254		4,016,446		
Sanitation	301,828	32,716		-		
Human services	3,273,397	94,087		2,443,399		
Health	2,684,402	197,553		1,705,546		
Culture and recreation	973,797	-		-		
Conservation of natural resources	769,550	2,026,873		632,498		
Economic development	339,497	90,000		246,198		
Interest	 92,666	 -		-		
Total governmental activities	\$ 26,320,766	\$ 3,249,408	\$	12,664,524		
Business-type activities						
Broadband	 2,860,341	 192,284		-		
Total Primary Government	\$ 29,181,107	\$ 3,441,692	\$	12,664,524		
Component unit Housing and Redevelopment Authority	\$ 289,357	\$ 186,033	\$	-		

General Revenues

Property taxes

Mortgage registry and deed tax

Payments in lieu of tax

Taxes - other

Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs

Unrestricted investment earnings

Gain on sale of capital assets

Miscellaneous

Total general revenues

Change in net position

Net Position - Beginning

Net Position - Ending

Capital		Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position Primary Government							Discretely	
Grants and Contributions		Governmental Activities		Business-Type Activities		Total		I	Presented	
								Component Unit		
\$	- - 2,714,990 - - - -	\$	(735,138) (4,150,390) (1,840,049) (269,112) (735,911) (781,303) (973,797)	\$	- - - - -	\$	(735,138) (4,150,390) (1,840,049) (269,112) (735,911) (781,303) (973,797)			
	-		1,889,821		-		1,889,821			
	-		(3,299) (92,666)		-		(3,299) (92,666)			
\$	2,714,990	\$	(7,691,844)	\$	-	\$	(7,691,844)			
	3,372,375				704,318		704,318			
\$	6,087,365	\$	(7,691,844)	\$	704,318	\$	(6,987,526)			
\$								\$	(103,324	
		\$	8,043,229 789,750 904,823 338,296 1,182,682 354,759 10,768 164,261	\$	- - - - - -	\$	8,043,229 789,750 904,823 338,296 1,182,682 354,759 10,768 164,261	\$	108,615 - - - - 8,020 850 - 7,188	
		\$	11,788,568	\$	<u> </u>	\$	11,788,568	\$	124,673	
		\$	4,096,724	\$	704,318	\$	4,801,042	\$	21,349	
			109,947,226		1,028,249		110,975,475		962,407	











EXHIBIT 3

BALANCE SHEET GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS DECEMBER 31, 2014

		General		Road and Bridge		Human Services		Nonmajor Funds		Total
<u>Assets</u>										
Cash and pooled investments	\$	903,998	\$	188,110	\$	6,568,534	\$	2,718,213	\$	10,378,855
Escheat cash		36,538		-		-		-		36,538
Petty cash and change funds		1,350		1,000		1,000		50		3,400
Undistributed cash in agency funds		437,591		130,119		181,491		32,167		781,368
Taxes receivable - prior		275,887		90,947		127,908		22,000		516,742
Accounts receivable		18,910		12,207		12,565		653,949		697,631
Accrued interest receivable		9,560		-		-		-		9,560
Loans receivable		98,298		-		-		-		98,298
Due from other funds		10,238,207		13,832		-		-		10,252,039
Due from other governments		2,568,226		2,622,865		1,115,688		281,748		6,588,527
Due from component unit		-				-		196,189		196,189
Prepaid expense		_		_		13,096		-		13,096
Inventories		_		300,167		· -		_		300,167
Leases receivable		330,000		-				-		330,000
Total Assets	\$	14,918,565	\$	3,359,247	\$	8,020,282	\$	3,904,316	\$	30,202,410
Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Fund Balances Liabilities										
Accounts payable	\$	97.046	\$	62,583	\$	120,747	\$	2.032	\$	282,408
Escheat payable	φ	36,538	φ	02,363	Ψ	120,747	φ	2,032	Ψ	36,538
Salaries payable		191,507		62,156		62.762		13,565		329,990
Contracts payable		191,507		159,922		02,702		13,303		159,922
Due to other funds		9.836		139,922		16.700		236.092		262,628
Due to other governments		39,069		5,360		45,453		117,624		207,506
Unearned revenue		39,009		146,567		45,455		117,024		146,567
Officarried revenue				140,307					_	140,307
Total Liabilities	\$	373,996	\$	436,588	\$	245,662	\$	369,313	\$	1,425,559
Deferred Inflows of Resources										
Unavailable revenue - taxes	\$	233,648	\$	78,388	\$	110,389	\$	18,895	\$	441,320
Unavailable revenue - grants		13,472		2,391,459		557,257		100,000		3,062,188
Unavailable revenue - long-term										
receivables		368,298		-		-		600,069		968,367
Total Deferred Inflows of										
Resources	\$	615,418	\$	2,469,847	\$	667,646	\$	718,964	\$	4,471,875

EXHIBIT 3 (Continued)

BALANCE SHEET GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS DECEMBER 31, 2014

		General	 Road and Bridge	_	Human Services			Total	
<u>Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of</u> <u>Resources, and Fund Balances</u> (Continued)									
Fund Balances									
Nonspendable									
Loans receivables	\$	60,000	\$ -	\$	-	\$	-	\$	60,000
Inventories		-	300,167		-		-		300,167
Restricted for									
Law library		25,942	-		-		-		25,942
Recorder's technology equipment		289,560	-		-		-		289,560
Enhanced 911		533,764	-		-		-		533,764
County property recorder's fee		206,100	-		-		-		206,100
Law and prosecutorial equipment		62,799	_		-		-		62,799
Election equipment		16,232	_		-		-		16,232
Sheriff's contingency fund		5,000	-		-		-		5,000
Title III forest		68,696	_		-		-		68,696
Debt service		-	-		-		1,570,286		1,570,286
Forest development		-	-		-		78,053		78,053
Committed to									
Broadband project		3,500,000	-		-		-		3,500,000
Rescue squad capital expenditures		25,019	_		-		-		25,019
Out-of-home placement costs		-	-		1,000,000		-		1,000,000
Forestry road grant		12,024	-		-		12,024		24,048
Unorganized townships									
Emergency services		-	-		_		107,813		107,813
Assigned to							,		•
Highways and streets		_	152,645		_		_		152,645
Human services		_	-		6,106,974		_		6,106,974
Resource development		_	_		-		1,047,863		1,047,863
Unassigned	_	9,124,015	 				-	_	9,124,015
Total Fund Balances	\$	13,929,151	\$ 452,812	\$	7,106,974	\$	2,816,039	\$	24,304,976
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows					0.000.00-				
of Resources, and Fund Balances	\$	14,918,565	\$ 3,359,247	\$	8,020,282	\$	3,904,316	\$	30,202,410

EXHIBIT 4

RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET TO THE GOVERNMENT-WIDE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION--GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES DECEMBER 31, 2014

Fund balances - total governmental funds (Exhibit 3)		\$ 24,304,976
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:		
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.		90,699,540
Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current period expenditures and, therefore, are deferred in the governmental funds.		4,471,875
Long-term liabilities, including bonds payable, are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.		
General obligation bonds Capital leases payable Compensated absences Net other postemployment benefits payable Accrued interest payable	\$ (2,410,000) (1,203,963) (1,432,872) (356,737) (28,869)	 (5,432,441)
Net Position of Governmental Activities (Exhibit 1)		\$ 114,043,950

EXHIBIT 5

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

	 General	 Road and Bridge	Human Nonmajor Services Funds		Total		
Revenues Taxes Licenses and permits Intergovernmental Charges for services Fines and forfeits Investment earnings Miscellaneous	\$ 5,162,335 14,220 5,542,493 454,273 1,148 354,479 326,441	\$ 1,769,633 - 5,601,701 74,519 - 7 10,735	\$	1,894,969 - 3,877,243 269,468 - 22,172	\$ 352,531 1,604 453,981 38,176 - 273 2,034,979	\$	9,179,468 15,824 15,475,418 836,436 1,148 354,759 2,394,327
Total Revenues	\$ 11,855,389	\$ 7,456,595	\$	6,063,852	\$ 2,881,544	\$	28,257,380
Expenditures Current							
General government Public safety Highways and streets Sanitation Human services Health Culture and recreation Conservation of natural resources Economic development	\$ 4,188,287 4,541,002 - 327,905 - 719,087 164,893 339,497	\$ 7,087,158	\$	3,146,386 2,678,849	\$ 6,096 128,524 - - - - 69,273 565,957	\$	4,194,383 4,669,526 7,087,158 327,905 3,146,386 2,678,849 788,360 730,850 339,497
Capital outlay Conservation of natural resources Debt service	-	-		-	21,609		21,609
Principal Interest Administrative (fiscal) charges	 - - -	 50,794 7,608		- - -	 1,836,667 89,661 425		1,887,461 97,269 425
Total Expenditures	\$ 10,280,671	\$ 7,145,560	\$	5,825,235	\$ 2,718,212	\$	25,969,678
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	\$ 1,574,718	\$ 311,035	\$	238,617	\$ 163,332	\$	2,287,702
Other Financing Sources (Uses) Transfers in Transfers out Proceeds from sale of bonds	\$ 207,683 (18,190)	\$ 18,190 (207,683)	\$	- - -	\$ 1,256,771 (1,256,771) 2,391,704	\$	1,482,644 (1,482,644) 2,391,704
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	\$ 189,493	\$ (189,493)	\$		\$ 2,391,704	\$	2,391,704
Net Change in Fund Balances	\$ 1,764,211	\$ 121,542	\$	238,617	\$ 2,555,036	\$	4,679,406
Fund Balances - January 1 Increase (decrease) in inventories	 12,164,940	 522,328 (191,058)		6,868,357	 261,003		19,816,628 (191,058)
Fund Balances - December 31	\$ 13,929,151	\$ 452,812	\$	7,106,974	\$ 2,816,039	\$	24,304,976

EXHIBIT 6

RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE GOVERNMENT-WIDE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES-GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds (Exhibit 5)		\$ 4,679,406
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:		
In the funds, under the modified accrual basis, receivables not available for expenditure are deferred. In the statement of activities, those revenues are recognized when earned. The adjustment to revenue between the fund statements and the statement of activities is the increase or decrease in revenue deferred as unavailable.		
Deferred revenue - December 31 Deferred revenue - January 1	\$ 4,471,875 (2,318,484)	2,153,391
Governmental funds report capital outlay 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. In the statement of activities, the gain or loss on the disposal of capital assets is reported; in the governmental funds, proceeds from the sale increase financial resources. The difference is the net book value of assets sold.		
Expenditures for general capital assets and infrastructure Current year depreciation	\$ 1,345,784 (3,267,492)	(1,921,708)
Debt issuances provide current financial resources to governmental funds, but increase long-term liabilities in the statement of net position. Debt repayment is an expenditure in funds, but a reduction of a liability in the statement of net position.		
Debt issued		
General obligation bonds issued	\$ (2,410,000)	
Principal repayments General obligation bonds Capital lease	1,690,000 197,461	(522,539)
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.		
Change in accrued interest payable Change in deferred bond issuance costs	\$ 5,028	
Change in compensated absences Change in other postemployment benefits	(59,838) (45,958)	
Change in inventories	 (191,058)	 (291,826)
Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities (Exhibit 2)		\$ 4,096,724



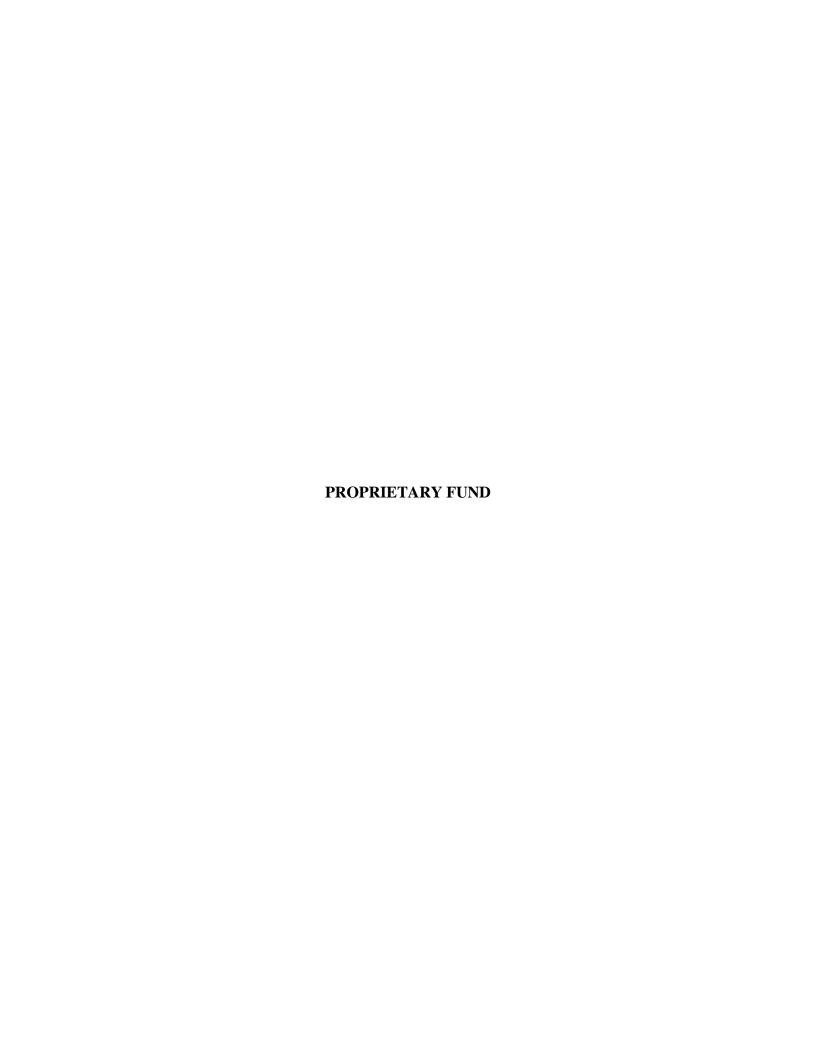




EXHIBIT 7

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION PROPRIETARY FUND DECEMBER 31, 2014

		Broadband
<u>Assets</u>		
Current assets		
Accounts receivable	\$	35,690
Due from other governments		6,534,934
Capital assets		
Non-depreciable capital assets		31,518,771
Depreciable - net of accumulated depreciation		12,762,790
Total Assets	\$	50,852,185
<u>Liabilities</u>		
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$	155,913
Contracts payable		2,188,556
Retainage payable		2,079,254
Due to other governments		3,421
Due to other funds		9,989,411
Loans payable - current		1,649,519
Total current liabilities	\$	16,066,074
Noncurrent liabilities		
Loans payable - noncurrent		33,053,544
Total Liabilities	<u>\$</u>	49,119,618
Net Position		
Net investment in capital assets	\$	9,578,498
Unrestricted	<u> </u>	(7,845,931)
Total Net Position	<u>\$</u>	1,732,567

EXHIBIT 8

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION PROPRIETARY FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

	1	Broadband
Operating Revenues		
Charges for services	\$	192,142
Miscellaneous	Ψ	142
Total Operating Revenues	\$	192,284
Operating Expenses		
Contracted services	\$	305,836
Supplies		16,571
Utilities		37,467
Telephone		3,332
Fuel		5,545
Advertising		13,828
Consulting services		966,645
Insurance		67,391
Travel		33,813
Training		1,091
License and dues		2,439
Postage		3,573
Rent and leased equipment		42,664
Repairs and maintenance		306,046
Video and Internet services		93,740
Miscellaneous		20,628
Depreciation		867,128
Total Operating Expenses	<u>\$</u>	2,787,737
Operating Income (Loss)	<u>\$</u>	(2,595,453)
Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)		
Broadband initiatives program	\$	3,372,375
Interest expense	· 	(72,604)
Total Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)	<u>\$</u>	3,299,771
Change in Net Position	\$	704,318
Net Position - January 1		1,028,249
Net Position - December 31	\$	1,732,567

EXHIBIT 9

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS PROPRIETARY FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

		Broadband
Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Cash received from customers	\$	156,452
Other operating revenues	Ф	130,432
Cash paid to suppliers		(1,860,032)
Cash paid to suppliers		(1,000,032)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	\$	(1,703,438)
Cash Flows from Capital and Related Financing Activities		
Acquisition of capital assets	\$	(20,188,985)
Grant proceeds		2,451,314
Proceeds from loan		13,890,773
Advance		6,552,488
Professional services		(1,190)
Principal paid on loan		(928,358)
Interest paid on loan		(72,604)
Net cash provided by (used in) capital and related financing activities	\$	1,703,438
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	-
Cash and Cash Equivalents at January 1		
Cash and Cash Equivalents at December 31	<u>\$</u>	
Reconciliation of Operating Income (Loss) to Net Cash Provided by		
(Used in) Operating Activities	<u>\$</u>	(2,595,453)
Adjustments to reconcile net operating income (loss) to net cash		
provided by (used in) operating activities		
Depreciation	\$	867,128
Increase (decrease) in receivables		(35,690)
Increase (decrease) in payables		60,577
Total adjustments	<u>\$</u>	892,015
Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Operating Activities	<u>\$</u>	(1,703,438)







EXHIBIT 10

STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION FIDUCIARY FUNDS DECEMBER 31, 2014

	Agei	
<u>Assets</u>		
Cash and pooled investments	\$	1,464,090
<u>Liabilities</u>		
Accounts payable	\$	360,196
Taxes collected in advance		10,432
Due to other governments		1,036,752
Customer deposits - current		56,710
Total Liabilities	\$	1,464,090



NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The County's financial statements are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2014. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is responsible for establishing GAAP for state and local governments through its pronouncements (statements and interpretations). The more significant accounting policies established in GAAP and used by the County are discussed below.

