



DEWEY COUNTY

Financial Report

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016

Cindy Byrd, CPA

State Auditor & Inspector

DEWEY COUNTY, OKLAHOMA FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016

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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 16, 2019

TO THE CITIZENS OF DEWEY COUNTY, OKLAHOMA

Transmitted herewith is the audit of Dewey County, Oklahoma for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016. 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,

CINDY BYRD, CPA

OKLAHOMA STATE AUDITOR & INSPECTOR



Board of County Commissioners

District 1 – Dillon Berry

District 2 – Rupert Irving

District 3 – Melvin Salisbury, Jr.

County Assessor

Julie Louthan

County Clerk

Gayla Holsapple

County Sheriff

Clay Sander

County Treasurer

Dusty Fox

Court Clerk

Rachelle Rogers

District Attorney

Chris Boring

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Independent Auditor's Report

TO THE OFFICERS OF DEWEY 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 Dewey County, Oklahoma, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2016, 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 the 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 Dewey 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 statements 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 Dewey County as of June 30, 2016, 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 Dewey County, for the year ended June 30, 2016, in accordance with the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

Other Matters

Supplementary and Other 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 Other 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 other supplementary information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and related 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 other supplementary information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the financial statement.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

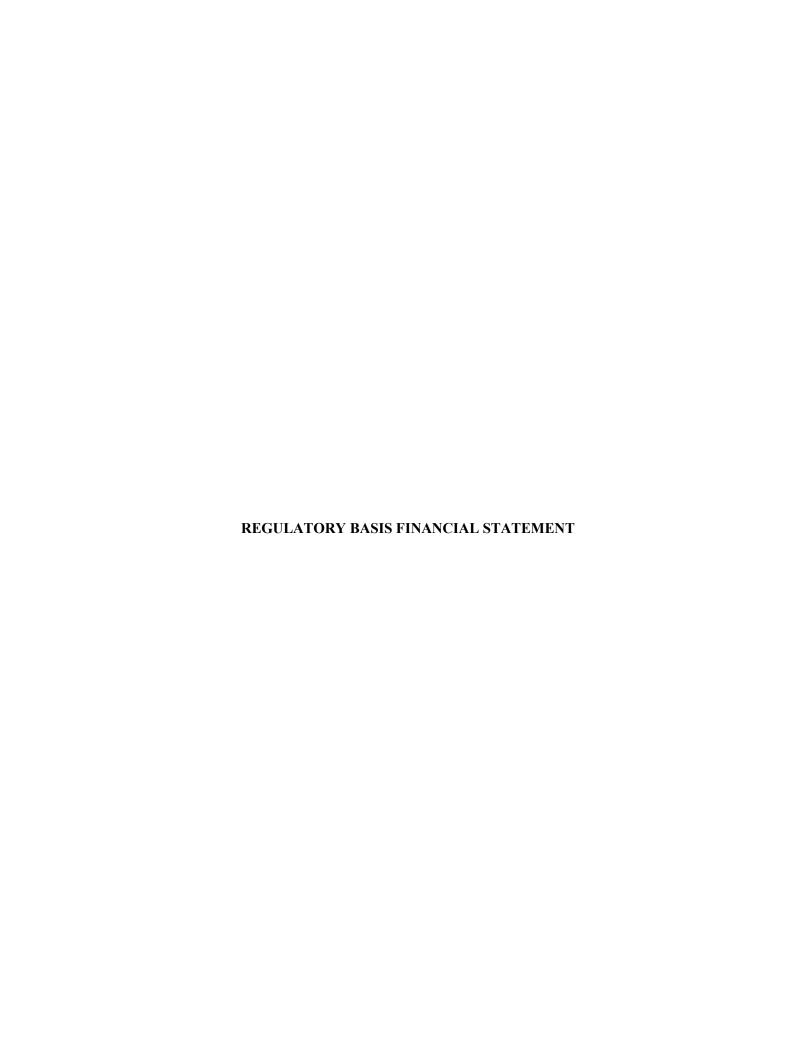
In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated October 29, 2019, on our consideration of Dewey County's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements 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 Dewey County's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

