



HASKELL COUNTY

Financial Audit

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019

Cindy Byrd, CPA

State Auditor & Inspector

HASKELL 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

June 29, 2020

TO THE CITIZENS OF HASKELL COUNTY, OKLAHOMA

Transmitted herewith is the audit of Haskell 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,

CINDY BYRD, CPA

OKLAHOMA STATE AUDITOR & INSPECTOR



Board of County Commissioners

District 1 – Clark McClary

District 2 – Sandra Zachry

District 3 – Billy Don Cloud

County Assessor

Shawna Hudspeth

County Clerk

Karen McClary

County Sheriff

Tim Turner

County Treasurer

Gale Dixon

Court Clerk

Tina Oaks

District Attorney

Chuck Sullivan

TABLE OF CONTENTS

FINANCIAL SECTION	
Report of State Auditor and Inspector	. 1
Financial Statement:	
Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Cash Balances—Regulatory Basis (with Combining Information)	. 4
Notes to the Financial Statement	. 5
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION	
Comparative Schedule of Receipts, Expenditures, and Changes in Cash Balances—Budget and Actual—Budgetary Basis—General Fund	12
Comparative Schedule of Receipts, Expenditures, and Changes in Cash Balances—Budget and Actual—Budgetary Basis—County Health Department Fund	13
Note to Supplementary Information	14
INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE SECTION	
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	15
Schedule of Findings and Responses	17





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Independent Auditor's Report

TO THE OFFICERS OF HASKELL 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 Haskell 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 Haskell 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 Haskell 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 Haskell 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 are 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 June 24, 2020, on our consideration of Haskell 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 Haskell County's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

CINDY BYRD, CPA

OKLAHOMA STATE AUDITOR & INSPECTOR

June 24, 2020



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

			Receipts Transfers Apportioned In		Transfers Out		Disbursements		Ending Cash Balances June 30, 2019			
Combining Information:												
County General Fund	\$	506,323	\$	2,526,178	\$ 3	32,491	\$	52,664	\$	2,155,427	\$	856,901
Gross Revenue - Bond		50		519,945	2	48,697		· -		565,837		2,855
T-Highway		512,682		2,034,816		_		162,000		1,868,302		517,196
County Health Department		226,665		131,385		-		· -		128,564		229,486
Resale Property		222,677		66,217		177		26,725		28,836		233,510
County Clerk Lien Fees		13,522		11,054		3,967		3,967		1,738		22,838
Mortgage Fees		24,608		1,792		-		_		388		26,012
Sheriff Service Fees		58,087		175,443		-		-		137,747		95,783
Community Service Sentencing Program Revolving		309		-		-		-		_		309
County Clerk RM&P Revolving		36,147		14,561		-		-		11,033		39,675
County Road & Bridge Improvement Fund		455,673		578,495		-		-		509,573		524,595
Sinking Fund		2,540		36,092		-		-		35,910		2,722
Lake Patrol		13,840		21,012		-		-		7,283		27,569
County Assessor Fees		8,718		4,478		771		-		1,932		12,035
Assessor Visual Inspection		771		-		-		771		-		-
Sheriff County Jail Fund		34,691		67,495		-		-		76,049		26,137
Civil Defense Donation		372		-		-		-		-		372
Drug Fund		5,901		5,184		-		-		-		11,085
Sheriff Donations		21,587		10,637		-		-		12,544		19,680
Courthouse Security		15,179		9,133		-		-		7,252		17,060
Fire Department Sales Tax Fund		418,331		263,201		-		-		245,725		435,807
Sheriff Commissary		19,945		64,148						64,229		19,864
Combined Total - All County Funds	\$	2,598,618	\$	6,541,266	\$ 8	86,103	\$ 2	246,127	\$	5,858,369	\$	3,121,491

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Reporting Entity

Haskell 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>Gross Revenue – Bond</u> – accounts for sales tax revenue and the disbursement of funds as restricted by the sales tax ballot/agreement for the criminal justice facility.

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

<u>County Health Department</u> – accounts for monies collected on behalf of the county health department from ad valorem taxes and state and local revenues. Disbursements are for the operation of the county health department.