A. Financial Reporting Entity

Lake County was established March 1, 1866, and is an organized county having the powers, duties, and privileges granted counties by Minn. Stat. ch. 373. As required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, these financial statements present Lake County (primary government) and its component unit for which the County is financially accountable. The County is governed by a five-member Board of Commissioners elected from districts within the County. The Board is organized with a chair and vice chair elected at the annual meeting in January of each year.

Discretely Presented Component Unit

While part of the reporting entity, the discretely presented component unit is presented in a separate column in the government-wide financial statements to emphasize that it is legally separate from the County. The following component unit of Lake County is discretely presented:

Component Unit	Component Unit Included in Reporting Entity Because	Separate Financial Statements
Lake County Housing and Redevelopment Authority	The County appoints members, and the Authority is a potential financial burden.	Lake County Housing and Redevelopment Authority P. O. Box 103 Silver Bay, Minnesota 55614

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Financial Reporting Entity

<u>Discretely Presented Component Unit</u> (Continued)

The Lake County Housing and Redevelopment Authority is governed by a five-member Board appointed by the Lake County Board of Commissioners. The Lake County Housing and Redevelopment Authority has all of the powers and duties of a county housing and redevelopment authority under the provisions of Minn. Stat. §§ 469.001-.047.

Joint Ventures and Jointly-Governed Organizations

The County participates in several joint ventures described in Note 7.D. The County also participates in jointly-governed organizations described in Note 7.E.

B. Basic Financial Statements

1. Government-Wide Statements

The government-wide financial statements (the statement of net position and the statement of activities) display information about the primary government and its component unit. These statements include the financial activities of the overall County government, except for fiduciary activities. Eliminations have been made to minimize the double counting of internal activities. Governmental activities which normally are supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from business-type activities, which rely to a significant extent on fees and charges to external parties.

In the government-wide statement of net position, the governmental and business-type activities column: (a) is presented on a consolidated basis by column; and (b) is reported on a full accrual, economic resource basis, which recognizes all long-term assets and receivables as well as long-term debt and obligations. The County's net position is reported in three parts: (1) net investment in capital assets, (2) restricted net position, and (3) unrestricted net position. The County first utilizes restricted resources to finance qualifying activities.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

B. Basic Financial Statements

1. <u>Government-Wide Statements</u> (Continued)

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of each function of the County's governmental and business-type activities are offset by program revenue. Direct expenses are those clearly identifiable with a specific function or activity. Program revenues include: (1) fees, fines, and charges paid by the recipients of goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or activity; and (2) grants and contributions restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or activity. Revenue not classified as program revenue, including all taxes, are presented as general revenue.

2. Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements provide information about the County's funds, including its fiduciary funds. Separate statements for each fund category-governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary--are presented. The emphasis of governmental and proprietary fund financial statements is on major individual governmental and enterprise funds, with each displayed as separate columns in the fund financial statements. All remaining governmental funds are aggregated and reported as nonmajor funds.

The County reports the following major governmental funds:

The <u>General Fund</u> is the County's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the general government, except those accounted for in another fund.

The <u>Road and Bridge Special Revenue Fund</u> is used to account for property tax and intergovernmental revenues and expenditures of the County Highway Department, which is responsible for the construction and maintenance of roads, bridges, and other projects affecting County roadways.

The <u>Human Services Special Revenue Fund</u> is used to account for property tax and intergovernmental revenues used for economic assistance and community social services programs.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

B. Basic Financial Statements

2. <u>Fund Financial Statements</u> (Continued)

The County reports the following major proprietary fund:

The <u>Broadband Enterprise Fund</u> is used to account for the operations of the broadband system. Activities necessary to provide broadband services are accounted for in this fund including the financial resources to be used for the acquisition and construction of the major capital assets relating to the County's broadband system.

Additionally, the County reports the following fund types:

The <u>Debt Service Fund</u> is used to account for the accumulation of resources for and the payment of principal, interest, and related costs of general long-term debt.

Agency funds are custodial in nature and do not present results of operations or have a measurement focus. These funds account for assets that the County holds for others in an agent capacity.

C. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

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

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Lake County considers all revenue as available if collected within 90 days after the end of the current period, except for taxes, which have a 60-day accrual period. Property and other taxes,

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

C. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting (Continued)

licenses, and interest are all considered susceptible to accrual. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on general long-term debt, compensated absences, and claims and judgments, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent that they have matured. Proceeds of general long-term debt and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources.

Proprietary fund operating revenues, such as charges for services, result from exchange transactions associated with the principal activity of the fund. Exchange transactions are those in which each party receives and gives up essentially equal values. Nonoperating revenues, such as subsidies and investment earnings, result from nonexchange transactions or incidental activities.

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

D. Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Net Position or Equity

1. Cash and Cash Equivalents

The County has defined cash and cash equivalents to include cash on hand, demand deposits, and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition. Additionally, each fund's equity in the County's investment pool is treated as a cash equivalent because the funds can deposit or effectively withdraw cash at any time without prior notice or penalty. Cash and cash equivalents do not include restricted accounts.

2. Deposits and Investments

The cash balances of substantially all funds are pooled and invested by the County Auditor/Treasurer for the purpose of increasing earnings through investment activities. Pooled and fund investments are reported at their fair value at December 31, 2014, based on market prices. Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 385.07, investment earnings on cash and pooled investments are credited to the General Fund. Other funds received investment earnings based on other state statutes, grant agreements, contracts, and bond covenants. Pooled investment earnings for 2014 were \$354,759 at the governmental fund level.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

D. Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Net Position or Equity

2. <u>Deposits and Investments</u> (Continued)

Lake County invests in an external investment pool, the Minnesota Association of Governments Investing for Counties (MAGIC) Fund, which is created under a joint powers agreement pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 471.59. The MAGIC Fund is not registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The investment in the pool is measured at the amortized cost per share provided by the pool, which would closely approximate fair value.

3. Receivables and Payables

Activity between funds representative of lending/borrowing arrangements outstanding at the end of the fiscal year is referred to as either "due to/from other funds" (the current portion of interfund loans) or "advances to/from other funds" (the noncurrent portion of interfund loans).

All other outstanding balances between funds are reported as "due to/from other funds." Any residual balances outstanding between the governmental activities and the business-type activities are reported in the government-wide financial statements as "internal balances."

Property taxes are levied as of January 1 on property values assessed as of the same date. The tax levy notice is mailed in March with the first half payment due May 15 and the second half payment due October 15. Unpaid taxes at December 31 become liens on the respective property and are classified in the financial statements as taxes receivable - prior.

No allowance for uncollectible receivables has been provided because such amounts are not expected to be material.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

D. <u>Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Net Position or Equity</u> (Continued)

4. Inventories and Prepaid Items

The Road and Bridge Special Revenue Fund inventory is valued at cost using the average cost method and consists of expendable supplies and parts held for consumption and sand and gravel stockpiles. Inventories in governmental funds are recorded as expenditures when purchased rather than when consumed. Inventories at the government-wide level are recorded as expenses when consumed.

Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in both government-wide and fund financial statements.

5. Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property, plant, equipment, and infrastructure assets (for example, roads, bridges, and similar items), are reported in the governmental or business-type activities column in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the government as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than \$5,000 and an estimated useful life in excess of one year. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair value at the date of donation.

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

Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed. Interest incurred during the construction phase of capital assets of business-type activities is included as part of the capitalized value of the assets constructed.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

D. Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Net Position or Equity

5. <u>Capital Assets</u> (Continued)

Property, plant, and equipment of the primary government, as well as the component unit, are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

Assets	Years
Buildings	5 - 50
Improvements other than buildings	8 - 20
Public domain infrastructure	50 - 75
Furniture, equipment, and vehicles	5 - 20

6. <u>Unearned Revenue</u>

Governmental funds and the government-wide statements report unearned revenue in connection with resources that have been received, but not yet earned.

7. Compensated Absences

The liability for compensated absences reported in the financial statements consists of unpaid, accumulated annual and sick leave balances. The liability has been calculated using the vesting method, in which leave amounts for both employees who currently are eligible to receive termination payments and other employees who are expected to become eligible in the future to receive such payments upon termination are included. Compensated absences are accrued when incurred in the government-wide financial statements. A liability for these amounts is reported in the governmental funds only if they have matured, for example, as a result of employee resignations and retirements.

Lake County's employees (except for Highway Department employees) participate in a postretirement health savings plan administered by the Minnesota State Retirement System. At retirement, depending on the employee's years of service, he or she is issued a lump sum payout of either 10 or 20 percent of the vested sick leave as well as two to three years of insurance coverage. The lump sum payouts are paid directly into the postretirement health savings plan.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

D. Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Net Position or Equity

7. Compensated Absences (Continued)

The County determines the current portion, if any, based on anticipated retirements and any activity that occurs within the first few months of the subsequent year. There was no current portion reported at year-end.

8. Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

In addition to assets, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred outflows of resources, represents consumption of net position that applies to a future period(s) and will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expenditure/expense) until then. Currently, the County has no items that qualify for reporting in this category.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred inflows of resources, represents an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. The County has only one type of item, which arises only under the modified accrual basis of accounting, that qualifies for reporting in this category. Accordingly, the item, unavailable revenue, is reported only in the governmental funds balance sheet. This amount is deferred and recognized as an inflow of resources in the period that the amounts became available.

9. Long-Term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements and proprietary fund types in the fund financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the governmental activities, business-type activities, or proprietary fund type statement of net position. Bond premiums and discounts are deferred and amortized over the life of the bonds using the straight-line method. Bonds payable are reported net of the applicable bond premium or discount.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

D. Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Net Position or Equity

9. <u>Long-Term Obligations</u> (Continued)

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund types recognize bond premiums and discounts, as well as bond issuance costs, during the current period. The face amount of the debt issued 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, whether or not withheld from the actual debt proceeds received, are reported as debt service expenditures.

10. Classification of Net Position

Net position in government-wide statements and in the proprietary fund type statements is classified in the following categories:

<u>Net investment in capital assets</u> - the amount of net position representing capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, and reduced by outstanding debt attributed to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of the assets.

<u>Restricted net position</u> - the amount of net position for which external restrictions have been imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments and restrictions imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

<u>Unrestricted net position</u> - the amount of net position that does not meet the definition of restricted or net investment in capital assets.

11. Classification of Fund Balances

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the County is bound to observe constraints imposed upon the use of the resources in the governmental funds. The classifications are as follows:

Nonspendable - amounts that cannot be spent because they are not in spendable form, such as fund balance associated with inventories, prepaids, or permanent funds.

1. <u>Summary of Significant Accounting Policies</u>

D. Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Net Position or Equity

11. <u>Classification of Fund Balances</u> (Continued)

<u>Restricted</u> - amounts that are restricted by external parties such as creditors or imposed by grants, law, or legislation.

<u>Committed</u> - amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes determined by a formal action of Lake County's highest level of decision-making authority, which is the Lake County Board of Commissioners. Fund balance commitments are established, modified, or rescinded by County Board action through a Board resolution.

<u>Assigned</u> - amounts intended to be used by the government for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed. In governmental funds other than the General Fund, assigned fund balance represents the remaining amount of fund balance that is not restricted or committed.

<u>Unassigned</u> - the residual classification for the General Fund and includes all spendable amounts not contained in the other fund balance classifications. In other governmental funds, the unassigned classification is used only to report a deficit balance resulting from overspending for specific purposes for which amounts had been restricted or committed.

The County applies restricted resources first when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which either restricted or unrestricted (committed, assigned, and unassigned) amounts are available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced first followed by assigned, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

1. <u>Summary of Significant Accounting Policies</u>

D. <u>Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources, and Net Position or Equity</u> (Continued)

12. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

E. Future Change in Accounting Standards

GASB Statement No. 68, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions, as amended by GASB Statement No. 71, Pension Transition for Contributions Made Subsequent to the Measurement Date, replaces Statement No. 27, Accounting for Pensions by State and Local Governmental Employers, and Statement No. 50, Pension Disclosures, as they relate to employer governments that provide pensions through pension plans administered as trusts or similar arrangement that meet certain criteria. GASB Statement 68 requires governments providing defined benefit pension plans to recognize their long-term obligation for pension benefits as a liability for the first time, and to more comprehensively and comparably measure the annual costs of pension benefits. This statement will be effective for the County's calendar year 2015. The County has not yet determined the financial statement impact of adopting this new standard.

2. Stewardship, Compliance, and Accountability

Excess of Expenditures Over Appropriations

For the year ended December 31, 2014, expenditures exceeded appropriations in the following nonmajor funds:

		Final				
	Budget		Ex	penditures	Excess	
Special Revenue Funds						
Resource Development	\$	189,567	\$	254,005	\$	64,438
Unorganized Townships		121,150		134,620		13,470
Debt Service Fund		313,153		1,748,173		1,435,020

3. Detailed Notes on All Funds

A. Assets

1. <u>Deposits and Investments</u>

The County's total cash and investments are reported as follows:

Primary government	
Cash and pooled investments	\$ 11,200,161
Component unit	
Cash and pooled investments	786,034
Restricted cash with management company for security deposits	15,015
Fiduciary funds	
Cash and pooled investments	1,464,090
Total Cash and Investments	\$ 13,465,300

a. Deposits

The County is authorized by Minn. Stat. §§ 118A.02 and 118A.04 to designate a depository for public funds and to invest in certificates of deposit. The County is required by Minn. Stat. § 118A.03 to protect all County deposits with insurance, surety bond, or collateral. The market value of collateral pledged shall be at least ten percent more than the amount on deposit at the close of the financial institution's banking day, not covered by insurance or bonds.

Authorized collateral includes treasury bills, notes and bonds; issues of U.S. government agencies; general obligations rated "A" or better and revenue obligations rated "AA" or better; irrevocable standby letters of credit issued by the Federal Home Loan Bank; and certificates of deposit. Minnesota statutes require that securities pledged as collateral be held in safekeeping in a restricted account at the Federal Reserve Bank or in an account at a trust department of a commercial bank or other financial institution not owned or controlled by the financial institution furnishing the collateral.

3. Detailed Notes on All Funds

A. Assets

1. Deposits and Investments

a. <u>Deposits</u> (Continued)

Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a financial institution failure, the County's deposits may not be returned to it. The County does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk. As of December 31, 2014, the County's deposits were not exposed to custodial credit risk.

b. Investments

The County may invest in the following types of investments as authorized by Minn. Stat. §§ 118A.04 and 118A.05:

- (1) securities which are direct obligations or are guaranteed or insured issues of the United States, its agencies, its instrumentalities, or organizations created by an act of Congress, except mortgage-backed securities defined as "high risk" by Minn. Stat. § 118A.04, subd. 6;
- (2) mutual funds through shares of registered investment companies provided the mutual fund receives certain ratings depending on its investments:
- (3) general obligations of the State of Minnesota and its municipalities, and in certain state agency and local obligations of Minnesota and other states provided such obligations have certain specified bond ratings by a national bond rating service;
- (4) bankers' acceptances of United States banks;
- (5) commercial paper issued by United States corporations or their Canadian subsidiaries that is rated in the highest quality category by two nationally recognized rating agencies and matures in 270 days or less; and

3. Detailed Notes on All Funds

A. Assets

1. <u>Deposits and Investments</u>

b. <u>Investments</u> (Continued)

(6) with certain restrictions, in repurchase agreements, securities lending agreements, joint powers investment trusts, and guaranteed investment contracts.

Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in the market interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. The County minimizes its exposure to interest rate risk by investing in both short-term and long-term investments and by timing cash flows from maturities so that a portion of the portfolio is maturing or coming close to maturity evenly over time as necessary to provide the cash flow and liquidity needed for operations.

Credit Risk

Generally, credit risk is the risk that an issuer of an investment will not fulfill its obligation to the holder of an investment. This is measured by the assignment of a rating by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization. It is the County's policy to invest only in securities that meet the ratings requirements set by state statute.

Custodial Credit Risk

The custodial credit risk for investments is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty to a transaction, a government will not be able to recover the value of investment or collateral securities in the possession of an outside party. The County does not have an investment policy for custodial credit risk. All of Lake County's investments in negotiable certificates of deposit and government securities are held by the counterparty to the transactions. These investments are covered by Securities Investor Protection Corporation (SIPC) insurance or excess SIPC insurance and are, therefore, not subject to custodial credit risk.

3. <u>Detailed Notes on All Funds</u>

A. Assets

1. <u>Deposits and Investments</u>

b. <u>Investments</u> (Continued)

Concentration of Credit Risk

The concentration of credit risk is the risk of loss that may be caused by the County's investment in a single issuer. It is the policy of the County to diversify investments to avoid risk and also for cash-flow purposes.

The following table presents the County's deposit and investment balances at December 31, 2014, and information relating to potential investment risks:

	Credit Risk		Concentration Risk	Interest Rate Risk	Carrying	
	Credit	Rating	Over 5%	Maturity		(Fair)
Investment Type	Rating	Agency	of Portfolio	Date	Value	
31			0110110110	Dute		, ardo
U.S. government agency securities						
Federal National Mortgage Association	N/R	N/A	<5%	02/01/2019	\$	29,718
Federal Home Loan Bank Bonds	Aaa	Moody's		12/30/2019	\$	799,896
Federal Home Loan Bank Bonds	Aaa	Moody's		03/27/2023		497,500
Federal Home Loan Bank Bonds	Aaa	Moody's		04/25/2023		247,363
Federal Home Loan Bank Bonds	Aaa	Moody's		05/08/2023		999,170
Federal Home Loan Bank Bonds	Aaa	Moody's		06/13/2023		490,510
Federal Home Loan Bank Bonds	Aaa	Moody's		05/28/2024		498,995
Federal Home Loan Bank Bonds	Aaa	Moody's		07/10/2024		300,060
Total Federal Home Loan Bank Bonds			31.3%		\$	3,833,494
Negotiable Certificate of Deposit						
CIT Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	11/19/2019		244,446
Investment pools/mutual funds						
MAGIC Fund	N/R	N/A	66.5%	N/A	\$	8,142,462
Total investments					\$	12,250,120
Deposits - primary government						374,043
Deposits - component unit						801,049
Petty cash and change funds						3,550
Escheat cash						36,538
Total Cash and Investments					\$	13,465,300

N/A - Not Applicable

N/R - Not Rated

<5% - Concentration is less than 5% of investments

3. <u>Detailed Notes on All Funds</u>

A. Assets (Continued)

2. Receivables

Receivables as of December 31, 2014, for the County's governmental and business-type activities are as follows:

	R	Total eceivables	Sch C D	Amounts Not Scheduled for Collection During the Subsequent Year		
Governmental Activities						
Taxes	\$	516,742	\$	-		
Due from other governments		6,588,527		-		
Accounts		697,631		-		
Interest		9,560		-		
Loans receivable		98,298		88,225		
Leases receivable		330,000		280,073		
Total Governmental Activities	\$	8,240,758	\$	368,298		
Business-Type Activities						
Due from other governments	\$	6,534,934	\$	-		
Accounts		35,690		-		
Total Business-Type Activities	\$	6,570,624	\$	-		

Loans Receivable

Loans receivable consist of outstanding loans to individuals for shoreline erosion projects and loans to individuals for economic development.

Leases Receivable

The County entered into lease agreements with the Lake County Ambulance Service to rent the Two Harbors ambulance service building and Silver Bay ambulance service building owned by Lake County. The annual rent of \$40,000 for the buildings is based on the financial stability and profitability of the Ambulance Service.

3. <u>Detailed Notes on All Funds</u>

A. Assets (Continued)

3. <u>Capital Assets</u>

Capital asset activity for the year ended December 31, 2014, was as follows:

Governmental Activities

	 Beginning Balance			Decrease		Reclassify		 Ending Balance		
Capital assets not depreciated Land	\$ 4,021,386	\$	-	\$		\$		\$ 4,021,386		
Capital assets depreciated Buildings Improvements other than	\$ 16,376,308	\$	15,854	\$	-	\$	49,914	\$ 16,442,076		
buildings Machinery, furniture, and	755,268		23,214		-		(67,163)	711,319		
equipment Infrastructure	11,817,759 102,118,207		602,004 704,712		133,219		17,249	 12,303,793 102,822,919		
Total capital assets depreciated	\$ 131,067,542	\$	1,345,784	\$	133,219	\$		\$ 132,280,107		
Less: accumulated depreciation for										
Buildings Improvements other than	\$ 6,581,422	\$	420,801	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 7,002,223		
buildings Machinery, furniture, and	433,744		34,928		-		-	468,672		
equipment Infrastructure	 9,480,452 25,972,062		846,941 1,964,822		133,219		-	 10,194,174 27,936,884		
Total accumulated depreciation	\$ 42,467,680	\$	3,267,492	\$	133,219	\$		\$ 45,601,953		
Total capital assets depreciated, net	\$ 88,599,862	\$	(1,921,708)	\$		\$		\$ 86,678,154		
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	\$ 92,621,248	\$	(1,921,708)	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 90,699,540		

3. Detailed Notes on All Funds

A. Assets

3. <u>Capital Assets</u> (Continued)

Business-Type Activities

	 Beginning Balance	Increase		Decrease		Transfer/ Reclassification		Ending Balance	
Capital assets not depreciated Construction in progress	\$ 22,077,855	\$	19,863,752	\$	-	\$	(10,422,836)	\$	31,518,771
Capital assets depreciated Buildings Improvements other than buildings Machinery, furniture, and	\$ 466,787 979,038	\$	21,716 57,660	\$	- -	\$	- -	\$	488,503 1,036,698
equipment Infrastructure	 164,907		520,740 1,065,805		-		1,466,146 8,956,690		2,151,793 10,022,495
Total capital assets depreciated	\$ 1,610,732	\$	1,665,921	\$	-	\$	10,422,836	\$	13,699,489
Less: accumulated depreciation for									
Buildings Improvements other than buildings Machinery, furniture, and	\$ 11,669 30,122	\$	12,213 31,563	\$	-	\$	-	\$	23,882 61,685
equipment Infrastructure	 27,780		318,889 504,463		-		- -		346,669 504,463
Total accumulated depreciation	\$ 69,571	\$	867,128	\$	-	\$		\$	936,699
Total capital assets depreciated, net	\$ 1,541,161	\$	798,793	\$	-	\$	10,422,836	\$	12,762,790
Business-Type Activities Capital Assets, Net	\$ 23,619,016	\$	20,662,545	\$	-	\$		\$	44,281,561

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

Governmental Activities	
General government	\$ 227,386
Public safety	432,132
Highways and streets, including depreciation of infrastructure assets	2,294,615
Human services	95,186
Sanitation	12,150
Culture and recreation	178,718
Conservation of natural resources	 27,305
Total Depreciation Expense - Governmental Activities	\$ 3,267,492
Business-Type Activities Broadband	\$ 897,128

3. <u>Detailed Notes on All Funds</u> (Continued)

B. <u>Interfund Receivables</u>, Payables, and Transfers

1. <u>Due To/From Other Funds</u>

The composition of interfund balances as of December 31, 2014, is as follows:

Receivable Fund	Receivable Fund Payable Fund		Purpose			
General	Human Services Other governmental funds Broadband Enterprise	\$ 16,700 236,092 9,985,415	Reimbursement for services Temporary loan, deficit cash balances Deficit cash balance			
Total due to General Fund		\$ 10,238,207				
Road and Bridge	General Broadband Enterprise	\$ 9,836 3,996	Reimbursement for services Reimbursement for services			
Total due to Road and Bridge Fund		\$ 13,832				
Total Due To/From Other Funds		\$ 10,252,039				

2. <u>Due To/From Primary Government and Component Units</u>

Receivable Entity	Payable Entity	Amount	Purpose		
Primary Government - Debt Service	Component Unit - Lake County Housing and Redevelopment Authority	\$ 196,189	Shortfalls in tax increment collections funded by primary government		

3. <u>Interfund Transfers</u>

Interfund transfers for the year ended December 31, 2014, consisted of the following:

Transfers to Road and Bridge Special		
Revenue Fund from General Fund	\$ 18,190	Reimbursement for services
Transfer to General Fund from Road		
and Bridge Special Revenue Fund	207,683	Excess bond money
Transfer to Resource Development Fund		•
from Tax Forfeited Fund	1,256,771	Land lease payment
Total Transfers	\$ 1,482,644	

3. <u>Detailed Notes on All Funds</u> (Continued)

C. <u>Liabilities</u>

1. Payables

Payables at December 31, 2014, were as follows:

	vernmental Activities	Business-Type Activities			
Accounts payable	\$ 282,408	\$	155,913		
Escheat property payable	36,538		_		
Salaries payable	329,990		-		
Contracts payable	159,922		2,188,556		
Retainage payable	-		2,079,254		
Due to other governments	 207,506		3,421		
Total Payables	\$ 1,016,364	\$	4,427,144		

2. Long-Term Debt

Governmental Activities

Types of Indebtedness	Final Maturity	Installment Amounts	Interest Rate (%)	 Original Issue Amount		Outstanding Balance ecember 31, 2014
General Obligation Bonds G.O. Capital Improvement Refunding Bonds, Series 2014A	2030	\$60,000 - \$355,000	2.00 - 3.25	\$ 2,410,000	\$	2,410,000
Other Long-Term Debt		,,,,,,,	3.25 -	 _,,		_,,
Capital lease - Land	2021	\$146,667	5.375	\$ 2,200,000	\$	1,026,665
Capital lease - Grader	2016	\$4,893 - \$28,719	3.75	134,259		33,612
Capital lease - Chieftain	2020	\$14,302 - \$27,823	3.70	 178,065		143,686
Total Other Long-Term Debt				\$ 2,512,324	\$	1,203,963

On July 22, 2014, the County issued \$2,410,000 General Obligation Capital Improvement Refunding Bonds to refund \$1,445,000 of General Obligation State Aid Highway Bonds, Series 2005, and to finance additional broadband construction costs through \$965,000 in tax abatement bonds.

3. Detailed Notes on All Funds

C. Liabilities

2. <u>Long-Term Debt</u> (Continued)

Business-Type Activities

Types of Indebtedness	Final Maturity	Installment Amounts	Interest Rate (%)	Original Issue Amount	Outstanding Balance December 31, 2014
Rural Utilities Service Broadband Loans	2029	\$426,984 - \$1,226,560	2.0154 - 3.2870	\$ 36,145,576	\$ 34,703,063

3. <u>Debt Service Requirements</u>

Debt service requirements at December 31, 2014, were as follows:

Governmental Activities

Year Ending	General Oblig	ation Bo	nds	Other Long	-Term Debt		
December 31	Principal	Interest		Principal		Interest	
2015 2016 2017 2018	\$ 280,000 340,000 340,000 350,000	\$	54,216 46,625 39,825 32,925	\$ 199,387 176,464 172,508 173,481	\$	27,499 22,732 18,655 14,566	
2019 2020 - 2024 2025 - 2029 2030	 355,000 310,000 355,000 80,000		25,875 91,525 41,875 1,300	 174,490 307,633 - -		10,440 9,504 - -	
Total	\$ 2,410,000	\$	334,166	\$ 1,203,963	\$	103,396	

Business-Type Activities

The debt service requirements for the Rural Utilities Service Broadband Loans at December 31, 2014, are not currently available.

3. <u>Detailed Notes on All Funds</u>

C. Liabilities (Continued)

4. Changes in Long-Term Liabilities

Long-term liability activity for the year ended December 31, 2014, was as follows:

Governmental Activities

	Beginning Balance Additions		Additions	Deductions		Ending Balance		Due Within One Year		
Bonds payable										
General obligation bonds	\$	1,690,000	\$	-	\$	1,690,000	\$	-	\$	-
General obligation improvement										
refunding bonds		-		2,410,000		-		2,410,000		280,000
Capital lease payable		1,401,424		-		197,461		1,203,963		199,387
Compensated absences		1,373,034		691,002		631,164		1,432,872		-
Governmental Activities										
Long-Term Liabilities	\$	4,464,458	\$	3,101,002	\$	2,518,625	\$	5,046,835	\$	479,387

Business-Type Activities

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Deductions	Ending Balance	Due Within One Year
Broadband Loans	\$ 18,584,402	\$ 17,047,019	\$ 928,358	\$ 34,703,063	\$ 1,649,519

4. Pension Plans

A. <u>Defined Benefit Plan</u>

<u>Plan Description</u>

All full-time and certain part-time employees of Lake County are covered by defined benefit pension plans administered by the Public Employees Retirement Association of Minnesota (PERA). PERA administers the General Employees Retirement Fund, the Public Employees Police and Fire Fund, and the Local Government Correctional Service Retirement Fund (the Public Employees Correctional Fund), which are cost-sharing, multiple-employer retirement plans. These plans are established and administered in accordance with Minn. Stat. chs. 353 and 356.

4. Pension Plans

A. Defined Benefit Plan

<u>Plan Description</u> (Continued)

General Employees Retirement Fund members belong to either the Coordinated Plan or the Basic Plan. Coordinated Plan members are covered by Social Security and Basic Plan members are not. All new members must participate in the Coordinated Plan and benefits vest after five years of credited service.

Police officers, firefighters, and peace officers who qualify for membership by statute are covered by the Public Employees Police and Fire Fund. Members who are employed in a county correctional institution as a correctional guard or officer, a joint jailer/dispatcher, or as a supervisor of correctional guards or officers or of joint jailer/dispatchers and are directly responsible for the direct security, custody, and control of the county correctional institution and its inmates, are covered by the Public Employees Correctional Fund. For members first eligible for membership after June 30, 2010, benefits vest on a graduated schedule starting with 50 percent after five years and increasing 10 percent for each year of service until fully vested after ten years.

PERA provides retirement benefits as well as disability benefits to members and benefits to survivors upon death of eligible members. Benefits are established by state statute. Defined retirement benefits are based on a member's highest average salary for any five successive years of allowable service, age, and years of credit at termination of service.

Two methods are used to compute benefits for General Employees Retirement Fund Coordinated and Basic Plan members. The retiring member receives the higher of a step-rate benefit accrual formula (Method 1) or a level accrual formula (Method 2). Under Method 1, the annuity accrual rate for a Basic Plan member is 2.2 percent of average salary for each of the first ten years of service and 2.7 percent for each remaining year. For a Coordinated Plan member, the annuity accrual rate is 1.2 percent of average salary for each of the first ten years and 1.7 percent for each remaining year. Under Method 2, the annuity accrual rate is 2.7 percent of average salary for Basic Plan members and 1.7 percent for Coordinated Plan members for each year of service. For Public Employees Police and Fire Fund members, the annuity accrual rate is 3.0 percent for each year of service. For Public Employees Correctional Fund members, the annuity accrual rate is 1.9 percent for each year of service.

4. Pension Plans

A. Defined Benefit Plan

<u>Plan Description</u> (Continued)

For General Employees Retirement Fund members hired prior to July 1, 1989, whose annuity is calculated using Method 1, and for all Public Employees Police and Fire Fund and Public Employees Correctional Fund members, a full annuity is available when age plus years of service equal 90. Normal retirement age is 55 for Public Employees Police and Fire Fund members and Public Employees Correctional Fund members, and either 65 or 66 (depending on date hired) for General Employees Retirement Fund members. A reduced retirement annuity is also available to eligible members seeking early retirement.