CINDY BYRD, CPA

OKLAHOMA STATE AUDITOR & INSPECTOR

October 29, 2019



DEWEY COUNTY, OKLAHOMA STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN CASH BALANCES—REGULATORY BASIS (WITH COMBINING INFORMATION) FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016

	Beginning Cash Balances July 1, 2015	Receipts Apportioned	Disbursements	Ending Cash Balances June 30, 2016
Combining Information:				
County General Fund	\$ 9,350,336	\$ 3,420,513	\$ 3,400,997	\$ 9,369,852
County Highway Cash	3,913,150	4,517,200	4,951,222	3,479,128
Sales Tax - Roads Bridges Public Safety	66,902	1,064,090	1,066,140	64,852
Prisoner Revolving Fund	75,064	255,204	96,779	233,489
County Bridge and Road Improvement Fund	848,561	212,825	202,248	859,138
County Clerk Lien Fee	229,453	52,055	11,935	269,573
Dewey County E911	172,808	47,066	55,135	164,739
County Clerk Records Preservation Fee	115,131	46,205	43,203	118,133
Sheriff Service Fee	62,266	41,697	40,856	63,107
Pre-Paid 911	113,091	28,114	-	141,205
Sheriff Commissary Fund	9,169	33,771	23,885	19,055
Resale Property	30,609	19,384	14,251	35,742
County Assessor Revolving	16,293	5,960	2,214	20,039
Local Emergency Management	15,416	3,500	2,353	16,563
Treasurer Mortgage Tax Certification Fee	3,335	1,180	145	4,370
Emergency Management Planning Grant	14,927	-	-	14,927
Sheriff Training	2,434	-	-	2,434
County Clerk Change Fund	400	-	-	400
County Treasurer Change Fund	300	-	-	300
Court Clerk Change Fund	150	-	-	150
Reward Revolving Fund	100	-	-	100
County Assessor Change Fund	100			100
Combined Total - All County Funds, As Restated	\$ 15,039,995	\$ 9,748,764	\$ 9,911,363	\$ 14,877,396

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Reporting Entity

Dewey 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.

<u>County Highway Cash</u> – accounts for state, local, and miscellaneous receipts and disbursements are for the purpose of constructing and maintaining county roads and bridges.

<u>Sales Tax - Roads Bridges Public Safety</u> – accounts for the collections of three-quarters (3/4) of one (1) cent sales tax passed on April 1, 2014 to be expended for improvement projects on county roads and bridges, county fire protection, emergency medical services, and public safety projects.

<u>Prisoner Revolving Fund</u> – accounts for the collection of monies from the Oklahoma Department of Corrections and disbursements are for the purpose of maintaining the jail.

<u>County Bridge and Road Improvement Fund</u> – accounts for state receipts and disbursements are for the purpose of maintaining bridges and roads.

DEWEY COUNTY, OKLAHOMA NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016

<u>County Clerk Lien Fee</u> – accounts for fees for copies and lien collections and disbursements as restricted by state statute.

<u>Dewey County E911</u> – accounts for the collection of state grant money and fees to establish and operate a 911 system.

<u>County Clerk Records Preservation Fee</u> – accounts for fees collected on instruments filed with the County Clerk's office as restricted by state statute.

<u>Sheriff Service Fee</u> – accounts for collection and disbursements of sheriff process service fees as restricted by state statute.

<u>Pre-Paid 911</u> – accounts for the collection of fees from wireless users within the County for the operation of the Emergency 911 service.

<u>Sheriff Commissary Fund</u> – accounts for the collection from the sale of items to inmates and disbursements to purchase commissary goods from the vendor. Surplus funds are used for the administering of salaries, training, equipment, travel, or capital expenditures.

<u>Resale Property</u> – accounts for the collection of interest and penalties on delinquent taxes and the disposition of same as restricted by state statute.

<u>County Assessor Revolving</u> – accounts for the collection of fees for copies and disbursements as restricted by state statute.

