



CUSTER COUNTY

Financial Audit

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019

Cindy Byrd, CPA
State Auditor & Inspector

**CUSTER COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
AND INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019**

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Cindy Byrd, CPA | State Auditor & Inspector

2300 N. Lincoln Blvd., Room 123, Oklahoma City, OK 73105 | 405.521.3495 | www.sai.ok.gov

December 8, 2020

TO THE CITIZENS OF
CUSTER COUNTY, OKLAHOMA

Transmitted herewith is the audit of Custer County, Oklahoma for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019. The audit was conducted in accordance with 19 O.S. § 171.

A report of this type can be critical in nature. Failure to report commendable features in the accounting and operating procedures of the entity should not be interpreted to mean that they do not exist.

The goal of the State Auditor and Inspector is to promote accountability and fiscal integrity in state and local government. Maintaining our independence as we provide this service to the taxpayers of Oklahoma is of utmost importance.

We wish to take this opportunity to express our appreciation for the assistance and cooperation extended to our office during our engagement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cindy Byrd". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first and last names clearly legible.

CINDY BYRD, CPA
OKLAHOMA STATE AUDITOR & INSPECTOR



**CUSTER COUNTY OFFICIALS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019**

Board of County Commissioners

District 1 – Wade Anders
District 2 – Kurt Hamburger
District 3 – Lyle Miller

County Assessor

Brad Rennels

County Clerk

Melissa Graham

County Sheriff

Kenneth Tidwell

County Treasurer

Janet Roulet

Court Clerk

Staci Hunter

District Attorney

Angela Marsee

**CUSTER COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019**

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FINANCIAL SECTION

Independent Auditor's Report

TO THE OFFICERS OF
CUSTER COUNTY, OKLAHOMA

Report on the Financial Statement

We have audited the combined total—all county funds on the accompanying regulatory basis Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Cash Balances of Custer County, Oklahoma, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019, and the related notes to the financial statement, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statement as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statement

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of this financial statement in accordance with the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 1, and for determining that the regulatory basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statement in the circumstances. Management is also responsible for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on this financial statement 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 statement is free from material misstatement.

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

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



Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

As described in Note 1, the financial statement is prepared by Custer County using accounting practices prescribed or permitted by Oklahoma state law, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The effects on the financial statement of the variances between the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 1 and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material.

Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the “Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles” paragraph, the financial statement referred to above does not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of Custer County as of June 30, 2019, or changes in financial position for the year then ended.

Unmodified Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

In our opinion, the financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the combined total of receipts, disbursements, and changes in cash balances for all county funds of Custer County, for the year ended June 30, 2019, in accordance with the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

Other Matters

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the combined total of all county funds on the financial statement. 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 financial statement.

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 financial statement. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statement and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statement or to the financial statement itself, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the supplementary information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statement.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 7, 2020, on our consideration of Custer County’s internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the County’s internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an

integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Custer County's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cindy Byrd". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

CINDY BYRD, CPA
OKLAHOMA STATE AUDITOR & INSPECTOR

December 7, 2020

REGULATORY BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENT

CUSTER COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN CASH BALANCES—REGULATORY BASIS
(WITH COMBINING INFORMATION)
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019