The benefit provisions stated in the previous paragraphs of this section are current provisions and apply to active plan participants. Vested, terminated employees who are entitled to benefits but are not yet receiving them are bound by the provisions in effect at the time they last terminated public service.

PERA issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for the General Employees Retirement Fund, the Public Employees Police and Fire Fund, and the Public Employees Correctional Fund. That report may be obtained on the internet at www.mnpera.org; by writing to PERA at 60 Empire Drive, Suite 200, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103-2088; or by calling 651-296-7460 or 1-800-652-9026.

Funding Policy

Pension benefits are funded from member and employer contributions and income from the investment of fund assets. Rates for employer and employee contributions are set by Minn. Stat. ch. 353. These statutes are established and amended by the State Legislature. The County makes annual contributions to the pension plans equal to the amount required by state statutes. General Employees Retirement Fund Basic Plan members and Coordinated Plan members are required to contribute 9.10 and 6.25 percent, respectively, of their annual covered salary in 2014. Public Employees Police and Fire Fund members are required to contribute 10.20 percent of their annual covered salary in 2014. Public Employees Correctional Fund members are required to contribute 5.83 percent of their annual covered salary.

4. Pension Plans

A. Defined Benefit Plan

Funding Policy (Continued)

In 2014, the County is required to contribute the following percentages of annual covered payroll:

General Employees Retirement Fund	
Basic Plan members	11.78%
Coordinated Plan members	7.25
Public Employees Police and Fire Fund	15.30
Public Employees Correctional Fund	8.75

The County's contributions for the years ending December 31, 2014, 2013, and 2012, for the General Employees Retirement Fund, the Public Employees Police and Fire Fund, and the Public Employees Correctional Fund were:

	2014		2013		 2012
General Employees Retirement Fund Public Employees Police and Fire Fund Public Employees Correctional Fund	\$	392,870 182,849 44,725	\$	380,457 165,533 44.291	\$ 379,607 157,623 44,745
I done Employees Correctional Fund		44,723		44,271	44,743

These contribution amounts are equal to the contractually required contributions for each year as set by state statute. Contribution rates increased on January 1, 2015, in the General Employees Retirement Fund Coordinated Plan (6.50 percent for members and 7.50 percent for employers) and the Public Employees Police and Fire Fund (10.80 percent for members and 16.20 percent for employers).

B. <u>Defined Contribution Plan</u>

Three County Commissioners of Lake County are covered by the Public Employees Defined Contribution Plan, a multiple-employer deferred compensation plan administered by PERA. The plan is established and administered in accordance with Minn. Stat. ch. 353D, which may be amended by the State Legislature. The plan is a tax qualified plan under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, and all contributions by or on behalf of employees are tax deferred until time of withdrawal.

4. Pension Plans

B. Defined Contribution Plan (Continued)

Plan benefits depend solely on amounts contributed to the plan plus investment earnings, less administrative expenses. For those qualified personnel who elect to participate, Minn. Stat. § 353D.03 specifies plan provisions, including the employee and employer contribution rates. An eligible elected official who decides to participate contributes 5.00 percent of salary, which is matched by the employer. Employees may elect to make member contributions in an amount not to exceed the employer share. Employee and employer contributions are combined and used to purchase shares in one or more of the seven accounts of the Minnesota Supplemental Investment Fund. For administering the plan, PERA receives 2.00 percent of employer contributions and 0.25 percent of the assets in each member account annually.

Total contributions by dollar amount and percentage of covered payroll made by the County during the year ended December 31, 2014, were:

	Employee		Employer		
Contribution amount	\$	5,156	\$	5,156	
Percentage of covered payroll		5%		5%	

Required contribution rates were 5.00 percent.

5. Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

A. Plan Description and Funding Policy

Lake County explicitly subsidizes the cost of retiree health insurance coverage for certain retired employees through a sick leave reserve program under a single employer self-insured plan. Highway Department employees with at least 10 years of service who are eligible to receive a retirement benefit from PERA are eligible for up to 2 years of health insurance premiums paid by the County at the single rate. Highway Department employees with 20 or more years of service are eligible for up to 3 years of health insurance premiums. At retirement, each eligible employee's sick leave hours are converted to a dollar amount using the employee's hourly pay rate at retirement. The period of time for which the employee may receive the paid health insurance benefit is limited to the dollar value of the employee's accumulated sick leave at retirement. As of December 31, 2014, there was no retirees using their sick leave balances for insurance premiums.

5. Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

A. <u>Plan Description and Funding Policy</u> (Continued)

Active employees who retire from the County when eligible to receive a retirement benefit from PERA, who do not qualify for the aforementioned benefits and do not participate in any other health benefits program providing similar coverage, will be eligible to continue coverage with respect to both themselves and their eligible dependents under the County's health benefits program. These retirees are required to pay 100 percent of the total premium cost. Since the premium is a blended rate determined on the entire active and retiree population, the retirees are receiving an implicit rate subsidy. As of December 31, 2014, four retirees were receiving health benefits from the County's health plan. The authority to provide these benefits is established in Minn. Stat. § 471.61, subd. 2a.

The cost of other postemployment benefits is funded on a "pay-as-you-go" method.

B. Annual OPEB Cost and Net OPEB Obligation

The County's annual other postemployment benefits (OPEB) cost is calculated based on the annual required contribution (ARC) of the employer, an amount actuarially determined in accordance with the parameters of GASB Statement 45. The ARC represents a level of funding that, if paid on an ongoing basis, is projected to cover normal cost each year and amortize any unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities (or funding excess) over a period not to exceed 30 years. The following table shows the components of the County's annual OPEB cost for the year, the amount actually contributed to the plan, and changes in the County's net OPEB obligation:

ARC Interest on net OPEB obligation Adjustment to ARC	\$ 83,523 13,985 (19,389)
Annual OPEB cost Contributions during the year	\$ 78,119 (32,161)
Increase in net OPEB obligation Net OPEB - Beginning of Year	\$ 45,958 310,779
Net OPEB - End of Year	\$ 356,737

5. Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

B. Annual OPEB Cost and Net OPEB (Continued)

The County's annual OPEB cost; the percentage of annual OPEB cost contributed to the plan; and the net OPEB obligation for 2014, 2013, and 2012 were as follows:

	2014		2013		 2012
Percentage of annual OPEB cost contributed		41.2%		33.2%	29.0%
Annual OPEB cost Employer contributions	\$	78,119 (32,161)	\$	94,556 (31,480)	\$ 96,095 (27,843)
Net Increase in Net OPEB Obligation	\$	45,958	\$	63,076	\$ 68,252

C. Funded Status and Funding Progress

The actuarial accrued liability for benefits at January 1, 2014, the most recent actuarial date, is \$546,471. The County currently has no assets that have been irrevocably deposited in a trust for future health benefits; thus, the entire amount is unfunded. The covered payroll (annual payroll of active employees covered by the plan) is \$6,594,400. The ratio of the unfunded actuarially accrued liabilities (UAAL) to covered payroll is 8.3 percent.

Actuarial valuations involve estimates of the value of reported amounts and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future. Examples include assumptions about future employment, mortality, and health care cost trends. Amounts determined regarding the funded status of the plan and the annual required contributions of the employer are subject to continual revision as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future. The Schedule of Funding Progress - Other Postemployment Benefits, presented as required supplementary information following the notes to the financial statements, presents multi-year trend information about whether the actuarial value of plan assets is increasing or decreasing over time relative to the actuarial accrued liabilities for benefits.

5. Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

C. Funded Status and Funding Progress (Continued)

Projections of benefits for financial reporting purposes are based on the substantive plan (as understood by the employer and plan members) and include the types of benefits provided at the time of each valuation. The actuarial methods and assumptions used include techniques designed to reduce the effect of short-term volatility in actuarial accrued liabilities, consistent with the long-term perspective of the calculations.

In the January 1, 2014, actuarial valuation, the projected unit credit actuarial cost method was used. The actuarial assumptions included a 4.5 percent discount rate, which is based on the estimated long-term investment yield on the general assets of the County. The annual health care cost trend rate is 7.5 percent initially, reduced incrementally to an ultimate rate of 5.0 percent after 10 years. The unfunded actuarial accrued liability is being amortized as a level dollar amount on a closed basis over 30 years.

6. Postemployment Health Care Plans

A. MSRS Health Care Savings Plan

All Lake County employees (except for Highway Department employees) are eligible to participate in a Health Care Savings Plan (HCSP) administered by the Minnesota State Retirement System (MSRS). The plan is authorized under Minn. Stat. § 352.98 and through an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) private letter ruling establishing the HCSP as a tax-exempt benefit as of July 29, 2002. The plan is open to any active public employees in Minnesota if they are covered under certain public service retirement plans.

Under the terms of the HCSP, employees are allowed to save money, tax-free, to use upon termination of employment to pay for eligible health care expenses. The IRS private letter ruling requires mandatory participation of all employees in each bargaining unit in order to gain tax-free benefits. Allowable amounts deposited into individual accounts must be negotiated by each individual bargaining unit and the employer. The plan must be written into the collective bargaining agreement or a Memo of Understanding. For those employees not covered by a bargaining unit, amounts to be deposited into individual accounts must be agreed to by the employer and included in a written personnel policy.

6. <u>Postemployment Health Care Plans</u>

A. MSRS Health Care Savings Plan (Continued)

Under Lake County's plan, both unionized and non-represented employees are required to contribute, at retirement, a lump sum of 10 or 20 percent of their eligible unused sick time plus the value of 24 or 36 months of health insurance premiums into their HCSP account, depending on the years of service.

B. VEBA Plan

The Lake County Board of Commissioners approved a Voluntary Employees' Beneficiary Association (VEBA) plan for funding employee health benefits as authorized under Sections 501(c)(9) and 213(d) of the IRS code for members of the Sheriff's Deputy Union, Sheriff's Dispatchers/Corrections Union, Courthouse, Human Services, and for non-represented employees. The VEBA plan is a health reimbursement plan providing for individual employer-funded accounts that can be used to help pay eligible medical expenses incurred by participating employees. The plan is used in combination with a high deductible health care plan. Funding is provided through pre-tax contributions from Lake County on employee health care elections.

In 2014, the maximum County contribution for active employees is \$1,690 for employees with single coverage and \$3,250 for employees with family coverage. Any balance remaining in an employee's account at year-end rolls over into the subsequent year. Upon retirement, any balance remaining in the VEBA account may be used to pay medical expenses.

Eligibility requirements include:

- be an active employee or retiree of a public entity,
- active employees must have a high deductible health care plan, and
- be a member of a bargaining unit that has approved the VEBA plan.

7. Summary of Significant Contingencies and Other Items

A. Risk Management

The County is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, or destruction of assets; errors or omissions; injuries to employees; or natural disasters. To manage its workers' compensation and property and casualty risks, the County has entered into a joint powers agreement with other Minnesota counties to form the Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust (MCIT). The County is a member of both the MCIT Workers' Compensation and Property and Casualty Divisions. The County self-insures for employee dental coverage and participates in a health insurance pool for employee health coverage. For other risks, the County carries commercial insurance. The County retains risk for the deductible portions of the insurance policies. The amounts of these deductibles are considered immaterial to the financial statements. There were no significant reductions in insurance from the prior year. The amount of settlements did not exceed insurance coverage for the past three fiscal years.

The Workers' Compensation Division of MCIT is self-sustaining based on the contributions charged, so that total contributions plus compounded earnings on these contributions will equal the amount needed to satisfy claims liabilities and other expenses. MCIT participates in the Workers' Compensation Reinsurance Association with coverage at \$480,000 in 2014 and \$490,000 in 2015. Should the MCIT Workers' Compensation Division liabilities exceed assets, MCIT may assess the County in a method and amount to be determined by MCIT.

The Property and Casualty Division of MCIT is self-sustaining, and the County pays an annual premium to cover current and future losses. MCIT carries reinsurance for its property lines to protect against catastrophic losses. Should the MCIT Property and Casualty Division liabilities exceed assets, MCIT may assess the County in a method and amount to be determined by MCIT.

The North East Service Cooperative (NESC) is a joint powers entity which sponsors a plan to provide group employee health benefits to its participating members. All members pool premiums and losses; however, a particular member may receive increases or decreases depending on a good or bad year of claims experience. Premiums are determined annually by the NESC and are based partially on the experience of the County and partially on the experience of the group. The NESC solicits proposals from carriers and negotiates the contracts.

7. Summary of Significant Contingencies and Other Items

A. Risk Management (Continued)

The County retains the risk of loss from claims related to employee dental. The County has contracted with Delta Dental to administer the County's dental claims. The County provides dental coverage to permanent full-time employees based on negotiated union contracts to cover a portion of the dental claims. Claims are recognized as they are paid. The amount of claims incurred at the balance sheet date which have not been accrued in the financial statements is immaterial.

	Year Ended December 31				
		2014	2013		
Unpaid claims, beginning of fiscal year Incurred claims (including incurred but not reported) Claims payments	\$	98,782 (98,782)	\$	- 98,746 (98,746)	
Unpaid Claims, End of Fiscal Year	\$		\$		

B. Contingent Liabilities

Amounts received or receivable from grant agencies are subject to audit and adjustment by grantor agencies, principally the federal government. Any disallowed claims, including amounts already collected, may constitute a liability of the applicable funds. The amount, if any, of the expenditures that may be disallowed by the grantor cannot be determined at this time, although the County expects such amounts, if any, to be immaterial.

The County is a defendant in various lawsuits. Although the outcome of these lawsuits is not presently determinable, in the opinion of the County Attorney, the resolution of these matters will not have a material adverse effect on the financial condition of the government.

7. <u>Summary of Significant Contingencies and Other Items</u> (Continued)

C. Other Commitments

Lake County has entered into a joint powers agreement with the Town of Silver Creek to assist the Town in financing a wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal system in the Castle Danger area. The County has agreed to contribute \$65,586 per year through the year 2017 to help finance this project. The total amount to be contributed is \$1,035,000, of which \$878,204 has been paid through December 31, 2014. The outstanding commitment at December 31, 2014, is \$156,796. The agreement may be terminated by the mutual agreement of the two parties. This amount has not been recorded as a liability in Lake County's financial statements.

D. Joint Ventures

Arrowhead Regional Corrections

The County, in a joint powers agreement pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 471.59, participates with Carlton, Cook, Koochiching, and St. Louis Counties in the Arrowhead Regional Corrections Board, which was established pursuant to the Community Corrections Act, Minn. Stat. §§ 401.01-.16.

The Arrowhead Regional Corrections Board comprises three major divisions: juvenile institutional services, adult institutional services, and court and field services. These divisions are composed of the five participating counties' probation departments, the Arrowhead Juvenile Detention Center, and the Northeast Regional Corrections Center. Arrowhead Regional Corrections is governed by an eight-member Board, composed of one member appointed from each of the participating counties' Boards of Commissioners, except for St. Louis County, which has three members appointed by its Board. In addition, the right to have an additional member is annually rotated among Carlton, Cook, Koochiching, and Lake Counties.

Arrowhead Regional Corrections is financed through state grants and contributions from the participating counties. Lake County provided \$468,758 in funding during 2014.

Separate financial information can be obtained from:

Arrowhead Regional Corrections 211 West Second Street, Suite 450 Duluth, Minnesota 55802

7. Summary of Significant Contingencies and Other Items

D. Joint Ventures (Continued)

Carlton, Cook, Lake, and St. Louis Community Health Board

Carlton, Cook, Lake, and St. Louis Counties entered into a joint powers agreement creating and operating the Carlton, Cook, Lake, and St. Louis County Community Health Board. This agreement was entered into January 1, 1977, and is established pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 471.59.

The Community Health Board is composed of nine members. The Carlton, Cook, and Lake County Boards of Commissioners each appoint two members; the St. Louis County Board of Commissioners appoints three members. Financing is obtained through federal and state grants. Lake County provided no funding to this organization in 2014.

Separate financial information can be obtained from:

Carlton, Cook, Lake, and St. Louis Counties Community Health Board 404 West Superior Street, Suite 220 Duluth, Minnesota 55802

Northeast Minnesota Office of Job Training

Aitkin, Carlton, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, and St. Louis Counties (excluding the City of Duluth) entered into a joint powers agreement, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 471.59 for the purpose of developing and implementing a private and public job training program. The United States Congress, through the Job Training Partnership Act of 1982, authorized states to establish "service delivery areas" to provide programs to achieve full employment through the use of grants. The counties identified above are defined as such a "service delivery area," and the Northeast Minnesota Office of Job Training is designated as the grant recipient and administrator for such service delivery area. Lake County is not a funding mechanism for this organization.