<u>Local Emergency Management</u> – accounts for the funds received from the state to prepare an emergency awareness plan for the citizens of Dewey County.

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

<u>Emergency Management Planning Grant</u> – accounts for federal funds to be used for the County's emergency management program.

<u>Sheriff Training</u> – accounts for the collection of miscellaneous receipts and disbursements for the training of Sheriff Deputies.

<u>County Clerk Change Fund</u> – accounts for funds used by the County Clerk's office to make change.

<u>County Treasurer Change Fund</u> – accounts for funds used by the County Treasurer's office to make change.

<u>Court Clerk Change Fund</u> – accounts for funds used by the Court Clerk's office to make change.

<u>Reward Revolving Fund</u> – accounts for monies collected and disbursed to citizens involved in the reporting of littering offenses.

<u>County Assessor Change Fund</u> – accounts for funds used by the County Assessor's office to make change.

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 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.

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

<u>Plan Description</u>. 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.

<u>Funding Policy</u>. 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

On November 7, 2006, the voters of Dewey County approved an additional one-half (1/2) cent sales tax, adding to the previous one-half (1/2) cent sales tax. This sales tax makes the total tax one percent (1%) on gross receipts or proceeds on certain sales. This sales tax was established to provide revenue for allocation of funds to Dewey County General County Government. These funds are accounted for in the County General Fund.

On April 1, 2014, the voters of Dewey County passed a sales tax proposition to continue the three-quarters (3/4) of one (1) cent sales tax to be deposited into a sales tax revenue fund account with the Dewey County Public Facilities Authority pursuant to a Sales Tax Agreement; pledged toward the retirement of any indebtedness incurred therefore; and to be designated and used to promote the safety, security and well-being of the people, including but not limited to county improvement projects as follows:

- (a) County roads and bridges
- (b) County fire protection
- (c) Emergency medical services
- (d) Public safety projects

With said sales tax to terminate after ten (10) years unless continued by a majority of the electors of Dewey County in an election called for the purpose of posing said proposition, authorizing the pledging of said sales tax for debt service; making provisions separable, and declaring an emergency. These funds are accounted for in the Sales Tax - Roads Bridges Public Safety fund.

E. Tax Abatements

The County is subject to ad valorem tax abatements granted by the State of Oklahoma in accordance with the Oklahoma Constitution, Article 10 Section 6B for qualifying manufacturing concern—ad valorem tax exemption.

Under this program, a five-year ad valorem tax exemption exempts all real and personal property that is necessary for the manufacturing of a product and facilities engaged in research and development which meet the requirements set by the Oklahoma Constitution and statutes. Under Title 68 O.S. § 2902, in exchange for the five-year exemption, qualifying manufacturing concerns must meet certain minimum investment requirements for construction, acquisition, or expansion of a manufacturing facility. In addition, there are general minimum payroll requirements that must be met and the qualifying manufacturing concern must offer basic health benefit plans to all full-time employees within 180 days of employment.

The County had \$980,354 of ad valorem taxes abated under this program for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2016.

The State has an Ad Valorem Reimbursement Fund in accordance with Title 62 O.S. § 193 that is used to reimburse the County for the loss of revenue. Monies apportioned to this fund by the State also may be transferred to other state funds or otherwise expended as directed by the Legislature. In the event monies apportioned to the Fund are insufficient to pay all claims for reimbursement, claims for reimbursement for loss of revenue due to manufacturing exemptions of ad valorem taxes shall be paid first, and any remaining funds shall be distributed proportionally among the counties making claims for reimbursement for loss of revenue for school district exemptions.

F. Restatement of Fund Balance

During the fiscal year, the County had a reclassification of funds. Estray Cattle was reclassified as a trust and agency fund, as it is not a County fund. This money is held in trust for the payment to a claimant who has been determined by the district court to be the owner of the stray animals.

