



MURRAY COUNTY

Financial Audit

For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020

Cindy Byrd, CPA
State Auditor & Inspector

**MURRAY COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
AND INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020**

This publication, issued by the Oklahoma State Auditor and Inspector's Office as authorized by 19 O.S. § 171, has not been printed, but is available on the agency's website (www.sai.ok.gov) and in the Oklahoma Department of Libraries Publications Clearinghouse Digital Prairie Collection (<http://digitalprairie.ok.gov/cdm/search/collection/audits/>) pursuant to 65 O.S. § 3-114.

August 23, 2021

TO THE CITIZENS OF
MURRAY COUNTY, OKLAHOMA

Transmitted herewith is the audit of Murray County, Oklahoma for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020. 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



**MURRAY COUNTY OFFICIALS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020**

Board of County Commissioners

District 1 – Kent McKinley

District 2 – Colt Williams

District 3 – Darrell Hudson

County Assessor

Scott Kirby

County Clerk

Jill Hall

County Sheriff

Darin Rogers

County Treasurer

Kim Hale

Court Clerk

Christie Pittman

District Attorney

Craig Ladd

**MURRAY COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020**

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FINANCIAL SECTION

Independent Auditor's Report

TO THE OFFICERS OF
MURRAY 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 Murray County, Oklahoma, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2020, 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 Murray 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 Murray County as of June 30, 2020, 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 Murray County, for the year ended June 30, 2020, in accordance with the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

Other Matters

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the combined total of all county funds on the financial statement. The supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statement.

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

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated August 9, 2021, on our consideration of Murray 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 Murray County's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



CINDY BYRD, CPA
OKLAHOMA STATE AUDITOR & INSPECTOR

August 9, 2021

REGULATORY BASIS FINANCIAL STATEMENT

MURRAY COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND
CHANGES IN CASH BALANCES—REGULATORY BASIS
(WITH COMBINING INFORMATION)
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

	Beginning Cash Balances July 1, 2019	Receipts Apportioned	Disbursements	Ending Cash Balances June 30, 2020
Combining Information:				
County General	\$ 4,981,883	\$ 3,863,984	\$ 4,122,059	\$ 4,723,808
County Highway Unrestricted	951,343	1,537,635	1,346,764	1,142,214
Health	320,502	311,329	196,270	435,561
Arbuckle Memorial Hospital Sales Tax	143,929	1,730,288	1,723,841	150,376
911 Phone Fees	80,380	432,500	457,227	55,653
Resale Property	313,138	106,213	57,257	362,094
County Clerk Lien Fee	59,912	5,543	398	65,057
County Clerk Records Management				
Preservation Fee	138,543	29,570	9,381	158,732
Sheriff Service Fee	160,259	97,038	101,996	155,301
Treasurer Mortgage Certification Fee	15,132	2,215	2,131	15,216
Assessor Revolving Fee	5,086	2,040	566	6,560
Sheriff Board of Prisoners	58,034	15,251	52,886	20,399
Child Abuse Prevention	2,965	-	-	2,965
CENA - Dougherty Senior Citizens Grant -				
Community Expansion of Nutritional Assistance	10,153	7,994	8,676	9,471
CENA - Hickory Senior Citizens Grant -				
Community Expansion of Nutritional Assistance	12,922	-	753	12,169
CENA - Oak Grove Senior Citizens Grant -				
Community Expansion of Nutritional Assistance	1,667	4,492	635	5,524
Workforce Center	71,333	21,656	11,631	81,358
REAP Grant - Joy Fire Department	37,684	-	2,075	35,609
County Bridge and Road Improvement	1,777,534	216,696	348,165	1,646,065
County Clerk Cash Drawer	25	-	-	25
Court Clerk Payroll	43,342	187,263	193,220	37,385
Donations to County	726	-	-	726
CDBG Rural Water Dist #1	-	249,999	249,999	-
Combined Total - All County Funds	\$ 9,186,492	\$ 8,821,706	\$ 8,885,930	\$ 9,122,268

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

**MURRAY COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020**

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Reporting Entity

Murray 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 – accounts for the general operations of the government.

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

Health– 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.

Arbuckle Memorial Hospital Sales Tax – accounts for monies collected from County sales tax revenue and disbursed for the operation of Arbuckle Memorial Hospital.