The governing body is composed of seven members, one from the Board of Commissioners of each of the participating counties.

7. Summary of Significant Contingencies and Other Items

D. Joint Ventures

Northeast Minnesota Office of Job Training (Continued)

Separate financial information can be obtained from:

Northeast Minnesota Office of Job Training 820 North Ninth Street, Suite 210 Virginia, Minnesota 55792

Minnesota Counties Information Systems (MCIS)

Aitkin, Carlton, Cass, Chippewa, Cook, Crow Wing, Dodge, Itasca, Koochiching, Lac qui Parle, Lake, Sherburne, and St. Louis Counties entered into a joint powers agreement, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 471.59, for the purpose of operating and maintaining data processing facilities and management information systems for the benefit of members.

MCIS is governed by a 13-member board, composed of a member appointed by each of the participating county's Board of Commissioners. Financing is obtained through user charges to the members. Cass County is the fiscal agent for MCIS.

Each county's share of the assets and liabilities cannot be accurately determined since it will depend on the number of counties that are members when the agreement is dissolved.

Separate financial information can be obtained from:

Minnesota Counties Information Systems 413 Southeast 7th Avenue Grand Rapids, Minnesota 55744

Northern Counties Land Use Coordinating Board

The Northern Counties Land Use Coordinating Board was established through a joint powers agreement, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 471.59, for the purpose of helping to formulate land use plans for the protection, sustainable use, and development of lands and natural resources.

7. Summary of Significant Contingencies and Other Items

D. Joint Ventures

Northern Counties Land Use Coordinating Board (Continued)

The joint powers are Aitkin, Cook, Koochiching, Lake, Lake of the Woods, Pennington, Roseau, and St. Louis Counties. Three elected County Commissioners from St. Louis County and two from each of the other counties comprise the membership of the Board. St. Louis County handles all of the financial transactions for this organization through its Northern Counties Land Use Board Agency Fund.

Lake County provided no funding to this organization during 2014.

Separate financial information can be obtained from:

Northern Counties Land Use Coordinating Board St. Louis County Courthouse 100 N. 5th Avenue West, #214 Duluth, Minnesota 55802

North Shore Collaborative

The North Shore Collaborative was established in 1995 pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 124D.23. The Collaborative includes Lake County, Cook County, Independent School District 381, Independent School District 166, and the Grand Portage Reservation. The purpose of the Collaborative is to form a coalition of agencies, schools, and communities along the North Shore that will systematically address the mental health and other needs of the whole person for all children and youth; ensure their graduation from high school; and assist them in becoming healthy, happy, productive citizens.

Control of the North Shore Collaborative is vested in a Board of Directors. Financing is provided by state and federal grants, appropriations from Collaborative members, and miscellaneous revenues. Lake County is the fiscal agent for the Collaborative and handles all of the financial transactions for the organization. Financial information for the Collaborative for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014, is as follows:

Total Assets \$ 163,160 Total Liabilities \$ 163,160

7. Summary of Significant Contingencies and Other Items

D. Joint Ventures

North Shore Collaborative (Continued)

Separate financial information can be obtained from:

Lake County 601 - 3rd Avenue Two Harbors, Minnesota 55616

Arrowhead Health Alliance

Carlton, Cook, Koochiching, St. Louis, and Lake Counties entered into a joint powers agreement, pursuant to Minn. Stat. §§ 471.59 and 256B.692, for the purpose of organizing, governing, planning, and administering a county-based purchasing entity to participate in prepaid health care programs through the Minnesota Department of Human Services and the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. In 2012, St. Louis County joined the Arrowhead Health Alliance.

Control of the Arrowhead Health Alliance is vested in a Board of Directors composed of one representative from each of the member counties. Lake County is the fiscal agent for the Alliance.

Lake County contributed \$78,697 in start-up funds to the Arrowhead Health Alliance in 2007. Lake County provided no further funding in 2014.

Northeast Minnesota Regional Radio Board

The Northeast Minnesota Regional Radio Board was established through a joint powers agreement, pursuant to Minn. Stat. §§ 471.59 and 403.39, to provide for regional administration of enhancements to the Statewide Public Safety Radio and Communication System (ARMER) and to enhance and improve interoperable public safety communications.

The joint powers are the Counties of Aitkin, Carlton, Cass, Cook, Crow Wing, Itasca, Kanabec, Koochiching, Lake, Pine, and St. Louis and the Cities of Duluth, Hibbing, International Falls, and Virginia. Control of the Northeast Minnesota Regional Radio Board is vested in a Board of Directors composed of one County Commissioner from each of the member counties and one City Councilor from each of the member cities.

7. Summary of Significant Contingencies and Other Items

D. Joint Ventures

Northeast Minnesota Regional Radio Board (Continued)

In addition, there is one member from the Northeast Minnesota Regional Advisory Committee, one member from the Northeast Minnesota Regional Radio System User Committee, and one member from the Northeast Minnesota Owners and Operators Committee who are also voting members of the Board.

Itasca County is the fiscal agent for the Northeast Minnesota Regional Radio Board. Funding is provided by grants and contributions from participating members. Lake County provided no funding in 2014.

Separate financial information can be obtained from:

Itasca County 123 N.E. 4th Street Grand Rapids, Minnesota 55744-2847

Lake Superior Drug and Violent Crime Task Force

The Lake Superior Drug and Violent Crime Task Force was established under the authority of the Joint Powers Act, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 471.59, and includes St. Louis and Lake Counties and the Cities of Duluth, Superior, and Hermantown. This Task Force partnership targets drug traffickers, gang elements, and firearms within the Twin Ports community.

Control of the Task Force is vested in a Board of Directors. The Board of Directors consists of the Chiefs of Police and Sheriff, or his or her designee, from each party, along with the St. Louis County Attorney or designee.

Fiscal agent responsibilities for the Task Force are with St. Louis County. Lake County provided no funding to this organization in 2014.

7. <u>Summary of Significant Contingencies and Other Items</u> (Continued)

E. <u>Jointly-Governed Organizations</u>

Lake County, in conjunction with other local governments, has formed joint powers boards to provide a variety of services. The County appoints at least one member to the following organizations:

North Shore Management Board

The North Shore Management Board provides Lake Superior Shoreline planning for Cook, Lake, and St. Louis Counties; the Cities of Beaver Bay, Grand Marais, Silver Bay, and Two Harbors; and the Towns of Duluth and Lakewood. The County contributed \$2,500 to the Board in 2014.

St. Louis and Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority

The St. Louis and Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority was established under the Regional Railroad Authorities Act, Minn. Stat. § 398A.03. The Authority is governed by a Board composed of three members from the St. Louis County Board of Commissioners and two members from Lake County Board of Commissioners. St. Louis County is the fiscal agent for the Railroad Authority, and all of its financial transactions are recorded in the Regional Railroad Authority Agency Fund. Financing is obtained through a tax levy, and federal, state, and local grants or participation. The County did not contribute to the Authority during 2014.

Separate financial information can be obtained from:

St. Louis and Lake Counties Regional Railroad Authority 111 Station 44 Road Eveleth, Minnesota 55734

7. <u>Summary of Significant Contingencies and Other Items</u> (Continued)

F. Related-Party Transactions - Lake County Housing and Redevelopment Authority

The Lake County Housing and Redevelopment Authority is a discretely presented component unit of Lake County. The following are related-party transactions:

Segog Property

In June 2005, the County entered into an agreement with the Authority to sell 70 acres of land to the Authority for \$250,000. The property will be used for housing development to meet the County's housing needs and to assist in fostering economic development in the County. The purchase price of \$250,000 will be paid to the County as individual lots are sold in the development. This agreement has not been finalized as of December 31, 2014, and no cash payments have been made.

Tax Increment Shortfalls

The Authority's tax increment revenues have not been sufficient to cover bond payments on the Cove Point and Superior Shores tax increment bonds. Lake County has made the bond payments on these bond issues; however, the Lake County Housing and Redevelopment Authority remains obligated to Lake County for these shortfalls. A receivable has been set up on the County's financial statements in the amount of \$196,189.

G. <u>Tax-Forfeited Land</u>

The County manages approximately 150,000 acres of state-owned, tax-forfeited land. This land generates revenues primarily from recreational land leases and land and timber sales. Land management costs, including forestry costs such as site preparation, seedlings, tree planting, and logging roads, are accounted for as current operating expenditures.

8. Component Unit Disclosures

A. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

In addition to those identified in Note 1, the County's discretely presented component unit, the Lake County Housing and Redevelopment Authority, has the following significant accounting policies.

Reporting Entity

The Lake County Housing and Redevelopment Authority was established June 13, 1984, and became active in 1986, having all the powers and duties of a county housing and redevelopment authority under the provisions of Minn. Stat. §§ 469.001-.047. The Authority is governed by a five-member Board appointed by the Lake County Board of Commissioners. The Board is organized with a chair, vice chair, secretary, and treasurer, elected annually.

Basis of Presentation

The Lake County Housing and Redevelopment Authority prepares separate financial statements.

The Authority reports a major governmental fund, the General Fund, and a major enterprise fund--the Silverpointe Enterprise Fund.

Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

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

8. Component Unit Disclosures

A. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting (Continued)

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. The Lake County Housing and Redevelopment Authority considers all revenues as available if collected within 90 days after the end of the current period, except for taxes, which have a 60-day accrual period. Property and other taxes, licenses, and interest are all considered to be susceptible to accrual.

Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on general long-term debt, and claims and judgments, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent that they have matured. Proceeds of general long-term debt and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources.

Proprietary fund operating revenues, such as charges for services, result from exchange transactions associated with the principal activity of the fund. Exchange transactions are those in which each party receives and gives up essentially equal values. Nonoperating revenues, such as subsidies and investment earnings, result from nonexchange transactions or incidental activities.

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

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Authority's cash and cash equivalents consist of savings and checking accounts, cash on hand, and certificates of deposit, and do not include restricted accounts.

Receivables and Payables

All outstanding balances between funds are reported as "due to/from other funds." Any residual balances outstanding between the governmental activities and business-type activities are reported in the government-wide financial statements as "internal balances."

8. Component Unit Disclosures

A. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Receivables and Payables (Continued)

Property taxes, including property taxes captured as tax increment, are levied as of January 1 on property values assessed as of the same date. The tax levy notice is mailed in March with the first half payment due May 15 and the second half payment due October 15. The Authority approved an annual levy for operating purposes. Property taxes, including tax increment, are collected by Lake County. Unpaid taxes at December 31 become liens on the respective property and are classified in the financial statements as taxes receivable.

Restricted Assets

Certain funds of the Authority are classified as restricted assets on the statement of net position because the restriction is either imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation or imposed externally by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments. Therefore, their use is limited by applicable laws and regulations.

Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include land, buildings and structures, and equipment, are reported in the applicable governmental or business-type 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 \$1,000 and have an expected life of at least five years. Such assets are recorded at historical cost.

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.

Buildings and structures and equipment of the Authority are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

Assets	Years
Buildings and structures	25 - 40
Equipment	7

8. Component Unit Disclosures

A. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

Long-Term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements, and proprietary fund types in the fund financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the applicable governmental activities, business-type activities, or proprietary fund type statement of net position.

B. <u>Detailed Notes on All Funds</u>

1. Assets

Deposits

The Authority's total deposits are reported as follows:

Government-wide statement of net position	
Cash and pooled investments	\$ 695,026
Cash with management company for operations	91,008
Restricted cash with management company for security deposits	 15,015
Total Cash	\$ 801,049

The Authority is authorized by Minn. Stat. §§ 118A.02 and 118A.04 to designate a depository for public funds and to invest in certificates of deposit. The Authority is required by Minn. Stat. § 118A.03 to protect Authority deposits with insurance, surety bond, or collateral. The market value of collateral pledged shall be at least ten percent more than the amount on deposit at the close of the financial institution's banking day, not covered by insurance or bonds.

Authorized collateral includes treasury bills, notes and bonds; issues of U.S. government agencies; general obligations rated "A" or better and revenue obligations rated "AA" or better; irrevocable standby letters of credit issued by the Federal Home Loan Bank; and certificates of deposit. Minnesota statutes require that securities pledged as collateral be held in safekeeping in a restricted account at the Federal Reserve Bank or in an account at a trust department of a commercial bank or other financial institution not owned or controlled by the financial institution furnishing the collateral.

8. Component Unit Disclosures

B. <u>Detailed Notes on All Funds</u>

1. Assets

<u>Deposits</u> (Continued)

Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a financial institution failure, the Authority's deposits may not be returned to it. The Authority does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk other than complying with the requirements of Minnesota statutes. As of December 31, 2014, the Authority's deposits were not exposed to custodial credit risk.

Capital Assets

Capital asset activity for the year ended December 31, 2014, was as follows:

Governmental Activities

	Beginning Balance		Increase		Decrease		Ending Balance	
Capital assets depreciated Equipment Less: accumulated depreciation for	\$	1,866	\$	-	\$	-	\$	1,866
Equipment		1,335		267				1,602
Governmental Activities Capital Assets, Net	\$	531	\$	(267)	\$	-	\$	264

Business-Type Activities

	Beginning Balance		Increase		Decrease		Ending Balance	
Capital assets depreciated Buildings and structures Equipment	\$	1,879,117 14,639	\$	7,455 5,292	\$	- -	\$	1,886,572 19,931
Total capital assets depreciated	\$	1,893,756	\$	12,747	\$		\$	1,906,503
Less: accumulated depreciation for Buildings and structures Equipment	\$	779,045 5,378	\$	48,466 1,058	\$	<u>-</u>	\$	827,511 6,436
Total accumulated depreciation	\$	784,423	\$	49,524	\$	-	\$	833,947
Business-Type Activities Capital Assets, Net	\$	1,109,333	\$	(36,777)	\$		\$	1,072,556

8. Component Unit Disclosures

B. <u>Detailed Notes on All Funds</u>

1. Assets

<u>Capital Assets</u> (Continued)

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

Governmental Activities
Urban and economic development

\$ 267

Business-Type Activities Senior housing

\$ 49,524

2. <u>Liabilities</u>

Long-Term Debt

Business-Type Activities

Type of Indebtedness	Final Maturity	Installment Amounts	Interest Rate (%)	Rate Issue	
2012 General Obligation Senior Housing Bonds	2028	Varies	1.0 - 3.5	\$ 860,000	\$ 730,000

8. Component Unit Disclosures

B. <u>Detailed Notes on All Funds</u>

2. <u>Liabilities</u> (Continued)

Debt Service Requirements

Debt service requirements at December 31, 2014, were as follows:

Business-Type Activities

Year Ending		Revenue Bonds						
December 31	P	rincipal	Interest					
2015	\$	50,000	\$	19,538				
2016	Ψ	55,000	Ψ.	18,788				
2017		55,000		17,863				
2018		55,000		16,763				
2019		55,000		15,594				
2020 - 2024		295,000		57,444				
2025 - 2028		165,000		14,119				
Totals	\$	730,000	\$	160,109				

Changes in Long-Term Liabilities

Business-Type Activities

	Beginning Balance		Additions			Deductions		Ending Balance		Due Within One Year	
Bonds payable 2012 General Obligation Senior Housing Bonds	\$	780,000	\$	-	:	\$	50,000	\$	730,000	\$	50,000
Less: unamortized discount		(10,434)			_		(803)		(9,631)		
Total Bonds Payable	\$	769,566	\$	-	_ :	\$	49,197	\$	720,369	\$	50,000

8. Component Unit Disclosures (Continued)

C. Summary of Significant Contingencies and Other Items

Tax Increment Financing District

The Authority administers the following tax increment financing district established pursuant to Minn. Stat. §§ 469.174-.1791.

District Number 2

Blue Water/Superior Shores Project

The bonds for District Number 2 were general obligation bonds issued by Lake County and paid off in 2009. The tax increment financing district was decertified in 2013. The County collected and paid the debt service payments pursuant to the amended Tax Increment Pledge Agreement, and the Authority recognizes the tax increment revenue and tax increment distributions to Lake County in its financial statements.