	Beginning Cash Balances July 1, 2018	Receipts Apportioned	Transfers In	Transfers Out	Disbursements	Ending Cash Balances June 30, 2019
Combining Information:						
County General Fund	\$ 3,136,951	\$ 3,585,304	\$ 4,507	\$ -	\$ 3,460,777	\$ 3,265,985
County Highway Fund	3,855,518	5,233,045	-	-	4,724,875	4,363,688
CBRI Cash Fund (County Bridge and Road Improvement)	380,115	358,757	-	-	218,646	520,226
Sales Tax Cash Fund	3,548,508	3,051,964	-	-	2,418,948	4,181,524
Capital Improvement Cash Fund	840,933	258,185	-	-	77,331	1,021,787
Custer County Health Department	567,121	612,702	-	-	444,210	735,613
Resale Property Fund	451,113	271,727	-	-	60,154	662,686
Custer County Local Emergency Planning Committee	21,214	45,579	-	-	42,493	24,300
Trash Cop Cash Fund	57	-	-	57	-	-
Courthouse/Jail Bond Fund	6,144	-	-	-	-	6,144
Treasurer Mortgage Tax Certification Fee	15,610	4,910	-	-	3,344	17,176
County Clerk Lien Fee	112,690	38,073	-	-	26,525	124,238
Assessor Revolving Fee	91,748	11,288	-	-	10,401	92,635
Assessor Visual Inspection Fund	17,592	100	-	4,507	13,185	-
Sheriff Fee Cash Fund	72,231	377,645	6,065	-	325,603	130,338
Sheriff Drug Enforcement/Donation Fund	5,054	-	-	5,054	-	-
Sheriff Training & Equipment Fund	56	-	-	56	-	-
Sheriff DARE	60	-	-	60	-	-
County Clerk Records Management Fee	103,768	39,200	-	-	29,209	113,759
Sheriff Jail Fund	3,470	2,253	-	838	4,885	-
Sheriff Commissary Fund	48,671	123,881	-	-	100,925	71,627
Free Fair	54,975	21,807	-	-	17,000	59,782
Flood Plain Cash Fund	5,145	2,475	-	-	2,631	4,989
Custer County Rural Fire Truck & Equipment	177,240	104,297	-	-	170,947	110,590
Combined Total - All County Funds	\$ 13,515,984	\$ 14,143,192	\$ 10,572	\$ 10,572	\$ 12,152,089	\$ 15,507,087

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

**CUSTER COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019**

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Reporting Entity

Custer County is a subdivision of the State of Oklahoma created by the Oklahoma Constitution and regulated by Oklahoma Statutes.

The accompanying financial statement presents the receipts, disbursements, and changes in cash balances of the total of all funds under the control of the primary government. The general fund is the county's general operating fund, accounting for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund, where its use is restricted for a specified purpose. Other funds established by statute and under the control of the primary government are also presented.

The County Treasurer collects and remits material amounts of intergovernmental revenues and ad valorem tax revenue for other budgetary entities, including emergency medical districts, libraries, school districts, and cities and towns. The cash receipts and disbursements attributable to those other entities do not appear in funds on the County's financial statement; those funds play no part in the County's operations. Any trust or agency funds maintained by the County are not included in this presentation.

B. Fund Accounting

The County uses funds to report on receipts, disbursements, and changes in cash balances. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain government functions or activities.

Following are descriptions of the county funds included as combining information within the financial statement:

County General Fund – accounts for the general operations of the government.

County Highway Fund – accounts for state, local, and miscellaneous receipts and disbursements for the purpose of constructing and maintaining county roads and bridges.

CBRI Cash Fund (County Bridge and Road Improvement) – accounts for state receipts and disbursements for the purpose of maintaining bridges and roads.

Sales Tax Cash Fund – accounts for the sales tax collected and spent on behalf of the following entities: General Government (50%); County Sheriff (30%); Rural Fire Departments (8%); OSU Extension Office (8%); Custer County Free Fair (4%).

Capital Improvement Cash Fund – accounts for use tax collections and disbursements for the improvements to the courthouse.

**CUSTER COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019**

Custer County Health Department – accounts for monies collected on behalf of the county health department from ad valorem taxes, state, and local revenues and disbursed for the operations of the health department.

Resale Property Fund – accounts for the collections of interest and penalties on delinquent taxes and disbursed as restricted by state statute.

Custer County Local Emergency Planning Committee – accounts for grants monies received for various grants filed for emergency services within the County.

Trash Cop Cash Fund – accounts for grant funds received and spent on eradication of trash in the rural areas of the County.

Courthouse/Jail Bond Fund – accounts for the excess proceeds from a 1982 bond issue that was to fund an addition to the courthouse for jail and courthouse offices.

Treasurer Mortgage Tax Certification Fee – accounts for the collection of fees by the Treasurer for mortgage tax certificates and the disbursement of the funds as restricted by state statute.

County Clerk Lien Fee – accounts for lien collections and disbursements as restricted by state statute.

Assessor Revolving Fee – accounts for the collection of fees for copies as restricted by state statute.