DEWEY COUNTY, OKLAHOMA NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2016

Ending Cash Balance June 30, 2015, as previously reported \$15,044,801

Amounts reclassified from County Funds to Trust and Agency Funds:

Estray Cattle (4,806)

Beginning Cash Balance July 1, 2016, as restated \$15,039,995



DEWEY 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, 2016

	General Fund			
	Budget	Actual	Variance	
Beginning Cash Balances	\$ 9,350,336	\$ 9,350,336	\$ -	
Less: Prior Year Outstanding Warrants	(137,698)	(137,698)	-	
Less: Prior Year Encumbrances	(226,657)	(180,024)	46,633	
Beginning Cash Balances, Budgetary Basis	8,985,981	9,032,614	46,633	
Receipts:				
Total Receipts, Budgetary Basis	2,173,224	3,420,513	1,247,289	
Expenditures:				
Total Expenditures, Budgetary Basis	11,159,205	3,688,659	7,470,546	
Excess of Receipts and Beginning Cash				
Balances Over Expenditures, Budgetary Basis	\$ -	8,764,468	\$ 8,764,468	
Reconciliation to Statement of Receipts,				
Disbursements, and Changes in Cash Balances				
Add: Current Year Outstanding Warrants		113,107		
Add: Current Year Encumbrances		492,277		
Ending Cash Balance		\$ 9,369,852		

1. Budgetary Schedules

The Comparative Schedules of Receipts, Expenditures, and Changes in Cash Balances—Budget and Actual—Budgetary Basis for the General 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.





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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 DEWEY 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 Combined Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Cash Balances of Dewey County, Oklahoma, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statement, which collectively comprises Dewey County's basic financial statement, prepared using accounting practices prescribed or permitted by Oklahoma state law, and have issued our report thereon dated October 29, 2019.

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, 2016, 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 Dewey 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 Dewey County's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Dewey County's internal control.

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



Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph 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. We did identify certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses that we consider to be material weaknesses: 2016-001, 2016-003, 2016-004, and 2016-005.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Dewey 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 instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses as item 2016-005.

We noted certain matters regarding statutory compliance that we reported to the management of Dewey County, which are included in Section 2 of the schedule of findings and responses contained in this report.

Dewey County's Responses to Findings

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

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

October 29, 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 2016-001 – Inadequate County-Wide Controls (Repeat Finding – 2012-001, 2013-001)

Condition: 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 countywide controls.

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 and 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. OSAI also recommends the County design 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:

District 1 Commissioner: We have started holding meetings to address county-wide controls and will continue to do so.

District 2 Commissioner: I will participate in meetings involving county-wide controls.

District 3 Commissioner: We will meet once a month as County Officers and work diligently to complete the documentation of county-wide controls.

County Clerk: We will start having county officer's meetings monthly and discuss county-wide controls.

County Treasurer: The other County Officials and I will meet periodically. These meetings will have a structured agenda which will include items that address fraud risk to the County. It is understood that adequate county-wide controls are an ongoing process of policy.

County Assessor: I will participate in discussions and actions regarding county-wide controls.

County Sheriff: I will follow the recommendations and work with the other officers to formulate policies and procedures to protect the County.

Court Clerk: We will meet monthly to discuss county-wide controls and I will help in any way possible.

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.

According to GAO Standard OV1.01, "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."

Risk Assessment Overview: Having established an effective control environment, management assesses the risks facing the entity as it seeks to achieve its objectives. This assessment provides the basis for developing appropriate risk responses. Management assesses the risks the entity faces from both external and internal sources.

Monitoring Overview: Since internal control is a dynamic process that has to be adapted continually to the risks and changes an entity faces, monitoring of the internal control system is essential in helping internal control remain aligned with changing objectives, environment, laws, resources, and risks. Internal control monitoring assesses the quality of performance over time and promptly resolves the findings of audits and other reviews. Corrective actions are a necessary complement to control activities in order to achieve objectives.

Finding 2016-003 – Inadequate Internal Control Over Reconciliation of County Clerk's Appropriation Ledger to the Treasurer's General Ledger

Condition: The County Clerk does not reconcile the appropriation ledger to the County Treasurer's general ledger.