Tax increment revenues were not sufficient to cover bond payments on the Cove Point and Superior Shores tax increment bonds. The Lake County Housing and Redevelopment Authority remains obligated to Lake County for these shortfalls. A liability has been set up on the Authority's financial statements in the amount of \$196,189.

Risk Management

The Authority is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, or destruction of assets; errors or omissions; or natural disasters. To manage these risks, the Authority has joined the Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust (MCIT). The Authority retains risk for the deductible portions of the insurance policies. The amounts of these deductibles are considered immaterial to the financial statements. There were no significant reductions in insurance from the prior year. The amount of settlements did not exceed insurance coverage for the past three fiscal years.

Related-Party Transactions

The Lake County Housing and Redevelopment Authority related-party transactions are described in detail in Note 7.F.







EXHIBIT A-1

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE GENERAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

	Budgeted Amounts				Actual	Variance with		
		Original		Final		Amounts	Fi	nal Budget
Revenues								
Taxes	\$	5,533,504	\$	5,533,504	\$	5,162,335	\$	(371,169)
Licenses and permits		6,900		6,900		14,220		7,320
Intergovernmental		4,393,176		4,393,176		5,542,493		1,149,317
Charges for services		484,700		484,700		454,273		(30,427)
Fines and forfeits		1,500		1,500		1,148		(352)
Investment earnings		60,130		60,130		354,479		294,349
Miscellaneous		98,671		98,671		326,441		227,770
Total Revenues	<u>\$</u>	10,578,581	\$	10,578,581	\$	11,855,389	\$	1,276,808
Expenditures								
Current								
General government								
Commissioners	\$	413,214	\$	413,214	\$	375,256	\$	37,958
Courts	Ψ	39,500	Ψ	39,500	Ψ	43,198	Ψ	(3,698)
Law library		10,000		10,000		6,590		3,410
County administration		254,417		254,417		201,286		53,131
County auditor		535,090		535,090		430,466		104,624
County assessor		458,138		458,138		440,685		17,453
Elections		29,928		29,928		30,300		(372)
Accounting and auditing		70,600		70,600		91,580		(20,980)
Data processing		897,582		897,582		683,237		214,345
Personnel		206,753		206,753		189,881		16,872
Attorney		396,172		396,172		355,236		40,936
Recorder		300,396		300,396		279,248		21,148
Planning and zoning		298,878		298,878		264,848		34,030
Buildings and plant		775,084		775,084		646,386		128,698
Veterans service officer		77,722		77,722		85,280		(7,558)
Training		4,500		4,500		241		4,259
Motor pool		83,414		72,414		52,896		19,518
Other general government		-		-		11,673		(11,673)
Total general government	<u>\$</u>	4,851,388	\$	4,840,388	\$	4,188,287	\$	652,101
Public safety								
Sheriff	\$	2,337,091	\$	2,337,091	\$	2,191,098	\$	145,993
Ambulance	Ψ	164,180	Ψ	164,180	Ψ	163,792	Ψ	388
Emergency services		104,675		104,675		70,814		33,861
Coroner		30,000		30,000		23,365		6,635
County jail		1,018,188		1,018,188		1,031,286		(13,098)
Community corrections		439,783		439,783		499,900		(60,117)
Sentence to serve		106,238		117,238		115,526		1,712
Emergency management		92,651		92,651		249,140		(156,489)
Other public safety		125,357		125,357		196,081		(70,724)
Total public safety	\$	4,418,163	\$	4,429,163	\$	4,541,002	\$	(111,839)

EXHIBIT A-1 (Continued)

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE GENERAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

	Budgeted Amounts			Actual	Variance with		
		Original		Final	 Amounts	Fi	nal Budget
Expenditures							
Current (Continued)							
Sanitation							
Solid waste	\$	203,491	\$	203,491	\$ 145,368	\$	58,123
Recycling		172,633		172,633	129,348		43,285
Hazardous waste		77,000		77,000	 53,189		23,811
Total sanitation	\$	453,124	\$	453,124	\$ 327,905	\$	125,219
Culture and recreation							
Historical society	\$	35,000	\$	35,000	\$ 35,040	\$	(40)
Arenas		146,782		146,782	133,780		13,002
Humane Society		3,500		3,500	3,500		-
Memorial Day observance		3,000		3,000	3,000		_
Recreation board		159,275		159,275	159,275		-
Trails		-		-	262,192		(262,192)
County/regional library		122,300		122,300	 122,300		
Total culture and recreation	\$	469,857	\$	469,857	\$ 719,087	\$	(249,230)
Conservation of natural resources							
County extension	\$	61,572	\$	61,822	\$ 59,572	\$	2,250
Soil and water conservation		56,020		56,020	56,898		(878)
Agricultural society/County fair		21,341		21,341	24,116		(2,775)
Water planning		4,571		4,571	4,571		-
CWP project		14,488		14,488	14,736		(248)
Wetland challenge		5,000		5,000	 5,000		-
Total conservation of natural							
resources	\$	162,992	\$	163,242	\$ 164,893	\$	(1,651)
Economic development							
Information centers	\$	13,000	\$	13,000	\$ 13,000	\$	-
Airports		14,000		14,000	14,000		-
Housing and Redevelopment Authority		-		-	246,198		(246,198)
Other economic development		-		-	 66,299		(66,299)
Total economic development	\$	27,000	\$	27,000	\$ 339,497	\$	(312,497)
Total Expenditures	\$	10,382,524	\$	10,382,774	\$ 10,280,671	\$	102,103

EXHIBIT A-1 (Continued)

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE GENERAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

	Budgeted	d Amo	unts	Actual	Variance with	
	 Original		Final	 Amounts	F	inal Budget
Excess of Revenues Over (Under)						
Expenditures	\$ 196,057	\$	195,807	\$ 1,574,718	\$	1,378,911
Other Financing Sources (Uses)						
Transfers in	\$ -	\$	-	\$ 207,683	\$	207,683
Transfers out	 54,000		54,000	 (18,190)		(72,190)
Total Other Financing Sources						
(Uses)	\$ 54,000	\$	54,000	\$ 189,493	\$	135,493
Net Change in Fund Balance	\$ 250,057	\$	249,807	\$ 1,764,211	\$	1,514,404
Fund Balance - January 1	 12,164,940		12,164,940	 12,164,940		
Fund Balance - December 31	\$ 12,414,997	\$	12,414,747	\$ 13,929,151	\$	1,514,404

EXHIBIT A-2

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE ROAD AND BRIDGE SPECIAL REVENUE FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

	Budgeted Amounts					Actual	Variance with		
		Original		Final		Amounts	Fi	nal Budget	
Revenues									
Taxes	\$	1,561,673	\$	1,561,673	\$	1,769,633	\$	207,960	
Intergovernmental		5,962,595		5,962,595		5,601,701		(360,894)	
Charges for services		67,500		67,500		74,519		7,019	
Investment earnings		- -		-		7		7	
Miscellaneous		10,000		10,000		10,735		735	
Total Revenues	\$	7,601,768	\$	7,601,768	\$	7,456,595	\$	(145,173)	
Expenditures									
Current									
Highways and streets									
Administration	\$	371,557	\$	371,557	\$	462,538	\$	(90,981)	
Maintenance		2,350,610		2,262,848		1,949,763		313,085	
Construction		4,019,244		4,019,244		3,736,960		282,284	
Equipment maintenance and shop		901,496		972,034		937,897		34,137	
Total highways and streets	\$	7,642,907	\$	7,625,683	\$	7,087,158	\$	538,525	
Debt service									
Principal	\$	-	\$	-	\$	50,794	\$	(50,794)	
Interest						7,608		(7,608)	
Total debt service	\$		\$		\$	58,402	\$	(58,402)	
Total Expenditures	\$	7,642,907	\$	7,625,683	\$	7,145,560	\$	480,123	
Excess of Revenues Over (Under)									
Expenditures	\$	(41,139)	\$	(23,915)	\$	311,035	\$	334,950	
Other Financing Sources (Uses)									
Transfers in	\$	20,000	\$	20,000	\$	18,190	\$	(1,810)	
Transfers out						(207,683)		(207,683)	
Total Other Financing Sources									
(Uses)	\$	20,000	\$	20,000	\$	(189,493)	\$	(209,493)	
Net Change in Fund Balance	\$	(21,139)	\$	(3,915)	\$	121,542	\$	125,457	
Fund Balance - January 1		522,328		522,328		522,328		-	
Increase (decrease) in inventories						(191,058)		(191,058)	
Fund Balance - December 31	\$	501,189	\$	518,413	\$	452,812	\$	(65,601)	

EXHIBIT A-3

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE HUMAN SERVICES SPECIAL REVENUE FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

	Budgeted Amounts			Actual	Variance with		
		Original		Final	 Amounts	Fi	nal Budget
Revenues							
Taxes	\$	2,057,265	\$	2,057,265	\$ 1,894,969	\$	(162,296)
Intergovernmental		4,125,223		4,125,223	3,877,243		(247,980)
Charges for services		143,800		143,800	269,468		125,668
Miscellaneous		30,740		30,740	 22,172		(8,568)
Total Revenues	\$	6,357,028	\$	6,357,028	\$ 6,063,852	\$	(293,176)
Expenditures							
Current							
Human services							
Income maintenance	\$	897,511	\$	897,511	\$ 825,205	\$	72,306
Social services		2,480,352		2,480,352	 2,321,181		159,171
Total human services	\$	3,377,863	\$	3,377,863	\$ 3,146,386	\$	231,477
Health							
Nursing service	\$	99,641	\$	99,641	\$ 66,364	\$	33,277
Transportation		100,682		100,682	87,408		13,274
Environmental health		103,469		103,469	102,891		578
Mental health		2,396,614		2,396,614	2,202,354		194,260
Health education		329,331		329,331	 219,832		109,499
Total health	\$	3,029,737	\$	3,029,737	\$ 2,678,849	\$	350,888
Total Expenditures	\$	6,407,600	\$	6,407,600	\$ 5,825,235	\$	582,365
Net Change in Fund Balance	\$	(50,572)	\$	(50,572)	\$ 238,617	\$	289,189
Fund Balance - January 1		6,868,357		6,868,357	 6,868,357		
Fund Balance - December 31	\$	6,817,785	\$	6,817,785	\$ 7,106,974	\$	289,189

EXHIBIT A-4

SCHEDULE OF FUNDING PROGRESS - OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS DECEMBER 31, 2014

Actuarial Valuation Date	Actuarial Value of Assets (a)	Actuarial Accrued Liability (b)	Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (UAAL) (b - a)	Funded Ratio (a/b)	Covered Payroll (c)	UAAL as a Percentage of Covered Payroll ((b - a)/c)
January 1, 2008	\$ -	\$ 618,083	\$ 618,083	0.00%	\$ 5,722,969	10.8%
January 1, 2011	-	638,272	638,272	0.00	6,162,682	10.4
January 1, 2014	-	546,471	546,471	0.00	6,594,400	8.3

NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

1. <u>Budgetary Information</u>

Annual budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles for all governmental funds. All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year-end.

In July of each year, all departments and agencies submit requests for appropriations to the County Auditor/Treasurer so that a budget can be prepared. Before September 15, the proposed budget is presented to the County Board for review. A final budget is adopted by the Board and certified to the Auditor/Treasurer by December 30.

The appropriated budget is prepared by fund, function, and department. The County's department heads may make transfers of appropriations within a department with County Board approval. Transfers of appropriations between departments also require approval of the County Board. The legal level of budgetary control (the level at which expenditures may not legally exceed appropriations) is the fund level.

Encumbrance accounting is employed in governmental funds.

2. Schedule of Funding Progress - Other Postemployment Benefits

Beginning in 2008, Lake County implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 45, *Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*. Since the County has not irrevocably deposited funds in a trust for future health benefits, the actuarial value of the assets is zero.

See Note 5 in the notes to the financial statements for additional information regarding the County's other postemployment benefits.







NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

The <u>Resource Development Special Revenue Fund</u> is used to account for intergovernmental revenue used for resource development, forest management, game and fish habitat improvement, and recreational development and maintenance of County-administered natural resources land.

The <u>Unorganized Townships Special Revenue Fund</u> is used to account for the activities of Unorganized Townships 1 and 2 related to fire protection and election services. Activities related to road maintenance in the unorganized townships are accounted for in the County's Road and Bridge Special Revenue Fund.

The <u>Forfeited Tax Special Revenue Fund</u> is used to account for revenues from the sale or lease of lands forfeited to the State of Minnesota and for revenues dedicated for use in memorial forests and various land and timber projects.

The <u>Debt Service Fund</u> is used to account for the accumulation of resources for and the payment of principal, interest, and related costs of general long-term debt.



EXHIBIT B-1

COMBINING BALANCE SHEET NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS DECEMBER 31, 2014

	Special Revenue								
		Resource	Ur	organized		orfeited	Debt		
	D	evelopment	T	ownships		Tax	 Service	Total	
Assets									
Cash and pooled investments	\$	1,047,863	\$	215,304	\$	-	\$ 1,455,046	\$	2,718,213
Petty cash and change funds		-		-		50	-		50
Undistributed cash in agency funds		-		9,241		-	22,926		32,167
Taxes receivable									
Prior		-		6,017		-	15,983		22,000
Accounts receivable		-		-		653,949	-		653,949
Due from other governments		100,000		-		181,748	106 190		281,748
Due from component unit		-					 196,189		196,189
Total Assets	\$	1,147,863	\$	230,562	\$	835,747	\$ 1,690,144	\$	3,904,316
<u>Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of</u> <u>Resources, and Fund Balances</u>									
Liabilities									
Accounts payable	\$	-	\$	_	\$	2,032	\$ -	\$	2.032
Salaries payable		-		-		13,565	_		13,565
Due to other funds		-		-		130,004	106,088		236,092
Due to other governments				117,624			 		117,624
Total Liabilities	\$		\$	117,624	\$	145,601	\$ 106,088	\$	369,313
Deferred Inflows of Resources									
Unavailable revenue - taxes	\$	-	\$	5,125	\$	_	\$ 13,770	\$	18,895
Unavailable revenue - grants		100,000		-		_	-		100,000
Unavailable revenue - long-term									
receivables		<u>-</u>				600,069	 <u> </u>		600,069
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	\$	100,000	\$	5,125	\$	600,069	\$ 13,770	\$	718,964
Fund Balances									
Restricted for debt service	\$	-	\$	_	\$	_	\$ 1,570,286	\$	1,570,286
Restricted for forestry development		-		-		78,053	-	\$	78,053
Committed forestry road grant		-		-		12,024	-		12,024
Committed to unorganized townships									
emergency services		-		107,813		-	-		107,813
Assigned for resource development		1,047,863					 		1,047,863
Total Fund Balances	\$	1,047,863	\$	107,813	\$	90,077	\$ 1,570,286	\$	2,816,039
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows									
Resources, and Fund Balances	\$	1,147,863	\$	230,562	\$	835,747	\$ 1,690,144	\$	3,904,316

EXHIBIT B-2

COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

			Spec	ial Revenue						
		Resource	Un	organized		Forfeited		Debt		
	D	evelopment	T	ownships		Tax		Service		Total
Revenues										
Taxes	\$	-	\$	112,934	\$	-	\$	239,597	\$	352,531
Licenses and permits		-		105		1,499		-		1,604
Intergovernmental		366,578		31,397		34,397		21,609		453,981
Charges for services		-		-		38,176		-		38,176
Investment earnings		-		-		-		273		273
Miscellaneous		38,552				1,925,766		70,661		2,034,979
Total Revenues	\$	405,130	\$	144,436	\$	1,999,838	\$	332,140	\$	2,881,544
Expenditures										
Current										
General government	\$	-	\$	6,096	\$	-	\$	-	\$	6,096
Public safety		-		128,524		-		-		128,524
Culture and recreation		69,273		-		-		-		69,273
Conservation of natural resources		6,152		-		559,805		-		565,957
Capital outlay		-, -				,				,
Conservation of natural resources		-		-		21,609		-		21,609
Debt service										
Principal		146,667		-		-		1,690,000		1,836,667
Interest		31,913		-		-		57,748		89,661
Administrative (fiscal) charges		-				-		425		425
Total Expenditures	\$	254,005	\$	134,620	\$	581,414	\$	1,748,173	\$	2,718,212
Excess of Revenues Over (Under)										
Expenditures	\$	151,125	\$	9,816	\$	1,418,424	\$	(1,416,033)	\$	163,332
Other Financing Sources (Uses)										
Transfers in	\$	1,256,771	\$	_	\$	_	\$	_	\$	1,256,771
Transfers out	-	-,	-	_	-	(1,256,771)	-	_	-	(1,256,771)
Proceeds from sale of bonds		_		_		(1,200,7,1)		2,391,704		2,391,704
11000000 110111 50110 01 001100	-				-		-	2,001,701		2,001,701
Total Other Financing Sources										
(Uses)	\$	1,256,771	\$	-	\$	(1,256,771)	\$	2,391,704	\$	2,391,704
Net Change in Fund Balance	\$	1,407,896	\$	9,816	\$	161,653	\$	975,671	\$	2,555,036
Fund Balance - January 1		(360,033)		97,997		(71,576)		594,615		261,003
Fund Balance - December 31	\$	1,047,863	\$	107,813	\$	90,077	\$	1,570,286	\$	2,816,039