911 Phone Fees – accounts for revenues from the collection of fees charged on telephone bills for the county's emergency 911 services. Disbursements are for the operations of emergency 911 services.

**MURRAY COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020**

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

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

County Clerk Records Management Preservation Fee – accounts for fees collected for instruments filed with the County Clerk as restricted by state statute to be used for preservation of records.

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

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

Assessor Revolving Fee – accounts for fees collected by the Assessor to maintain electronic databases and geographic information systems associated with the Assessor’s statutory duties.

Sheriff Board of Prisoners – accounts for the collections of state held prisoners and disbursements are for the purpose of maintaining the jail.

Child Abuse Prevention – accounts for the monies received from jurors to aid in the prevention of child abuse.

CENA – Dougherty Senior Citizens Grant – Community Expansion of Nutritional Assistance – accounts for grant funds received for the maintenance and operation of the senior citizens center.

CENA – Hickory Senior Citizens Grant – Community Expansion of Nutritional Assistance – accounts for grant funds received for the maintenance and operation of the senior citizens center.

CENA – Oak Grove Senior Citizens Grant – Community Expansion of Nutritional Assistance – accounts for grant funds received for the maintenance and operation of senior citizens center.

Workforce Center – accounts for building rent collected from the USDA and other agencies disbursed for the maintenance and payment of the building’s utilities.

REAP Grant – Joy Fire Department – accounts for State grant monies and disbursed for the renovation of the Joy Fire Department.

County Bridge and Road Improvement – accounts for the monies received from the State of Oklahoma to be used for County road and bridges.

**MURRAY COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020**

County Clerk Cash Drawer – accounts for the cash maintained in the County Clerk’s office for the cash drawer.

Court Clerk Payroll – accounts for funds collected by the Court Clerk and disbursed for payroll of the Court Fund employees.

Donations to County – accounts for the collection and disbursement of money from private donations.

CDBG Rural Water Dist #1 – accounts for the collection of federal grant funds disbursed according to grant requirements.

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.

**MURRAY COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020**

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.

**MURRAY COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020**

3. Other Information

A. Pension Plan

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

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

B. Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB)

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

C. Contingent Liabilities

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

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

D. Sales Tax

Sales Tax of March 7, 2006

The voters of Murray County approved a one percent (1%) sales tax on March 7, 2006. The sales tax became effective January 1, 2007 and has an unlimited duration. The sales tax is to be earmarked and used exclusively for the operation, planning, financing, construction, improvements

**MURRAY COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020**

to and maintenance of the Arbuckle Memorial Hospital. These funds are accounted for in the Arbuckle Memorial Hospital Sales Tax fund.

Sales Tax of November 8, 2011

The voters of Murray County approved a one percent (1%) sales tax on November 8, 2011. The sales tax became effective July 1, 2012 and has a term of 10 years. This sales tax was established to provide revenue for General Government, County Commissioners, Economic Development, Sulphur and Davis Chambers of Commerce, all Murray County Senior Citizens Organizations, Rural Fire Departments, Rural Emergency Management, OSU Extension Office, Murray County Fair Board, Home Extension Organizations, 4-H Organizations, County Clerk, County Court Clerk, County Assessor, County Treasurer, County Sheriff and Reserve Deputies, Courthouse Restoration, Collection and Disbursement Account, EMS, and 911. These funds are accounted for in the County General 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 \$474,295 of ad valorem taxes abated under this program for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2020.

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.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

MURRAY COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
COMPARATIVE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES—BUDGET AND ACTUAL—
BUDGETARY BASIS—COUNTY GENERAL
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