Cause of Condition: Policies and procedures have not been designed and implemented regarding a monthly reconciliation of the County Clerk's appropriation ledger to the County Treasurer's general ledger.

Effect of Condition: This condition could result in unrecorded transactions, misstated financial reports, undetected errors, misappropriation of assets, or clerical errors that are not detected in a timely manner.

Recommendation: OSAI recommends that the County Clerk's appropriation ledger be reconciled monthly to the County Treasurer's general ledger for all funds. The reconciliation should be reviewed and approved by someone other than the preparer and documentation of the reconciliation should be maintained.

Management Response:

County Clerk: We are currently completing the reconciliation of general ledger to appropriation ledger and signing off on it.

County Treasurer: Beginning in fiscal year 2017, the County Treasurer's Office began preparing an excel report, "Reconciliation of the County Clerk's Appropriation Ledger to Treasurer's General Ledger". The report is completed by a deputy in the Treasurer's Office. The County Treasurer then reviews the document for approval and signs off on the report. The report is then sent to the County Clerk for review and approval.

Criteria: GAO Standards: 13.04 states, "management obtains relevant data from reliable internal and external sources in a timely manner based on the identified information requirements. Relevant data have a logical connection with, or bearing upon, the identified information requirements. Reliable internal and external sources provide data that are reasonably free from error and bias and faithfully represent what they purport to represent. Management evaluates both internal and external sources of data for reliability. Sources of data can be operational, financial, or compliance related. Management obtains data on a timely basis so that they can be used for effective monitoring."

Finding 2016-004 – Inadequate Internal Controls and Noncompliance Over the Disbursement Process including Payroll (Repeat Finding – 2012-003, 2013-003)

Condition: Upon inquiry of officers and staff, observation of records, and test of disbursements, the following weaknesses were noted:

- The duties of processing payroll are not adequately segregated. Although duties have been reassigned, one employee still has the ability to enroll new employees in addition to completing payroll.
- Two of the County Commissioners' signature stamps are located in a safe that is accessible to other employees.
- The disbursement of sales tax monies, a total of \$1,1066,140, to the Dewey County Public Facilities Authority (DCPFA) is not run through the purchase order system.
- District 2 inserts copied signatures on receiving reports to indicate delivery of goods.

Cause of Condition: Policies and procedures have not been designed and implemented with regard to the disbursement process to strengthen internal controls including signature stamps. Additionally, policies and procedures have not been designed and implemented over the payroll process to properly segregate the payroll duties.

Effect of Condition: These conditions could result in unrecorded transactions, misstated financial reports, undetected errors, and misappropriation of funds.

Recommendation: OSAI recommends the County follow proper purchasing procedures:

- Posting new hires, making changes to the payroll system and maintaining payroll checks should be segregated from the key accounting functions of the payroll process.
- Signature stamps should be maintained, secured, and used only by the individual whose name is on the stamp.
- All disbursements should follow the established purchasing procedures as defined by state statute.

• Signatures should never be forged on County documents.

Management Response:

District 1 Commissioner: As of now, we are in compliance with issuing a purchase order for the Public Facilities Authority.

District 2 Commissioner: I will get a lock box to place my signature stamp in. We will use a purchase order to disburse sales tax to the Dewey County Public Facilities Authority. The practice of replicating signatures has been stopped.

District 3 Commissioner: I have secured my signature stamp.

County Clerk: Currently, I am recalculating payroll each month based upon prior month employees and comparing my figures with the payroll clerks. I will talk to Commissioners about running the sales tax disbursements to the Dewey County Public Facilities Authority (DCPFA) through the purchase order system.

Criteria: GAO Standards 10.03 states in part:

- Management divides or segregates key duties and responsibilities among different people to reduce
 the risk of error, misuse, or fraud. This includes separating the responsibilities for authorizing
 transactions, processing and recording them, reviewing the transactions, and handling any related
 assets so that no one individual controls all key aspects of a transaction or event.
- Management clearly documents internal control and all transactions and other significant events in
 a manner that allows the documentation to be readily available for examination. The
 documentation may appear in management directives, administrative policies, or operating
 manuals, in either paper or electronic form. Documentation and records are properly managed and
 maintained.