EXHIBIT B-3

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT SPECIAL REVENUE FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

	Budgeted Amo			nts	Actual	Variance with		
		Original		Final	 Amounts	Fi	nal Budget	
Revenues Intergovernmental Miscellaneous	\$	96,000	\$	96,000	\$ 366,578 38,552	\$	270,578 38,552	
Total Revenues	\$	96,000	\$	96,000	\$ 405,130	\$	309,130	
Expenditures Current Culture and recreation								
Trails	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 69,273	\$	(69,273)	
Conservation of natural resources Other conservation	\$		\$		\$ 6,152	\$	(6,152)	
Debt service Principal Interest	\$	146,667 42,900	\$	146,667 42,900	\$ 146,667 31,913	\$	10,987	
Total debt service	\$	189,567	\$	189,567	\$ 178,580	\$	10,987	
Total Expenditures	\$	189,567	\$	189,567	\$ 254,005	\$	(64,438)	
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	\$	(93,567)	\$	(93,567)	\$ 151,125	\$	244,692	
Other Financing Sources (Uses) Transfers in				<u>-</u>	 1,256,771		1,256,771	
Net Change in Fund Balance	\$	(93,567)	\$	(93,567)	\$ 1,407,896	\$	1,501,463	
Fund Balance - January 1		(360,033)		(360,033)	(360,033)			
Fund Balance - December 31	\$	(453,600)	\$	(453,600)	\$ 1,047,863	\$	1,501,463	

EXHIBIT B-4

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE UNORGANIZED TOWNSHIPS SPECIAL REVENUE FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

	Budgeted Amounts				Actual	Variance with	
		Original		Final	 Amounts	Final Budget	
Revenues							
Taxes	\$	120,555	\$	120,555	\$ 112,934	\$	(7,621)
Licenses and permits		38		38	105		67
Intergovernmental		15,000		15,000	 31,397		16,397
Total Revenues	\$	135,593	\$	135,593	\$ 144,436	\$	8,843
Expenditures							
Current							
General government							
Elections	\$	7,150	\$	7,150	\$ 6,096	\$	1,054
Public safety							
Emergency services		114,000		114,000	 128,524		(14,524)
Total Expenditures	\$	121,150	\$	121,150	\$ 134,620	\$	(13,470)
Net Change in Fund Balance	\$	14,443	\$	14,443	\$ 9,816	\$	(4,627)
Fund Balance - January 1		97,997		97,997	97,997		
Fund Balance - December 31	\$	112,440	\$	112,440	\$ 107,813	\$	(4,627)

EXHIBIT B-5

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE FORFEITED TAX SPECIAL REVENUE FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

	Budgeted	l Amou	nts	Actual	Variance with		
	Original		Final	 Amounts	F	inal Budget	
Revenues							
Licenses and permits	\$ 1,216	\$	1,216	\$ 1,499	\$	283	
Intergovernmental	26,241		26,241	34,397		8,156	
Charges for services	20,000		20,000	38,176		18,176	
Miscellaneous	 584,650		584,650	 1,925,766		1,341,116	
Total Revenues	\$ 632,107	\$	632,107	\$ 1,999,838	\$	1,367,731	
Expenditures							
Current							
Conservation of natural resources							
Land use	\$ 575,929	\$	575,929	\$ 559,805	\$	16,124	
Capital outlay							
Conservation of natural resources	 42,200		42,200	 21,609		20,591	
Total Expenditures	\$ 618,129	\$	618,129	\$ 581,414	\$	36,715	
Excess of Revenues Over (Under)							
Expenditures	\$ 13,978	\$	13,978	\$ 1,418,424	\$	1,404,446	
Other Financing Sources (Uses)							
Transfers out	 		-	 (1,256,771)		(1,256,771)	
Net Change in Fund Balance	\$ 13,978	\$	13,978	\$ 161,653	\$	147,675	
Fund Balance - January 1	 (71,576)		(71,576)	 (71,576)		-	
Fund Balance - December 31	\$ (57,598)	\$	(57,598)	\$ 90,077	\$	147,675	

EXHIBIT B-6

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE DEBT SERVICE FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

	Budgeted Amounts				Actual	Variance with	
		Original		Final	 Amounts	F	inal Budget
Revenues							
Taxes	\$	261,080	\$	261,080	\$ 239,597	\$	(21,483)
Intergovernmental		-		-	21,609		21,609
Investment earnings		145		145	273		128
Miscellaneous		70,337		70,337	 70,661		324
Total Revenues	\$	331,562	\$	331,562	\$ 332,140	\$	578
Expenditures							
Debt service							
Principal	\$	255,000	\$	255,000	\$ 1,690,000	\$	(1,435,000)
Interest		57,748		57,748	57,748		-
Administrative (fiscal) charges		405		405	 425		(20)
Total Expenditures	\$	313,153	\$	313,153	\$ 1,748,173	\$	(1,435,020)
Excess of Revenues Over (Under)							
Expenditures	\$	18,409	\$	18,409	\$ (1,416,033)	\$	(1,434,442)
Other Financing Sources (Uses)							
Bond issuance				-	 2,391,704		2,391,704
Net Change in Fund Balance	\$	18,409	\$	18,409	\$ 975,671	\$	957,262
Fund Balance - January 1		594,615		594,615	594,615		-
Fund Balance - December 31	\$	613,024	\$	613,024	\$ 1,570,286	\$	957,262





EXHIBIT C-1

COMBINING STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ${\bf ALL\ AGENCY\ FUNDS}$ FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

	Balance January 1	Additions	Deductions	Balance December 31
CITIES, TOWNS, AND OTHER GOVERNMENTS				
<u>Assets</u>				
Cash and pooled investments	\$ 3,362	\$ 12,801,323	\$ 12,801,151	\$ 3,534
<u>Liabilities</u>				
Due to other governments	\$ 3,362	\$ 12,801,323	\$ 12,801,151	\$ 3,534
TAXES AND PENALTIES				
Assets				
Cash and pooled investments	\$ 671,399	\$ 19,590,553	\$ 19,284,125	\$ 977,827
<u>Liabilities</u>				
Taxes collected in advance Due to other governments	\$ 12,445 658,954	\$ 10,432 19,580,121	\$ 12,445 19,271,680	\$ 10,432 967,395
Total Liabilities	\$ 671,399	\$ 19,590,553	\$ 19,284,125	\$ 977,827
<u>STATE</u>				
<u>Assets</u>				
Cash and pooled investments	\$ 20,960	\$ 239,584	\$ 194,721	\$ 65,823
<u>Liabilities</u>				
Due to other governments	\$ 20,960	\$ 239,584	\$ 194,721	\$ 65,823

EXHIBIT C-1 (Continued)

	Balance January 1	Additions	Deductions	Balance December 31
SEWER SYSTEM DEPOSITS				
<u>Assets</u>				
Cash and pooled investments	\$ 53,580	\$ 22,000	\$ 18,870	\$ 56,710
<u>Liabilities</u>				
Customer deposits - current	\$ 53,580	\$ 22,000	\$ 18,870	\$ 56,710
NORTH SHORE COLLABORATIVE				
<u>Assets</u>				
Cash and pooled investments	\$ 198,509	\$ 45,345	\$ 80,694	\$ 163,160
<u>Liabilities</u>				
Accounts payable	\$ 198,509	\$ 45,345	\$ 80,694	\$ 163,160
ARROWHEAD HEALTH ALLIANCE				
<u>Assets</u>				
Cash and pooled investments	<u>\$</u> -	\$ 326,828	\$ 129,792	\$ 197,036
<u>Liabilities</u>				
Accounts payable	<u>\$</u> -	\$ 326,828	\$ 129,792	\$ 197,036

EXHIBIT C-1 (Continued)

COMBINING STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ${\bf ALL\ AGENCY\ FUNDS}$ FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

	Balance anuary 1	 Additions	 Deductions	<u>D</u>	Balance ecember 31
TOTAL ALL AGENCY FUNDS					
<u>Assets</u>					
Cash and pooled investments	\$ 947,810	\$ 33,025,633	\$ 32,509,353	\$	1,464,090
<u>Liabilities</u>					
Accounts payable	\$ 198,509	\$ 372,173	\$ 210,486	\$	360,196
Taxes collected in advance	12,445	10,432	12,445		10,432
Due to other governments	683,276	32,621,028	32,267,552		1,036,752
Customer deposits - current	 53,580	 22,000	 18,870		56,710
Total Liabilities	\$ 947,810	\$ 33,025,633	\$ 32,509,353	\$	1,464,090







EXHIBIT D-1

SCHEDULE OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

Appropriations and Shared Revenue		
State		
Highway users tax	\$	3,053,933
County program aid		410,674
PERA rate reimbursement		24,330
Disparity reduction aid		158,978
Aquatic invasive species aid		74,146
Police aid		127,568
Taconite credit		556,828
Enhanced 911		82,317
Market value credit		3,347
Total appropriations and shared revenue	<u>\$</u>	4,492,121
Reimbursement for Services		
State		
Minnesota Department of Human Services	\$	213,843
Payments		
State		
Payments in lieu of taxes	\$	904,823
Local		28,525
Total payments	\$	933,348
Grants		
State		
Minnesota Department of		
Public Safety	\$	26,996
Health		56,042
Natural Resources		569,055
Human Services		2,483,618
Employment and Economic Security		41,900
Veterans Affairs		10,000
Board of Water and Soil Resources		118,794
Office of Environmental Assistance		63,803
IRRRB		8,755
Total state	\$	3,378,963

EXHIBIT D-1 (Continued)

SCHEDULE OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

Grants (Continued)

Federal	
Department of	
Agriculture	\$ 2,858,263
Commerce	20,821
Housing and Urban Development	246,198
Interior	260,509
Transportation	2,095,855
Environmental Protection Agency	7,776
Education	2,289
Health and Human Services	828,534
Homeland Security	 136,898
Total federal	\$ 6,457,143
Total state and federal grants	\$ 9,836,106
Total Intergovernmental Revenue	\$ 15,475,418

EXHIBIT D-2

SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

Federal Grantor Pass-Through Agency Grant Program Title	Contract Number/ Pass-Through Grant Numbers	Federal CFDA Number	Expenditures
U.S. Department of Agriculture			
Direct			
U.S. Forest Service Cooperative Agreement	11-LE-11090903-022		\$ 13,500
U.S. Forest Service Cooperative Agreement - Aquatic Passages	11-PA-11090903-027		13,793
Broadband Initiatives Program Cluster			
Broadband Initiatives Program Grant - ARRA		10.787	3,008,298
Broadband Initiatives Program Loan - ARRA		10.787	17,047,019
(Total Broadband Initiatives Program 10.787 \$20,055,317)			
Passed Through Carlton, Cook, Lake, and St. Louis Community Health Board			
Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and			
Children		10.557	55,689
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Human Services			
State Administrative Matching Grants for the Supplemental			
Nutrition Assistance Program		10.561	90,769
Passed Through Minnesota Management and Budget			
Schools and Roads - Grants to States		10.665	2,568,401
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Natural Resources			
Forest Products Lab: Technology Marketing Unit (TMU)		10.674	129,583
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture			\$ 22,927,052
U.S. Department of Commerce			
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Natural Resources			
Coastal Zone Management Administration Awards		11.419	\$ 20,821
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development			
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Employment and			
Economic Development			
Community Development Block Grants/State's Program and			
Non-Entitlement Grants in Hawaii	CDAP-12-0077-0-FY13	14.228	\$ 246,198
U.S. Department of the Interior			
Direct			
Payments in Lieu of Taxes		15.226	\$ 260,509

EXHIBIT D-2 (Continued)

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SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

Federal Grantor Pass-Through Agency Grant Program Title	Contract Number/ Pass-Through Grant Numbers	Federal CFDA Number	Expenditures
U.S. Department of Transportation			
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Transportation			
Highway Planning and Construction	SP-38-602-32		
	SP-38-090-03		
	SP-38-090-04		
	SP-38-604-17		
	SP-38-604-18		
	SP-38-605-13		
	SP-38-626-05		
	SP-38-627-02	20.205	\$ 2,100,644
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency			
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Natural Resources			
Great Lakes Program		66.469	\$ 7,776
U.S. Department of Education			
Passed Through Carlton, Cook, Lake, and St. Louis Community			
Health Board			
Special Education - Grants for Infants and Families		84.181	\$ 2,289
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services			
Passed Through Carlton, Cook, Lake, and St. Louis Community			
Health Board			
Public Health Emergency Preparedness		93.069	\$ 13,884
Immunization Cooperative Agreement		93.268	600
Affordable Care Act (ACA) Maternal, Infant, and Early Chilhood			
Home Visiting Program		93.505	1,968
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families		93.558	7,087
(Total Temporary Assistance for Needy Families 93.558 \$70,644)			
Refugee and Entrant Assistance - State Administered Programs		93.566	510
Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant to the States		93.994	5,814
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Human Services			
Promoting Safe and Stable Families		93.556	3,385
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families		93.558	63,557
(Total Temporary Assistance for Needy Families 93.558 \$70,644)			
Child Support Enforcement		93.563	220,679
Child Care and Development Block Grant		93.575	3,078
Stephanie Tubbs Jones Child Welfare Services Program		93.645	2,231
Foster Care - Title IV-E		93.658	35,286
Social Services Block Grant		93.667	85,200
Chafee Foster Care Independence Program		93.674	1,436
Children's Health Insurance Program		93.767	40
Medical Assistance Program		93.778	361,845

The notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards are an integral part of this schedule.

EXHIBIT D-2 (Continued)

SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

Federal Grantor Pass-Through Agency Grant Program Title	Contract Number/ Pass-Through Grant Numbers	Federal CFDA Number	E	xpenditures
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Continued) Passed Through Koochiching County				
Rural Health Care Services Outreach, Rural Health Network				
Development and Small Health Care Provider Quality Improvement				
Program		93.912		21,934
Total U.S. Department of Health and Human Services			\$	828,534
U.S. Department of Homeland Security				
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Natural Resources				
Boating Safety Financial Assistance		97.012	\$	3,875
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Public Safety				
Hazard Mitigation Grant		97.039		20,180
Emergency Management Performance Grants		97.042		17,956
Homeland Security Grant Program		97.067	_	109,065
Total U.S. Department of Homeland Security			\$	151,076
Total Federal Awards			\$	26,544,899



NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

1. Reporting Entity

The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards presents the activities of federal award programs expended by Lake County. The County's reporting entity is defined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

2. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards includes the federal grant activity of Lake County under programs of the federal government for the year ended December 31, 2014. The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations.* Because the schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of Lake County, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, changes in net position, or cash flows of Lake County.

3. <u>Summary of Significant Accounting Policies</u>

Expenditures reported on the schedule are reported on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in OMB Circular A-87, *Cost Principles for State, Local and Indian Tribal Governments*, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement. Pass-through entity identifying numbers are presented where available.

4. Clusters

Clusters of programs are groupings of closely related programs that share common compliance requirements. Total expenditures by cluster are:

Broadband Initiatives Program Cluster

\$ 20,055,317

5. Reconciliation to Schedule of Intergovernmental Revenue

Federal grant revenue per Schedule of Intergovernmental Revenue	\$ 6,457,143
Grants received more than 90 days after year-end, deferred in 2014	
Cooperative Forestry Assistance	13,472
Hazard Mitigation Grant	14,178
Highway Planning and Construction	151,524
Deferred in 2013, recognized as revenue in 2014	
Highway Planning and Construction	(3,454)
Recreational Trails Program	(143,281)
Capital grants received in enterprise funds	
Broadband Initiatives Program Grant - ARRA	3,008,298
Broadband Initiatives Program Loan - ARRA	 17,047,019
Expenditures Per Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards	\$ 26,544,899

6. Subrecipients

During 2014, the County did not pass any federal money to subrecipients.