Assessor Visual Inspection Fund – accounts for the collection and expenditure of monies by the Assessor as restricted by state statute for the visual inspection program.

Sheriff Fee Cash Fund – accounts for the collection and disbursement of sheriff process service fees as restricted by state statute.

Sheriff Drug Enforcement/Donation Fund – accounts for donations received to purchase and maintain a drug dog.

Sheriff Training & Equipment Fund – accounts for the collections from the sale of unclaimed property and disbursed for the training and equipping of the County Sheriff's deputies.

Sheriff DARE – accounts for state grant funds disbursed for the purpose of drug education and awareness.

County Clerk Records Management Fee – accounts for fees collected for instruments filed in the County Clerk's office as restricted by state statute for preservation of records.

**CUSTER COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019**

Sheriff Jail Fund – accounts for the County Sheriff's portion of the appearance bond fee assessed by the District Court and disbursed for the general operations of the jail as restricted by state statute.

Sheriff Commissary Fund – accounts for the collection of the sale of items to inmates and disbursements to purchase commissary goods from the vendor and to improve or provide jail services. Additionally, any surplus funds can be expended for administering expenses for training, equipment, travel or for capital expenditures.

Free Fair – accounts for the collection of rent of the fair building/grounds, and interest earned on investments and disbursed for the operations of the free fair organization.

Flood Plain Cash Fund – accounts for monies collected for flood plain permits and disbursed for flood plain training and certifications.

Custer County Rural Fire Truck & Equipment – accounts for the collection of use tax and disbursed for fire trucks and equipment for the rural fire departments within the County as authorized by Board of County Commissioners.

C. Basis of Accounting

The financial statement is prepared on a basis of accounting wherein amounts are recognized when received or disbursed. This basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, which require revenues to be recognized when they become available and measurable or when they are earned, and expenditures or expenses to be recognized when the related liabilities are incurred. This regulatory basis financial presentation is not a comprehensive measure of economic condition or changes therein.

Title 19 O.S. § 171 specifies the format and presentation for Oklahoma counties to present their financial statement in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP) or on a regulatory basis. The County has elected to present their financial statement on a regulatory basis in conformity with Title 19 O.S. § 171. County governments (primary only) are required to present their financial statements on a fund basis format with, at a minimum, the general fund and all other county funds, which represent ten percent or greater of total county revenue with all other funds included in the audit presented in the aggregate in a combining statement. However, the County has elected to present all funds included in the audit in the Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Cash Balances—Regulatory Basis.

D. Budget

Under current Oklahoma Statutes, a general fund and a county health department fund are the only funds required to adopt a formal budget. On or before the first Monday in July of each year, each officer or department head submits an estimate of needs to the governing body. The budget is

**CUSTER COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019**

approved for the respective fund by office, or department and object. The County Board of Commissioners may approve changes of appropriations within the fund by office or department and object. To increase or decrease the budget by fund requires approval by the County Excise Board.

E. Cash and Investments

For the purposes of financial reporting, "Ending Cash Balances, June 30" includes cash and cash equivalents and investments as allowed by statutes. The County pools the cash of its various funds in maintaining its bank accounts. However, cash applicable to a particular fund is readily identifiable on the County's books. The balance in the pooled cash accounts is available to meet current operating requirements.

State statutes require financial institutions with which the County maintains funds to deposit collateral securities to secure the County's deposits. The amount of collateral securities to be pledged is established by the County Treasurer; this amount must be at least the amount of the deposit to be secured, less the amount insured (by, for example, the FDIC).

The County Treasurer has been authorized by the County's governing board to make investments. Allowable investments are outlined in statutes 62 O.S. § 348.1 and § 348.3.

All investments must be backed by the full faith and credit of the United States Government, the Oklahoma State Government, fully collateralized, or fully insured. All investments as classified by state statute are nonnegotiable certificates of deposit. Nonnegotiable certificates of deposit are not subject to interest rate risk or credit risk.

2. Ad Valorem Tax

The County's property tax is levied each October 1 on the assessed value listed as of January 1 of the same year for all real and personal property located in the County, except certain exempt property. Assessed values are established by the County Assessor within the prescribed guidelines established by the Oklahoma Tax Commission and the State Equalization Board. Title 68 O.S. § 2820.A. states, ". . . Each assessor shall thereafter maintain an active and systematic program of visual inspection on a continuous basis and shall establish an inspection schedule which will result in the individual visual inspection of all taxable property within the county at least once each four (4) years."