	County General		
	Final Budget	Actual	Variance
Expenditures:			
District Attorney County	\$ 13,000	\$ 12,340	\$ 660
County Sheriff	498,448	498,448	-
County Treasurer	187,892	187,792	100
County Commissioners	277,341	277,341	-
OSU Extension	68,590	37,748	30,842
County Clerk	208,613	208,413	200
Court Clerk	109,734	109,734	-
County Assessor	91,265	86,699	4,566
Revaluation of Real Property	224,429	222,705	1,724
Insurance/Benefits	844,333	844,333	-
Emergency Management	33,757	33,757	-
General Government	177,768	131,256	46,512
Excise - Equalization Board	5,200	3,007	2,193
County Election Board	93,721	82,049	11,672
Charity	27,824	7,458	20,366
Sales Tax			-
4-H	5,531	1,630	3,901
Sheriff	117,811	-	117,811
Treasurer	63,527	5,382	58,145
Rural Emergency Management	11,248	1,902	9,346
Sulphur Chamber of Commerce	5,920	5,695	225
Davis Chamber of Commerce	7,739	5,134	2,605
Sheriff Deputy Reserves	22,236	-	22,236
Enhanced 911	94,802	94,726	76
Agriculture	44,785	1,079	43,706
County Clerk	123,036	22,685	100,351
Assessor	154,260	58,938	95,322
Extension Homemakers	5,993	1,390	4,603
Extension Development	35,836	35,836	-
Court Clerk	92,696	71,424	21,272
EMS	115,563	79,950	35,613
General Government	885,995	93,428	792,567
Fair Board	120,873	43,508	77,365
Courthouse Renovation	445,926	56,231	389,695
Collections and Distribution	26,190	8,000	18,190
County Commissioners District 1	707,728	137,525	570,203
County Commissioners District 2	396,918	222,416	174,502
County Commissioners District 3	512,863	224,601	288,262
Senior Citizens	362,481	60,093	302,388
Rural Fire Departments	300,580	44,432	256,148
County Audit Budget Account	15,154	-	15,154
Total Expenditures, Budgetary Basis	<u>\$ 7,537,606</u>	<u>\$ 4,019,085</u>	<u>\$ 3,518,521</u>

MURRAY COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
COMPARATIVE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES—BUDGET AND ACTUAL—
BUDGETARY BASIS—HEALTH
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020

	Health		
	Final		
	Budget	Actual	Variance
Health and Welfare	\$ 548,028	\$ 235,885	\$ 312,143
Total Expenditures, Budgetary Basis	\$ 548,028	\$ 235,885	\$ 312,143

**MURRAY COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
NOTE TO SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2020**

1. Budgetary Schedules

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

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

INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE SECTION

Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance With *Government Auditing Standards*

TO THE OFFICERS OF
MURRAY 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 Murray County, Oklahoma, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statement, which collectively comprises Murray County's basic financial statement, prepared using accounting practices prescribed or permitted by Oklahoma state law, and have issued our report thereon dated August 9, 2021.

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, 2020, 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 Murray 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 Murray County's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Murray 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 a certain deficiency in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses that we consider to be a material weakness: 2020-001.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Murray County's financial statement is free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Murray County's Response to Findings

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

August 9, 2021

**MURRAY COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 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 2020-001 – Lack of County-Wide Controls and Internal Controls Over Information Systems (Repeat Finding – 2013-001, 2013-002, 2019-001)

Condition: When assessing the county-wide controls the following weaknesses were noted:

- County-wide controls regarding Risk Assessment and Monitoring have not been designed.
- Upon review of the computer systems within the County Clerk’s office, it was noted that there does not appear to be adequate 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 address Risk Assessment, and Monitoring in the County as well as prevent unauthorized access to data.

Effect of Condition: These conditions could compromise security for computers, computer programs, and data, and does not allow the County to function in the most effective manner possible. Additionally, without written documentation of the county-wide controls it is more difficult to retain organizational knowledge, communicate that knowledge to personnel, indicate what internal controls are present and monitor those controls.

Recommendation: The Oklahoma State Auditor & Inspector’s Office (OSAI) recommends that the County design and implement policies and procedures to document their internal control framework. This documentation should outline the importance of internal controls, the risk that the County has identified, the control activities established to address the risk, the steps taken to properly communicate pertinent information in a timely manner and the methodology to monitor 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 Further, 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:

Chairman, Board of County Commissioners: The Board of County Commissioners will work towards assessing and identifying risks and to design written county-wide controls.

County Clerk: The County Clerk’s office will implement necessary controls.

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

**MURRAY COUNTY, OKLAHOMA
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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.

Further, 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.

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

No matters were noted.

O·K·L·A·H·O·M·A
S·A·I
STATE AUDITOR & INSPECTOR



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