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

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

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

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

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

<u>Community Service Sentencing Program Revolving</u> – accounts for the collection of funding through the State Department of Corrections for administrative expenses and supervision of offenders.

<u>County Clerk RM&P Revolving</u> – accounts for fees collected for instruments filed in the County Clerk's office as restricted by state statute for preservation of records.

<u>County Road & Bridge Improvement Fund</u> – accounts for monies collected through the Oklahoma Tax Commission for the purpose of bridge repair and road resurface.

<u>Sinking Fund</u> – accounts for debt service receipts derived generally from a special ad valorem tax levy and from interest earned on investments of cash not immediately required for debt service payments.

<u>Lake Patrol</u> – accounts for monies received from the Corps of Engineers for patrolling services.

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

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

<u>Sheriff County Jail Fund</u> – accounts for monies received for housing prisoners to be used for jail operating expenses.

<u>Civil Defense Donation</u> – accounts for the receipt and disbursement of funds donated for civil defense purposes.

<u>Drug Fund</u> – accounts for local contributions, grants, or drug forfeitures and is used for payments for confidential informants or purchases of illegal drugs in sting operations.

<u>Sheriff Donations</u> – accounts for donations from citizens made to the Sheriff's Department for the operation of the office.

<u>Courthouse Security</u> – accounts for monies allocated from the Court Fund for programs and services related to Courtroom/Judicial Security.

<u>Fire Department Sales Tax Fund</u> – accounts for the collection of sales tax revenue and the disbursement of funds for the operation of the fire departments.

<u>Sheriff Commissary</u> – accounts for the collection of the sale of items to inmates and disbursements to improve or provide jail services and any surplus funds may be expended for administering expenses for training equipment, travel, or for capital expenditures.

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. Long Term Obligations

1. Judgments

The County has a judgment which is being retired by a tax levy. The County is obligated to pay the judgment over a ten-year period. During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019, the County paid \$32,707 in principal and \$3,203 in interest.

<u>Case Number</u> CIV-05-406-RAW Original Judgment \$199,000

Future principal and interest payments that will become due on the existing judgment are as follows:

Year Ending June 30,	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>		
2020 2021	\$ 19,900 <u>8,111</u>	\$ 1,681 	\$ 21,581 <u>8,298</u>		
Total	<u>\$ 28,011</u>	<u>\$ 1,868</u>	<u>\$ 29,879</u>		

E. Sales Tax

The voters of Haskell County approved a permanent one percent (1%) sales tax effective March 1, 1984. One hundred percent (100%) of the sales tax proceeds are to be used for general government. These funds are accounted for in the County General Fund.

The voters of Haskell County approved a one-half percent (1/2%) sales tax effective April 1, 2006. This tax will terminate after 25 years from the effective date of the tax or at the date of retirement of any debt incurred related thereto, whichever is earlier. The sales tax was established for the acquisition, remodeling, construction, financing, furnishing, and equipping of a new county jail and criminal justice facility to be located in Haskell County, parking lots, streets and other capital facilities associated therewith, including design, construction, capital improvements, expenses, operations, equipment, fixtures and furnishings; with one-fourth (1/4) of the one-half (1/2) cent to provide for the maintenance and operations of said facilities; authorizing the pledging of said sales tax for debt service; fixing an effective date; making provisions severable; and declaring an emergency. These funds are accounted for in the Gross Revenue - Bond fund.

The voters of Haskell County approved a permanent one quarter percent (1/4%) sales tax effective July 11, 2011. The sales tax was established for the purpose of providing funding for the fire departments in the following communities: Brooken, Hoyt, Keota, Kinta, LeQuire, Lona Valley, McCurtain, Southside, Stigler, Tamaha, Whitefield or others herein established, for such fire protection as may be deemed necessary. These funds are accounted for in the Fire Department Sales Tax Fund.