Taxes are due on November 1 following the levy date, although they may be paid in two equal installments. If the first half is paid prior to January 1, the second half is not delinquent until April 1. The County Treasurer, according to the law, shall give notice of delinquent taxes and special assessments by publication once a week for two consecutive weeks at any time after April 1, but prior to the end of September following the year the taxes were first due and payable. Unpaid real property taxes become a lien upon said property after the treasurer has perfected the lien by public notice.

**CUSTER COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019**

Unpaid delinquent personal property taxes are usually published in May. If the taxes are not paid within 30 days from publication, they shall be placed on the personal tax lien docket.

3. Other Information

A. Pension Plan

Plan Description. The County contributes to the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement Plan (the Plan), a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the Oklahoma Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). Benefit provisions are established and amended by the Oklahoma Legislature. The Plan provides retirement, disability, and death benefits to Plan members and beneficiaries. Title 74, Sections 901 through 943, as amended, establishes the provisions of the Plan. OPERS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and supplementary information. That report may be obtained by writing OPERS, P.O. Box 53007, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105 or by calling 1-800-733-9008.

Funding Policy. The contribution rates for each member category are established by the Oklahoma Legislature and are based on an actuarial calculation which is performed to determine the adequacy of contribution rates.

B. Other Post Employment Benefits (OPEB)

In addition to the pension benefits described in the Pension Plan note, OPERS provides post-retirement health care benefits of up to \$105 each for retirees who are members of an eligible group plan. These benefits are funded on a pay-as-you-go basis as part of the overall retirement benefit. OPEB expenditure and participant information is available for the state as a whole; however, information specific to the County is not available nor can it be reasonably estimated.

C. Contingent Liabilities

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

As of the end of the fiscal year, there were no claims or judgments that would have a material adverse effect on the financial condition of the County; however, the outcome of any lawsuit would not be determinable.

D. Sales Tax

The voters of Custer County approved an extension of a one-half percent (1/2%) sales tax effective July 1, 2017 for a period of 5 years, to fund the following: General Government (50%); County

**CUSTER COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019**

Sheriff (30%); Rural County Fire Departments (8%); OSU Extension office (8%); and County Free Fair (4%). These funds are accounted for in the Sales Tax Cash account.

E. Interfund Transfers

During the fiscal year, the County made the following transfers between cash funds:

- \$4,507 was transferred from the Assessor Visual Inspection Fund to the County General Fund by Board of County Commissioner Resolution to close out the fund.
- \$6,065 was transferred to Sheriff Fee Cash Fund from the following funds: \$57 from the Trash Cop Cash Fund, \$5,054 from the Sheriff Drug Enforcement/Donation Fund, \$56 from the Sheriff Training & Equipment Fund, \$60 from the Sheriff DARE, and \$838 from the Sheriff Jail Fund by Board of County Commissioner Resolution to close out the funds.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

CUSTER COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
COMPARATIVE SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURES, AND
CHANGES IN CASH BALANCES—BUDGET AND ACTUAL—BUDGETARY BASIS—
GENERAL FUND
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019

	General Fund		
	Budget	Actual	Variance
Beginning Cash Balances	\$ 3,136,951	\$ 3,136,951	\$ -
Less: Prior Year Outstanding Warrants	(45,801)	(45,801)	-
Less: Prior Year Encumbrances	(29,193)	(29,193)	-
Beginning Cash Balances, Budgetary Basis	<u>3,061,957</u>	<u>3,061,957</u>	<u>-</u>
Net Residual Transfer		4,507	4,507
Total Receipts, Budgetary Basis	<u>2,669,207</u>	<u>3,585,304</u>	<u>916,097</u>
Total Expenditures, Budgetary Basis	<u>5,731,164</u>	<u>3,501,191</u>	<u>2,229,973</u>
Excess of Receipts and Beginning Cash Balances Over Expenditures, Budgetary Basis	<u>\$ -</u>	3,150,577	<u>\$ 3,150,577</u>
Reconciliation to Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Cash Balances			
Add: Cancelled Warrants		80	
Add: Current Year Outstanding Warrants		86,563	
Add: Current Year Encumbrances		28,765	
Ending Cash Balance		<u>\$ 3,265,985</u>	