7. American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) requires recipients to clearly distinguish ARRA funds from non-ARRA funding. In the schedule, ARRA funds are denoted by the addition of ARRA to the program name.



LAKE COUNTY TWO HARBORS, MINNESOTA

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

I. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

Financial Statements

Type of auditor's report issued: Unmodified

Internal control over financial reporting:

- Material weaknesses identified? Yes
- Significant deficiencies identified? Yes

Noncompliance material to the financial statements noted? No

Federal Awards

Internal control over major programs:

- Material weaknesses identified? **No**
- Significant deficiencies identified? **No**

Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major programs: Unmodified

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with Section 510(a) of OMB Circular A-133? **No**

The major programs are:

Schools and Roads - Grants to States	CFDA #10.665
Broadband Initiatives Program Cluster	
Broadband Initiatives Program Grant - ARRA	CFDA #10.787
Broadband Initiatives Program Loan - ARRA	CFDA #10.787
Medical Assistance Program	CFDA #93.778

The threshold for distinguishing between Types A and B programs was \$300,000.

Lake County qualified as a low-risk auditee? **No**

II. FINDINGS RELATED TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AUDITED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

INTERNAL CONTROL

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED ITEMS NOT RESOLVED

Finding 1996-011

Segregation of Duties

Criteria: A good system of internal control provides for an adequate segregation of duties so that no one individual handles a transaction from its inception to completion.

Condition: At Lake County, some individuals who collect and receipt cash can also post receipts to the general ledger system and make bank deposits. In addition, an individual who maintains the general ledger, makes journal entries, and reconciles bank accounts also does some cash receipting. The same person who processes cash disbursements has the ability to print and sign checks. At the department level, many of these functions are also not segregated.

Context: Due to the limited number of office personnel within the County, segregation of the accounting functions necessary to ensure adequate internal accounting control is not possible. This is not unusual in operations the size of Lake County; however, the County's management should constantly be aware of this condition and realize that the concentration of duties and responsibilities in a limited number of individuals is not desirable from an accounting point of view.

Effect: Inadequate segregation of duties could adversely affect the County's ability to detect misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements in a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions.

Cause: The County informed us that it does not have the economic resources needed to hire additional qualified accounting staff in order to segregate duties in every department.

Recommendation: We recommend the County's elected officials and management be aware of the lack of segregation of duties of the accounting functions and, where possible, implement oversight procedures to ensure that the internal control policies and procedures are being implemented by staff to the extent possible.

Client's Response:

The County's management is aware of this condition. Limited staff prohibits the extensive segregation of duties that is desired. Occasional re-assignment of duties will be attempted in order to increase the segregation. Cross training of all positions will also help this situation.

Finding 2003-002

Capital Assets

Criteria: A capital assets policy should be adopted which defines the County's accounting policies over capital assets, such as capitalization thresholds, useful lives, and depreciation methods. A physical inventory should be taken of capital assets at least every five years.

Condition: The County Board has not adopted a capital asset policy. There has not been a physical inventory of capital assets since the records were first established in 2003.

Context: The County maintains its capital asset records on a capital asset software system. Additions and deletions are entered into this system, and depreciation is calculated by the system. However, the capital asset policies utilized by the County in maintaining this system have not been formally approved by the County Board.

Effect: Without a written capitalization policy, the County may capitalize or depreciate assets inconsistently from year to year. Without a physical inventory of capital assets, it is possible that items that were disposed of will not be properly deleted from inventory.

Cause: The County Board has not established or approved a capital asset policy, and no one has been assigned the responsibility of setting up a system to do a physical inventory of capital assets.

Recommendation: We recommend the County Board establish a capital asset policy to define the County's accounting policies over capital assets. The policy should address procedures to identify capital asset additions and deletions. Also, we recommend a physical inventory of capital assets be performed at least once every five years. This physical inventory can be rotated so that a portion of the capital assets is inventoried each year.

Client's Response:

The County intends to develop policies and procedures for capital assets and determine a process of doing a physical inventory as time permits.

Finding 2006-002

Budgeting

Criteria: Written policies and procedures outline the specific authority and responsibilities of County personnel, providing for accountability. Budget policies should address how budgets will be monitored to provide for accountability over spending.

Condition: The County Board has adopted a formal budget policy which addresses when budget amendments must be approved by the County Board or County Auditor/Treasurer. However, the budget policy does not address how the budget will be monitored or who will monitor it.

Context: To be an effective financial management tool, a budget should be monitored to determine that departments are not overspending their budgets.

Effect: There is no formal process for monitoring the budget. This could result in over expenditure of budgets.

Cause: The County Board has not determined the procedures to be used for monitoring the budget and has not addressed this in the budget policy.

Recommendation: We recommend the budget policy be revised to include budget monitoring procedures. These procedures could include department head or County Budget Officer review of monthly budget to actual reports. Reviewers should indicate their review of budget to actual reports by signing off on them.

Client's Response:

For 2015, budgets will be forwarded to each Department Head on a quarterly basis for review. The Auditor and Financial Officer will also review all budgets on a quarterly basis and report noticeable deviances to the Department Head(s) and County Administrator for follow-up. Additionally, the Auditor's Office generates a monthly budget summary report that is submitted to the County Administrator for review.

Audit Adjustments

Criteria: A deficiency in internal control over financial reporting 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 of the financial statements on a timely basis. Auditing standards define a material weakness as a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the County's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis.

Condition: During our audit, we identified material adjustments that resulted in significant changes to the County's financial statements.

Context: The inability to make all necessary accrual adjustments or to detect material misstatements in the financial statements increases the likelihood that the financial statements would not be fairly presented.

Effect: The following audit adjustments were reviewed and approved by the County and are reflected in the financial statements:

- Road and Bridge Special Revenue Fund Advances from other governments increased and revenues decreased by \$561,863 to reverse a prior year entry posted to the trial balance in error. Deferred inflows of resources unavailable grants increased by \$156,860, unearned revenue increased by \$146,567, and revenues decreased by \$303,427 to record funds received outside the County's period of availability and record an advance of state-aid funds.
- Human Services Special Revenue Fund Due from other governments increased by \$901,457, deferred inflows of resources unavailable grants increased by \$557,257, and revenues increased by \$344,200 to record additional receivables.
- Resource Development Special Revenue Fund Deferred inflows of resources unavailable grants and a receivable decreased by \$268,175 to record the receipt of state and federal grant funds.

Broadband Enterprise Fund - Assets increased by \$26,241,592, liabilities increased by \$21,823,098, and net position increased by \$4,418,494 to record a prior year book entry related to capital assets, receivables, and payables. Assets increased by \$6,534,969, revenues increased by \$980,245, and liabilities increased by \$5,554,724 to record additional revenues and liabilities for Broadband. Assets increased and expenditures decreased by \$818,403 to capitalize additional expenditures for Broadband. Liabilities and expenditures decreased by \$928,358 to record principal paid on the Broadband Initiatives Program Loan. Revenues and expenses decreased by \$2,167,413 to eliminate intra-fund activity.

Cause: For the special revenue funds, the County provides cash basis financial statements and prepares some of the modified accrual information necessary to adjust the cash basis financial statements to the modified accrual basis. However, the County staff do not have the time nor the technical expertise to ensure that all material adjustments have been made.

For the Broadband Enterprise Fund, County management has a contract with a management company to oversee this fund. The management company tracks the financial information for the Broadband Enterprise Fund in a financial system separate from the County's general ledger. The County Auditor/Treasurer also tracks the financial information for the Broadband Enterprise Fund in its general ledger. The County Auditor/Treasurer does not reconcile the financial information in the County's general ledger to the management company's financial records for the Broadband Enterprise Fund.

Recommendation: We recommend the County establish internal controls necessary to ensure the County's annual financial statements are fairly presented in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

<u>Client's Response</u>:

For 2015, the Financial Coordinator and the County Auditor/Treasurer are reviewing trial balances and journal entries. The County Auditor/Treasurer is signing off on journal entries.

The County Administrator, Financial Coordinator, and County Auditor/Treasure will work with the Broadband Chief Financial Officer to ensure information is being provided to the Auditor's office showing the Broadband Fund reconciliation to the County accounting system on a monthly basis.

Finding 2006-004

Accounting Policies and Procedures Manual

Criteria: All governments should document their accounting policies and procedures. Although other methods might suffice, this documentation is traditionally in the form of an accounting policies and procedures manual.

Condition: The County does not have a current and comprehensive accounting policies and procedures manual.

Context: This manual should be on hand to document the accounting policies and procedures which make up the County's internal control system. It can also help to prevent deterioration of key elements in the County's internal control system and help to avoid circumvention of County policies.

Effect: An accounting policies and procedures manual will enhance employees' understanding of their role and function in the internal control system, establish responsibilities, provide guidance for employees, improve efficiency and consistency of transaction processing, and improve compliance with established policies.

Cause: Lake County has various policies and procedures documents that have been adopted by the County Board. Some of these policies are accounting-related policies and others are administrative in nature. The policies have not been integrated into a comprehensive accounting policies and procedures manual.

Recommendation: We recommend the County establish an accounting policies and procedures manual. The accounting policies and procedures manual should be prepared by appropriate levels of management and be approved by the County Board to emphasize its importance and authority. The documentation should describe procedures as they are intended to be performed, indicate which employees are to perform which procedures, and explain the design and purpose of control-related procedures to increase employee understanding and support for controls.

Client's Response:

The County Financial Coordinator has begun the process of updating and coordinating the Accounting Policies. The County Financial Coordinator and the County Auditor/Treasurer will strive to have an Accounting Policies and Procedures Manual draft ready for Board consideration by year-end 2015.

Finding 2006-006

New Vendors

Criteria: Before being added to the accounts payable system, all new vendors should be verified as to their validity.

Condition: Lake County does not have any formal procedures for reviewing new vendors that have been added to the accounts payable system or for determining if they are legitimate vendors.

Context: There are generally a minimum of five to ten new vendors added to the accounts payable system each year.

Effect: Without procedures to review and verify new vendors, fictitious vendors could be established.

Cause: Formal policies and procedures have never been established and approved to review new vendors created or to establish their validity.

Recommendation: We recommend the County Auditor/Treasurer develop written policies and procedures for staff to follow when setting up a new vendor that verifies the validity of the vendor, such as looking up the vendor in the phone book or on the internet or requiring the company to send information about its business. An active vendor's listing should be periodically reviewed by someone independent of the accounts payable processing function. That person should document the review by signing off on the report.

Client's Response:

The County Auditor/Treasurer will work with the Deputy Auditors to establish a step-by-step verification for new vendor set up. Either the County Auditor/Treasurer or the Financial Coordinator will review the Vendor List periodically to ensure new vendor validity. The new vendor process will be included in the Accounting Policies and Procedures Manual.

III. FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR FEDERAL AWARD PROGRAMS

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED ITEMS RESOLVED

Identification of Federal Awards (CFDA #10.787) (2011-001)

During the previous audit, it was noted that the County did not adequately identify amounts received and expended for federal awards on the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA).

Resolution

All expenditures of federal awards in the current year were properly identified and reported on the SEFA.

Reporting (Contract No. 11-PA-11090903-027) (2012-003)

Lake County did not submit the annual performance reports for December 31, 2011, December 31, 2012, and December 31, 2013, as required by the U.S. Forest Service Cooperative Agreements.

Resolution

In 2014, the County submitted the annual performance report to the grantor.

IV. OTHER FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A. MINNESOTA LEGAL COMPLIANCE

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED ITEM RESOLVED

Publication of the Budget (2013-001)

The County's 2013 budget was not published in the County's official newspaper or qualified newspaper of general circulation as required by Minn. Stat. § 375.169.

Resolution

The County's 2014 budget was published in the County's official newspaper or qualified newspaper of general circulation in compliance with Minn. Stat. § 375.169.

B. <u>OTHER ITEM FOR CONSIDERATION</u>

GASB Statement No. 68, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the independent organization that establishes standards of accounting and financial reporting for state and local governments. Effective for your calendar year 2015 financial statements, the GASB changed those standards as they apply to employers that provide pension benefits.

GASB Statement 68 significantly changes pension accounting and financial reporting for governmental employers that prepare financial statements on the accrual basis by separating pension accounting methodology from pension funding methodology. Statement 68 requires employers to include a portion of the Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA) total employers' unfunded liability, called the "net pension liability" on the face of the County's government-wide statement of financial position. Lake County's financial position will be immediately impacted by its unfunded share of the pension liability.

Statement 68 changes the amount employers report as pension expense and defers some allocations of expenses to future years—deferred outflows or inflows of resources. It requires pension costs to be calculated by an actuary; whereas, in the past pension costs were equal to the amount of employer contributions sent to PERA during the year. Additional footnote disclosures and required supplementary information schedules are also required by Statement 68.

The net pension liability that will be reported in Lake County's financial statements is an accounting estimate of the proportionate share of PERA's unfunded liability at a specific point in time. That number will change from year to year and is based on assumptions about the probability of the occurrence of events far into the future. Those assumptions include how long people will live, how long they will continue to work, projected salary increases, and how well pension trust investments will do. PERA has been proactive in taking steps toward implementation and will be providing most of the information needed by employers to report the net pension liability and deferred outflows/inflows of resources.



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

Independent Auditor's Report

Board of County Commissioners Lake County Two Harbors, Minnesota

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Lake County, Minnesota, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2014, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated September 22, 2015.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and, therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. However, as described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs, we identified a deficiency in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be a material weakness and other items that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

A deficiency in internal control over financial reporting 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 combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the County's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. We considered the deficiency described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as item 2006-003 to be a material weakness.

A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider the deficiencies described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as items 1996-011, 2003-002, 2006-002, 2006-004, and 2006-006 to be significant deficiencies.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Lake 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*.

Minnesota Legal Compliance

The Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for Political Subdivisions, promulgated by the State Auditor pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 6.65, contains seven categories of compliance to be tested in connection with the audit of the County's financial statements: contracting and bidding, deposits and investments, conflicts of interest, public indebtedness, claims and disbursements, miscellaneous provisions, and tax increment financing. Our audit considered all of the listed categories, except that we did not test for compliance with the provisions for tax increment financing because the County administers no tax increment financing districts.

In connection with our audit, nothing came to our attention that caused us to believe that Lake County failed to comply with the provisions of the *Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for Political Subdivisions*. However, our audit was not directed primarily toward obtaining knowledge of such noncompliance. Accordingly, had we performed additional procedures, other matters may have come to our attention regarding the County's noncompliance with the above referenced provisions.

Other Matters

Also included in the Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs is an other item for consideration. We believe this information to be of benefit to the County, and it is reported for that purpose.

Lake County's Response to Findings

Lake County's responses to the internal control findings identified in our audit have been included in the Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs. The County's responses were not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting, compliance, and the provisions of the *Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for Political Subdivisions* and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the County's internal control over financial reporting and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

/s/Rebecca Otto

/s/Greg Hierlinger

REBECCA OTTO STATE AUDITOR GREG HIERLINGER, CPA DEPUTY STATE AUDITOR

September 22, 2015





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REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM AND REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE

Independent Auditor's Report

Board of County Commissioners Lake County Two Harbors, Minnesota

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

We have audited Lake County's compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) *Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of the County's major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2014. Lake County's major federal programs are identified in the Summary of Auditor's Results section of the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs.

Management's Responsibility

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to each of its federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on compliance for each of Lake County's major federal programs based on our audit of the types of compliance requirements referred to above. We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and OMB Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*. Those standards and OMB Circular A-133 require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about Lake County's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. However, our audit does not provide a legal determination of the County's compliance with those requirements.

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

In our opinion, Lake County complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2014.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

Management of Lake County is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above. In planning and performing our audit of compliance, we considered the County's internal control over compliance with the types of requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each major federal program to determine the auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing an opinion on compliance for each major federal program and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with OMB Circular A-133, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control over compliance.

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

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of OMB Circular A-133. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

/s/Rebecca Otto

/s/Greg Hierlinger

REBECCA OTTO STATE AUDITOR GREG HIERLINGER, CPA DEPUTY STATE AUDITOR

September 22, 2015