The voters of Haskell County approved a permanent one quarter percent (1/4%) sales tax effective July 1, 2014. One hundred percent (100%) of the sales tax proceeds are to provide revenues to Haskell County, to be appropriated by the Board of County Commissioners for the purpose of providing general government operation funding for the County of Haskell as may be deemed necessary by the Board of County Commissioners. These funds are accounted for in the County General Fund.

F. Interfund Transfers

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

- \$48,697 was transferred from the County General Fund to the Gross Revenue Bond fund to be used for bond payment shortages.
- \$3,967 was transferred from the County Clerk Lien Fees fund to the County General Fund to meet payroll obligations.
- \$3,967 was transferred from the County General Fund to the County Clerk Lien Fees fund for the repayment of loan in accordance with 68 O.S. § 3021.
- \$1,799 was transferred from the Court Clerk Revolving fund, a trust and agency fund, to the County General Fund to meet payroll obligations.
- \$26,725 was transferred from the Resale Property fund to the County General Fund to meet payroll obligations.
- \$771 was transferred from the Assessor Visual Inspection fund to County Assessor Fees fund. The County Commissioner passed a resolution authorizing the transfer of this residual balance.
- \$177 was transferred from the Individual Redemption fund, a trust and agency fund, to the Resale Property fund. The County Commissioners passed a resolution authorizing the transfer of this residual balance.
- \$162,000 was transferred from the T-Highway fund to the T-Highway Road and Bridge Emergency Transportation Revolving Fund (ETR), a trust and agency fund, for the repayment of loan.



HASKELL 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

	Budget	Actual	Variance
Beginning Cash Balances	\$ 506,323	\$ 506,323	\$ -
Less: Prior Year Outstanding Warrants	(45,803)	(45,803)	-
Less: Prior Year Encumbrances	(65,710)	(64,942)	768
Beginning Cash Balances, Budgetary Basis	394,810	395,578	768
Total Receipts, Budgetary Basis	1,960,694	2,526,178	565,484
Total Expenditures, Budgetary Basis	2,355,504	2,201,407	154,097
Excess of Receipts and Beginning Cash			
Balances Over Expenditures, Budgetary Basis	\$ -	720,349	\$ 720,349
Net Operating Transfers		(20,173)	
Reconciliation to Statement of Receipts,			
Disbursements, and Changes in Cash Balances			
Add: Current Year Outstanding Warrants		144,599	
Add: Current Year Encumbrances		12,126	
Ending Cash Balance		\$ 856,901	

HASKELL 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	\$	226,665	\$	226,665	\$	-		
Less: Prior Year Outstanding Warrants		(4,665)		(4,665)		-		
Less: Prior Year Encumbrances		(8,390)		(5,102)		3,288		
Beginning Cash Balances, Budgetary Basis		213,610		216,898		3,288		
				_		_		
Total Receipts, Budgetary Basis		116,512		131,385		14,873		
	-					· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
Total Expenditures, Budgetary Basis		330,122		119,887		210,235		
,g,				,				
Excess of Receipts and Beginning Cash								
Balances Over Expenditures,								
•	¢			220 206	¢	220 206		
Budgetary Basis	<u> </u>			228,396	\$	228,396		
Reconciliation to Statement of Receipts,								
Disbursements, and Changes in Cash Balances								
Add: Current Year Encumbrances				1,044				
Add: Current Year Outstanding Warrants				46				
Ending Cash Balance			\$	229,486				

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.





Cindy Byrd, CPA | State Auditor & Inspector

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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 HASKELL 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 Haskell County, Oklahoma, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019, and the related notes to the financial statement, which collectively comprises Haskell County's basic financial statement, prepared using accounting practices prescribed or permitted by Oklahoma state law, and have issued our report thereon dated June 24, 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 Haskell 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 Haskell County's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Haskell 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 material weaknesses: 2019-001, 2019-003, 2019-004, and 2019-005.

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 deficiency described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses to be a significant deficiency: 2019-002.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Haskell 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 items 2019-003 and 2019-005.

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

Haskell County's Response to Findings

Haskell County's response to the findings identified in our audit are described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses. Haskell 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

June 24, 2020

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 – 2007-020, 2008-015, 2009-019, 2010-001, 2011-001, 2012-001, 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 Control Environment, Risk Assessment, Information and Communication, and Monitoring have not been designed.