CUSTER COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
COMPARATIVE SCHEDULE OF RECEIPTS, EXPENDITURES, AND
CHANGES IN CASH BALANCES—BUDGET AND ACTUAL—BUDGETARY BASIS—
COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT FUND
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019

	County Health Department Fund		
	Budget	Actual	Variance
Beginning Cash Balances	\$ 567,121	\$ 567,121	\$ -
Less: Prior Year Outstanding Warrants	(25,492)	(25,492)	-
Less: Prior Year Encumbrances	(41,232)	(23,932)	17,300
Beginning Cash Balances, Budgetary Basis	<u>500,397</u>	<u>517,697</u>	<u>17,300</u>
 Total Receipts, Budgetary Basis	 <u>544,841</u>	 <u>612,702</u>	 <u>67,861</u>
 Total Expenditures, Budgetary Basis	 <u>1,045,238</u>	 <u>500,086</u>	 <u>545,152</u>
 Excess of Receipts and Beginning Cash Balances Over Expenditures, Budgetary Basis	 <u>\$ -</u>	 630,313	 <u>\$ 630,313</u>
 Reconciliation to Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Cash Balances			
Add: Current Year Encumbrances		4,942	
Add: Current Year Outstanding Warrants		<u>100,358</u>	
Ending Cash Balance		<u>\$ 735,613</u>	

**CUSTER COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
NOTE TO SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019**

1. Budgetary Schedules

The Comparative Schedules of Receipts, Expenditures, and Changes in Cash Balances—Budget and Actual—Budgetary Basis for the General Fund and the County Health Department Fund present comparisons of the legally adopted budget with actual data. The "actual" data, as presented in the comparison of budget and actual, will differ from the data as presented in the Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Cash Balances (with Combining Information) because of adopting certain aspects of the budgetary basis of accounting and the adjusting of encumbrances and outstanding warrants to their related budget year.

Encumbrance accounting, under which purchase orders, contracts, and other commitments for the expenditure of monies are recorded in order to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation, is employed as an extension of formal budgetary integration in these funds. At the end of the year unencumbered appropriations lapse.

INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE SECTION

Independent Auditor's 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*

TO THE OFFICERS OF
CUSTER COUNTY, OKLAHOMA

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the combined total—all funds of the accompanying Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Cash Balances (with Combining Information) of Custer County, Oklahoma, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019, and the related notes to the financial statement, which collectively comprises Custer County's basic financial statement, prepared using accounting practices prescribed or permitted by Oklahoma state law, and have issued our report thereon dated December 7, 2020.

Our report included an adverse opinion on the financial statement because the statement is prepared using accounting practices prescribed or permitted by Oklahoma state law, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. However, our report also included our opinion that the financial statement does present fairly, in all material respects, the receipts, disbursements, and changes in cash balances – regulatory basis of the County for the year ended June 30, 2019, on the basis of accounting prescribed by Oklahoma state law, described in Note 1.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. However, as described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses and significant deficiencies.



A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. We consider the deficiencies described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses to be a material weakness: 2019-001.

A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider the deficiencies described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses to be significant deficiencies: 2019-003.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Custer County's financial statement is 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*.

Custer County's Response to Findings

Custer County's response to the findings identified in our audit are described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses. Custer County's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statement and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

Purpose of this Report

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

This report is also a public document pursuant to the Oklahoma Open Records Act (51 O.S. § 24A.1 et seq.), and shall be open to any person for inspection and copying.



CINDY BYRD, CPA
OKLAHOMA STATE AUDITOR & INSPECTOR

December 7, 2020

**CUSTER COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2019**

SECTION 1—Findings related to the 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*

Finding 2019-001 – Lack of County-Wide Internal Controls (Repeat Finding: 2012-001, 2013-001, 2016-001, 2017-001, 2018-001)

Condition: Through the process of gaining an understanding of the County’s internal control structure, it was noted that county-wide controls regarding Risk Assessment and Monitoring have not been designed.