Additionally, OV2.23 states, "Management conducts activities in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. As part of specifying compliance objectives, the entity determines which laws and regulations apply to the entity. Management is expected to set objectives that incorporate these requirements." Therefore, effective internal controls require management properly implement procedures to ensure that expenditures are made in accordance with 19 O.S. § 1505.

Finding 2016-005 – Inadequate Internal Controls and Noncompliance Over Presentation of County Sales Tax

Condition: Upon inquiry and observation of the process of collecting and expending county sales tax, it was noted the county sales tax designated for the County General Fund was not accounted for separately in a discretely presented account within the County General Fund. The total apportionment for fiscal year 2016 was \$1,300,282.

Cause of Condition: Policies and procedures have not been designed and implemented to ensure compliance with state statute and Attorney General (AG) opinions.

Effect of Condition: This condition resulted in noncompliance with state statute and nonconformity with AG opinions and could result in unrecorded transactions, misstated financials reports, undetected errors, and misappropriation of funds for county sales tax.

Recommendation: OSAI recommends the County design and implement policies and procedures to ensure sales tax apportionments and disbursements recorded in the County General Fund are maintain in accordance with state statute and AG opinions.

Management Response:

District 1 Commissioner: As of now, we have taken the steps to be in compliance with the sales tax monies.

District 2 Commissioner: I will approve an additional line item in the General Fund in the Estimate of Needs for sales tax.

District 3 Commissioner: I will participate in a discussion to develop a method to show the sales tax separate.

County Clerk: I will inquire of the officials on adding a line item to the Estimate of Needs for sales tax within the General Fund.

County Treasurer: Regarding presenting the sales tax in a separate account, the County Treasurer will discuss the County's options with the other officers and plan to implement change for the fiscal year 2019.

Criteria: GAO Standards 10.03 states in part, "management clearly documents internal control and all transactions and other significant events in a manner that allows the documentation to be readily available for examination. The documentation may appear in management directives, administrative policies, or operating manuals, in either paper or electronic form. Documentation and records are properly managed and maintained."

Title 68 O.S. § 1370(E) states in part, "Any sales tax which may be levied by a county shall be designated for a particular purpose...The county shall identify the purpose of the sales tax when it is presented to the voters pursuant to the provisions of subsection A of this section...the proceeds of any sales tax levied by a county shall be deposited in the general revenue or sales tax revolving fund of the county and shall be used only for the purpose for which such sales tax was designated...."

Further, AG opinion 2005 OK AG 23 dated 07/13/2005 states:

3. Proceeds of a county sales tax voted for a specific purpose but placed in the county's general fund must be accounted for as a discrete fund, and any surplus not needed for the

stated purpose during one fiscal year must be transferred to the county budget for the next fiscal year, for the same specified purpose."

Additionally, AG opinion 2014 OK AG 15 dated 10/31/2014 states:

4. C. As the fiscal agent responsible for superintending the funds of Canadian County, the board of county commissioners is responsible to ensure that the sales tax proceeds are not intermingled and are used exclusively for the purpose expressed in the ballot measure and resolution. The board can direct that the funds be deposited in a dedicated revolving fund and not intermingled with other revenues. Okla. Const. art. X, § 19; 68 O.S. 2011, § 1370; 19 O.S. Supp. 2013, § 339; 19 O.S. 2011, § 345; Cavin v. Bd. of County Comm'rs, 1934 OK 245 ¶ 11, 33 P.2d 477, 479.

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.