Cause of Condition: Policies and procedures have not been designed and implemented to address Control Environment, Risk Assessment, Information and Communication, and Monitoring.

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 address the importance of internal controls, 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 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: Haskell County will begin to address these issues by implementing internal controls and addressing risks related to financial reporting and will use quarterly elected official meetings to do so.

County Clerk: The Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) will continue to work toward addressing these issues in our quarterly meeting with elected officials to correct.

County Treasurer: I will try to implement a proper internal control structure for Haskell County.

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.

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 2019-002 – Lack of Internal Controls Over Information Technology – County Clerk (Repeat Finding – 2010-003, 2011-003, 2012-003, 2016-003, 2017-003, 2018-002)

Condition: Upon review of the computer systems within the office of the County Clerk, it was noted that there does not appear to be adequate internal controls in place to safeguard data from unauthorized modification, loss, or disclosure. The specifics of the condition have been sanitized to protect the County pursuant to the provision of 51 O.S. § 24A.28.

Cause of Condition: Policies and procedures have not been designed and implemented to prevent unauthorized access to data.

Effect of Condition: This condition could result in compromised security for computers, computer programs, and data.

Recommendation: OSAI recommends the County comply with best practices presented in the criteria. The specifics of the recommendation have been sanitized to protect the County pursuant to the provision of 51 O.S. § 24A.28.

Management Response:

County Clerk: These issues are recurring due to lack of funds. However, we will work towards protecting and safeguarding data.

Criteria: According to the standards of the Information Systems Audit and Control Association (CobiT, Deliver and Support Ds5), the need to maintain the integrity of information and protect IT assets requires a security management process. This process includes establishing and maintaining IT security roles and responsibilities, policies, standards, and procedures. Security management also includes performing security monitoring and periodic testing and implementing corrective actions for identified security weaknesses or incidents. Effective security management protects all IT assets to minimize the business impact of security vulnerabilities and incidents.

Finding 2019-003 – Lack of Internal Controls and Noncompliance Over the Disbursement Process (Repeat Finding – 2007-005, 2008-005, 2009-005, 2010-008, 2011-008, 2012-008, 2016-006, 2017-006, 2018-003)

Condition: Upon inquiry and observation of the County's disbursement process, the following was noted:

- One employee reviews cash voucher claims for accuracy, approves the claims, and prints, signs/approves, and distributes cash vouchers.
- Requisitioning officers do not sign purchase orders until after the purchase has been encumbered, goods and/or services have been received, and all documentation has been turned in to and reviewed by the County Clerk's office.
- All County Clerk employees have access to the blank warrant stock.
- The County Clerk's office has access to District 1 Commissioner's signature stamp. The signature stamp is not under the physical control of the Commissioner.

Additionally, while performing the expenditure testwork, the following was noted:

- Selected a sample of fifty (50) purchase orders from county funds and determined:
 - One (1) was not reviewed/authorized on the payroll affidavit by the official.
 - One (1) was not supported with a timesheet which could not be located.
 - o Three (3) were supported by timesheets that were not signed by the official.
 - o Three (3) were not encumbered prior to ordering goods or services.
 - One (1) was supported by an invoice that was not dated; therefore, we were unable to determine if it was timely encumbered.

Cause of Condition: Policies and procedures have not been designed and implemented to ensure adequate segregation of duties in the County Clerk's office with regard to the cash voucher process and control over the County Commissioner's signature stamp. Additionally, policies and procedures have not been designed and implemented to ensure the County is in compliance with state statute regarding the disbursement process.

Effect of Condition: These conditions resulted in noncompliance with state statute and could result in unrecorded transactions, undetected errors, inaccurate records, incomplete information, and misappropriation of funds.

Recommendation: OSAI recommends management be aware of these conditions and determine if duties can be properly segregated. In the event that segregation of duties is not possible due to limited personnel, OSAI recommends implementing compensating controls to mitigate the risk involved with a concentration of duties. Compensating controls would include separating key processes and/or critical functions of the office and having management review and approve accounting functions.