Cause of Condition: Policies and procedures have not been designed and implemented to address the risks of the County.

Effect of Condition: Without an adequate system of county-wide controls, there is greater risk of a breakdown in control activities which could result in unrecorded transactions, undetected errors, or misappropriation of funds.

Recommendation: The Oklahoma State Auditor & Inspector’s Office (OSAI) recommends that the County design and implement a system of county-wide procedures to identify and address risks related to financial reporting and to ensure that information is communicated effectively. OSAI also recommends that the County design and implement risk assessment and monitoring procedures to assess the quality of performance over time. These procedures should be written policies and procedures and could be included in the County’s policies and procedures handbook.

Management Response:

Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners: The Board of County Commissioners will work to set up quarterly meetings with all elected officials to discuss and take action regarding risk management and monitoring. We will work to assess and identify risks to design county-wide controls going forward.

Criteria: The United States Government Accountability Office’s (*Standards for Internal Control in the Federal Government*) (2014 version) aided in guiding our assessments and conclusion. Although this publication (GAO Standards) addresses controls in the federal government, this criterion can be treated as best practices and may be applied as a framework for an internal control system for state, local, and quasi-governmental entities.

The GAO Standards – Section 1 – Fundamental Concepts of Internal Control – OV1.01 states in part:

Definition of Internal Control

Internal control is a process effected by an entity’s oversight body, management, and other personnel that provides reasonable assurance that the objectives of an entity will be achieved.

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Additionally, GAO Standards – Section 2 – Establishing an Effective Internal Control System – OV2.04 states in part:

Components, Principles, and Attributes

Control Environment - The foundation for an internal control system. It provides the discipline and structure to help an entity achieve its objectives.

Risk Assessment - Assesses the risks facing the entity as it seeks to achieve its objectives. This assessment provides the basis for developing appropriate risk responses.

Information and Communication - The quality information management and personnel communicate and use to support the internal control system.

Monitoring - Activities management establishes and operates to assess the quality of performance over time and promptly resolve the findings of audits and other reviews.

Finding 2019-003 – Lack of Internal Controls Over the County Financial Statement

Condition: Custer County has not designed and implemented internal controls to accurately present the county's financial statement. During the review and reconciliation of the financial statement as prepared by the County, we determined that the beginning cash balance was overstated \$251,566, cash receipts were overstated \$275,564, disbursements were overstated \$178,727, and the ending cash balance was overstated \$411,492. The misstatement was due to the County reflecting the Court Clerk Revolving Fund, Narcotics Control Fund, DA Incarceration Costs Fund, and the Law Library Fund as County Funds; however, these funds are Trust & Agency Funds and should not be reflected as County Funds.

Cause of Condition: Policies and procedures have not been designed and implemented to ensure that the county's financial statement is accurately presented.

Effect of Condition: This condition resulted in the county's financial statement being overstated.

Recommendation: OSAI recommend the County design and implement policies and procedures to ensure the county's financial statement is accurately presented.

Management Response:

County Treasurer/Chairman of the BOCC: We will ensure Trust & Agency funds are not classified as County Funds and verify beginning balances reconcile to prior year ending balances on the county's financial statement.

Criteria: The County is required to present a financial statement for each fiscal year ended June 30. Title 19 O.S. § 171 states, in part, "Unless the county elects to prepare its financial statement in accordance with

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Generally Accepted Accounting Principles as prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, the county shall present their financial statements in a regulatory basis of accounting."

The limitations of the auditor are described in the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants Clarified Statements on Auditing Standards AU-C § 210, which states, in part: "The concept of an independent audit requires that the auditor's role does not involve assuming management's responsibility for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements or assuming responsibility for the entity's related internal control and that the auditor has a reasonable expectation of obtaining the information necessary for the audit insofar as management is able to provide or procure it. Accordingly, the premise is fundamental to the conduct of an independent audit."

SECTION 2—This section contains certain matters not required to be reported in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*. However, we believe these matters are significant enough to bring to management's attention. We recommend that management consider these matters and take appropriate corrective action.

No matters were noted.



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