Finding 2016-009 – Inadequate Internal Controls and Noncompliance Over Inmate Trust Fund Checking Account and Sheriff Commissary Inventory (Repeat Finding – 2012-007, 2013-007)

Condition: Upon inquiry of County Officials and employees, and observation of records in regard to the Inmate Trust Fund Checking Account and the Sheriff Commissary Fund, the following weaknesses were noted:

- Collections were not deposited daily.
- \$1,900 in expenditures were made from the Inmate Trust Fund Checking Account for purposes other than statutorily allowed.
- Two (2) checks were signed by only one person.
- There were no signatures to verify approval and accuracy of reconciliations of the Inmate Trust Fund Checking Account.
 - The original bank statements and reconciliations for the Inmate Trust Fund Checking Account were not retained for July through December 2015.
- There is no policy in place regarding unclaimed funds for the Inmate Trust Fund Checking Account.
- Inventory records are not maintained for on hand commissary items.

Cause of Condition: Policies and procedures have not been designed and implemented to ensure that controls are in place with regards to the Inmate Trust Fund Checking Account and Sheriff Commissary Inventory.

Effect of Condition: These conditions resulted in noncompliance with state statutes. Without proper accounting and safeguarding of the Inmate Trust Fund Checking Account, there is an increased risk of misappropriation of funds and loss of assets.

Recommendation: OSAI recommends the following:

- Collections be deposited on a daily basis.
- Expenditures be made from the Inmate Trust Fund Checking Account in accordance with 19 O.S. § 531(A).
- All checks issued from the Inmate Trust Fund Checking Account be signed by two individuals.
- Bank statement reconciliations be signed and dated by the preparer and by the reviewer.
- Bank statements should be retained.
- A policy for unclaimed property should be designed and implemented.
- Inventory records for commissary items on hand be maintained.

Management Response:

County Sheriff:

- The current jail administrator is making every effort to deposit daily and maintaining records in an orderly fashion.
- Our policy is to have two signatures on the inmate trust checks and every effort is being made to make sure that policy is followed.
- The information has been complied and we are getting ready to present unclaimed funds to the court in accordance with the statute.
- Based upon the statute we have changed our policy and will deposit the cost of commissary items sold to inmates into the commissary fund and then pay the vendor.
- The jail administrator prepares bank reconciliations and they are checked by a jailer or the office deputy and will be signed and dated by both.
- We will implement policies and procedures for maintaining an inventory for on-hand commissary item.

Criteria: GAO Standards 10.03 states in part,

- "Management establishes physical control to secure and safeguard vulnerable assets. Examples include security for and limited access to assets such as cash, securities, inventories, and equipment that might be vulnerable to risk of loss or unauthorized use. Management periodically counts and compares such assets to control records."
- "Management clearly documents internal control and all transactions and other significant events in a manner that allows the documentation to be readily available for examination. The documentation may appear in management directives, administrative policies, or operating manuals, in either paper or electronic form. Documentation and records are properly managed and maintained."
- "Transactions are promptly recorded to maintain their relevance and value to management in controlling operations and making decisions. This applies to the entire process or life cycle of a transaction or event from its initiation and authorization through its final classification in summary records. In addition, management designs control activities so that all transactions are completely and accurately recorded."

Additionally,

- OV2.24 states in part, "Management designs an internal control system to provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or prompt detection and correction of unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of an entity's assets"; and
- 13.04 states "Management obtains relevant data from reliable internal and external sources in a timely manner based on the identified information requirements. Relevant data have a logical connection with, or bearing upon, the identified information requirements. Reliable internal and external sources provide data that are reasonably free from error and bias and faithfully represent what they purport to represent. Management evaluates both internal and external sources of data for reliability. Sources of data can be operational, financial, or compliance related. Management obtains data on a timely basis so that they can be used for effective monitoring."

Title 19 O.S. § 531(A) states in part, "The county sheriff may establish a checking account, to be designated the "Inmate Trust Fund Checking Account." The county sheriff shall deposit all monies collected from inmates incarcerated in the county jail into this checking account and may write checks to the Sheriff's Commissary Account for purchases made by the inmate during his or her incarceration and to the inmate from unencumbered balances due the inmate upon his or her discharge."

Further, Title 22 O.S. § 1325(F, H) prescribes the procedures for unclaimed funds.