- Purchase orders should be signed by requisitioning officers prior to being encumbered by the County Clerk's office.
- The blank warrant stock should be maintained in a secure location with limited access.

Additionally, OSAI recommends that the County implement internal control procedures to ensure compliance with purchasing guidelines. Purchase orders should be encumbered before goods or services are ordered and supported by adequate documentation.

Further, OSAI recommends that signature stamps be used only by the official to whom it belongs. Officials who utilize signature stamps should ensure that signature stamps are adequately safeguarded from unauthorized use.

Management Response:

County Clerk: We are currently working on correcting these findings.

Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners: Haskell County will implement compensating controls to ensure that purchase orders are signed prior to being encumbered and before goods or services are ordered. Blank warrant stock will be kept in a secure location with limited access. District 1 Commissioner's signature stamp will be kept in a secure location and will only be used by District 1 Commissioner.

Criteria: The GAO Standards – Principle 10 – Design Control Activities – 10.03 states in part:

Segregation of Duties

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.

Additionally, Principle 10 - Segregation of Duties states:

10.12 — Management considers segregation of duties in designing control activity responsibilities so that incompatible duties are segregated and, where such segregation is not practical, designs alternative control activities to address the risk.

10.13 – Segregation of duties helps prevent fraud, waste, and abuse in the internal control system. Management considers the need to separate control activities related to authority, custody, and accounting of operations to achieve adequate segregation of duties. In particular, segregation of duties can address the risk of management override. Management override circumvents existing control activities and increases fraud risk. Management addresses this risk through segregation of duties, but cannot absolutely prevent it because of the risk of collusion, where two or more employees act together to commit fraud.

10.14 – If segregation of duties is not practical within an operational process because of limited personnel or other factors, management designs alternative control activities to address the risk of fraud, waste, or abuse in the operational process.

Effective internal controls require that management properly implement procedures to ensure that purchases comply with 19 O.S. § 1505.

Finding 2019-004 – Lack of Segregation of Duties Over the Payroll Process (Repeat Finding – 2007-003, 2008-003, 2009-003, 2010-012, 2011-012, 2012-012, 2016-007, 2017-007, 2018-004)

Condition: The Payroll Clerk enrolls new employees, inputs payroll information into the system, makes payroll changes in the system, prints the payroll warrants, distributes payroll checks to elected officials, maintains personnel files, and prepares the OPERS reports and state and federal tax reports.

Cause of Condition: Policies and procedures have not been designed and implemented regarding segregation of duties and/or compensating controls of the payroll process.

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

Recommendation: OSAI recommends management be aware of these conditions and determine if duties can be properly segregated. In the event that segregation of duties is not possible due to limited personnel, OSAI recommends implementing compensating controls to mitigate the risks involved with a concentration of duties. Compensating controls would include separating key processes and/or critical functions of the office and having management review and approval of accounting functions.

Management Response:

County Clerk: These issues are recurring because of limited funds and personnel. However, we have been working towards correcting and separating key processes since July 1, 2019 and will continue to correct these issues.

Criteria: The GAO Standards – Principle 10 – Design Control Activities – 10.03 states in part:

Segregation of Duties

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.

Additionally, Principle 10 - Segregation of Duties states:

10.12 – Management considers segregation of duties in designing control activity responsibilities so that incompatible duties are segregated and, where such segregation is not practical, designs alternative control activities to address the risk.

10.13 – Segregation of duties helps prevent fraud, waste, and abuse in the internal control system. Management considers the need to separate control activities related to authority, custody, and accounting of operations to achieve adequate segregation of duties. In particular, segregation of duties can address the risk of management override. Management override circumvents existing control activities and increases fraud risk. Management addresses this risk through segregation of duties, but cannot absolutely prevent it because of the risk of collusion, where two or more employees act together to commit fraud.

10.14 – If segregation of duties is not practical within an operational process because of limited personnel or other factors, management designs alternative control activities to address the risk of fraud, waste, or abuse in the operational process.

Finding 2019-005 – Lack of Internal Controls and Noncompliance Over Disbursement of County Sales Tax (Repeat Finding – 2016-008, 2017-008, 2018-005)

Condition: Upon inquiry and observation of the recordkeeping process of collecting and expending county sales tax, the following was noted:

• The sales tax appropriations and expenditures were not discretely presented within the County General Fund. The County apportioned \$1,299,707 in sales tax collections to the County General Fund during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019. Since the sales tax collections were comingled with other sources of revenue, we could neither determine how much sales tax was expended or determine if the sales tax was expended in accordance with the sales tax ballot.

Cause of Condition: Policies and procedures have not been designed and implemented to ensure compliance with 68 O.S. § 1370E and Attorney General Opinions 2005 OK AG 23 and 2014 OK AG 15.

Effect of Condition: This condition resulted in noncompliance with state statute and AG Opinions.

Recommendation: OSAI recommends that the County sales tax apportioned to the County General Fund be accounted for in a separate account so as to discretely present the expenditures. In addition, the sales tax should be expended in such a manner to provide assurance that expenditures are made in accordance with the purposes specified by the ballot as outlined by 68 O.S. § 1370E.

Management Response:

Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners: As of July 1, 2019, all sales tax monies are accounted for in separate accounts as to discretely present expenditures. Expenditures will be made according to purposes specified by ballot.

Criteria: Title 68 O.S. § 1370E requires the sales tax collections to be deposited in the general revenue or sales tax revolving fund of the County and 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. 68 O.S. Supp. 2004, § 1370E; 19 O.S. 2001, § 386, 387; 68 O.S. 2001, § 3010."

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 2019-006 – Revenue Dedicated to General Government Operation Funding – Sales Tax (Repeat Finding)

Condition: On February 11, 2014, the citizens of Haskell County voted on and approved levying a sales tax of one-quarter percent (0.25%) upon the gross proceeds of the receipts derived from all sales taxable under the Oklahoma sales tax code. The purpose of the sales tax proceeds is to provide revenues to the County to be appropriated by the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) for the purpose of providing general government operation funding for the County as deemed necessary by the BOCC.

In accordance with the Sales Tax Agreement dated June 1, 2014, by and between the Haskell County Public Facilities Authority (the Authority) and Haskell County, in addition to a one-half of one percent (1/2) sales tax that was previously pledged and allocated to the Authority, the County also pledged a one-fourth of one percent (1/4) sales tax that became effective July 1, 2014 that was for the purpose of providing general government operation funding. The County agreed to pledge to the Authority all its rights, title, and interest in said sales tax revenues to repay any and all indebtedness incurred in regards to the Bonds or other subsequent indebtedness, included but not limited to administration cost, audit fees, consultant fees, expenses of the Authority and legal fees of the Authority.

Based on the information, OSAI finds no authority for the Board of County Commissioners to enter into an agreement with the Haskell County Public Facilities Authority to pledge sales tax revenues for the payment of the Authority's indebtedness from the revenue that was specifically dedicated for the purpose of providing general government operation funding for the County as approved by the citizens of Haskell County.

Cause of Condition: The County did not follow provisions of the Oklahoma Constitution regarding dedication of the levied sales tax for the purpose of providing general government operation funding.

Effect of Condition: This condition resulted in the County pledging sales tax collections for a purpose other than the specified purpose approved by the citizens of Haskell County. Further, this condition could have resulted in a loss of funding for the general government operations of the County.

Recommendation: OSAI recommends that the Board of County Commissioners implement policies and procedures to ensure that dedicated funds are appropriated and expended for the purpose intended.

Management Response:

Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners: Haskell County will in the future make sure that dedicated funds are appropriated and expended for the purpose intended.

Criteria: Article 10 § 19 Oklahoma Constitution states:

"Every act enacted by the Legislature, and every ordinance and resolution passed by any county, city, town, or municipal board or local legislative body, levying a tax shall specify distinctly the purpose for which said tax is levied, and no tax levied and collected for one purpose shall ever be devoted to another purpose."



