### AUDIT REPORT OF FRANKLIN COUNTY

**JULY 1, 2010 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2011** 

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**Issued on May 16, 2012** 

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# LIST OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

At June 30, 2011

		Term
Name	Title	Expires
David Walton	Board of Supervisors	Jan. 2013
William Bunger		Jan. 2015
Dale Loschen		Jan. 2013
Michael Dallmann		Jan. 2015
David Pedersen		Jan. 2013
Steven Hogeland		Jan. 2015
Gary Hamilton		Jan. 2015
Ruth Jackson	Assessor	Jan. 2015
Patrick Duncan	Attorney	Jan. 2015
Marcia Volk	Clerk	Jan. 2015
	Clerk of the District Court	
	Election Commissioner	
	Register of Deeds	
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Jerry Archer	Sheriff	Jan. 2015
Connie Hunt	Treasurer	Jan. 2015
Connie Hunt	Treasurer	Jan. 2015
Art Johnsen	Veterans' Service Officer	Appointed
Art Johnson	veterans service officer	Appointed
Mark Goebel	Weed Superintendent	Appointed
Mark Goeden	weed Supermendent	пррописа
Michael Ingram	Highway Superintendent	Appointed
Tritonaci ingram	ingiinay baperintendent	1 ippointed



# NEBRASKA AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

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#### FRANKLIN COUNTY

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Supervisors Franklin County, Nebraska

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Franklin County, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2011, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements of the County's primary government, as listed in the Table of Contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of the County's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

As discussed in Note 1, these financial statements were prepared on the basis of cash receipts and disbursements, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles.

The financial statements referred to above include only the primary government of Franklin County, which consists of all funds, departments, and offices that comprise the County's legal entity. The financial statements do not include financial data for the County's legally separate component units, which accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be reported with the financial data of the County's primary government. As a result, the primary government financial statements do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of the reporting entity of Franklin County as of June 30, 2011, and the changes in its financial position for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective cash balances of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information for the primary government of Franklin County, as of June 30, 2011, and the respective changes in cash balances thereof for the year then ended in conformity with the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 10, 2012, on our consideration of Franklin 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 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 internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

The budgetary comparison information is not a required part of the basic financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. We applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

The County has not presented Management's Discussion and Analysis, which the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America have determined is necessary to supplement, although not required to be part of, the basic financial statements.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements. The combining nonmajor fund financial statement, nonmajor budgetary comparison information, schedule of office activity, and schedule of taxes certified and collected, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such statements and schedules have been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

SIGNED ORIGINAL ON FILE

May 10, 2012

Deann Haeffner, CPA Assistant Deputy Auditor

# FRANKLIN COUNTY STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS - CASH BASIS

June 30, 2011

		Governmental Activities		
ASSETS Cash and Cash Equivalents (Note 1.D) Investments (Note 1.D)	\$	1,831,828 20,000		
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	1,851,828		
NET ASSETS Unrestricted TOTAL NET ASSETS	<u> </u>	1,851,828 1,851,828		
TOTAL NET ASSETS	Ψ	1,031,020		

# FRANKLIN COUNTY STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES - CASH BASIS

For the Year Ended June 30, 2011

		Program Cash Receipts				Net (	Disbursement)
		Fees, Fines, Operating		R	eceipts and		
	Cash	an	and Charges Grants a		rants and	(	Changes in
<b>Functions:</b>	Disbursements	fo	r Services	Co	ntributions	]	Net Assets
Governmental Activities:							
General Government	\$ (1,126,779)	\$	159,650	\$	12,044	\$	(955,085)
Public Safety	(409,496)		29,071		3,246		(377,179)
Public Works	(1,537,730)		132,399		577,997		(827,334)
Health and Sanitation	(40,288)		-		-		(40,288)
Public Assistance	(14,292)		-		-		(14,292)
Culture and Recreation	(4,550)		-				(4,550)
<b>Total Governmental Activities</b>	\$ (3,133,135)	\$	321,120	\$	593,287		(2,218,728)
	General Receipt Property Taxes Grants and Co	S	outions Not	Restr	icted to		1,842,497
	Specific Pro	gran	ıs				187,286
	Investment Inc	come	<b>)</b>				31,189
	Licenses and F	Perm	its				16,177
	Miscellaneous						23,106
	Total General Re	eceij	ots				2,100,255
	Change in Net A	ggot	o.				(118,473)
	Net Assets - Beg						1,970,301
	Net Assets - End	-	115			\$	1,851,828
	1 (St 1 issots Diff	5				Ψ	1,031,020

# STATEMENT OF CASH BASIS ASSETS AND FUND BALANCES GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

June 30, 2011

	General Fund	Road Fund	Inheritance Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS					
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 1.D)	\$ 468,424	\$ 280,587	\$ 757,890	\$ 324,927	\$ 1,831,828
Investments (Note 1.D)	20,000				20,000
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 488,424	\$ 280,587	\$ 757,890	\$ 324,927	\$ 1,851,828
FUND BALANCES Committed to:					
Law Enforcement	_	_	_	2,658	2,658
Road Maintenance	-	280,587	-	155,403	435,990
Aid and Assistance	-	-	-	100,997	100,997
Property Reappraisal	-	-	-	44,713	44,713
Weed Control	-	-	-	21,156	21,156
Assigned to:					
Other Purposes	-	-	757,890	-	757,890
Unassigned	488,424				488,424
TOTAL CASH BASIS FUND BALANCES	\$ 488,424	\$ 280,587	\$ 757,890	\$ 324,927	\$ 1,851,828

# STATEMENT OF CASH RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN CASH BASIS FUND BALANCES GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

For the Year Ended June 30, 2011

	General Fund	Road Fund	Inheritance Fund	Other Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
RECEIPTS					
Property Taxes	\$ 1,742,656	\$ -	\$ 76,210	\$ 23,631	\$ 1,842,497
Licenses and Permits	16,177	-	-	-	16,177
Interest	27,401	-	47	3,741	31,189
Intergovernmental	201,174	578,003	-	1,396	780,573
Charges for Services	188,461	114,946	-	17,713	321,120
Miscellaneous	5,967	16,930		209	23,106
TOTAL RECEIPTS	2,181,836	709,879	76,257	46,690	3,014,662
DISBURSEMENTS					
General Government	1,007,773	-	86,429	32,577	1,126,779
Public Safety	408,774	-	-	722	409,496
Public Works	14,666	1,384,922	-	138,142	1,537,730
Health and Sanitation	40,288	-	-	-	40,288
Public Assistance	14,292	-	_	-	14,292
Culture and Recreation	4,550	-	-	-	4,550
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	1,490,343	1,384,922	86,429	171,441	3,133,135
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY)					
OF RECEIPTS OVER					
DISBURSEMENTS	691,493	(675,043)	(10,172)	(124,751)	(118,473)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)					
Transfers in	50,000	751,000	50,000	45,000	896,000
Transfers out	(646,000)	(50,000)	(200,000)	· -	(896,000)
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING	<u> </u>				<u> </u>
SOURCES (USES)	(596,000)	701,000	(150,000)	45,000	
Net Change in Fund Balances CASH BASIS FUND	95,493	25,957	(160,172)	(79,751)	(118,473)
BALANCES - BEGINNING	392,931	254,630	918,062	404,678	1,970,301
CASH BASIS FUND	Ф. 400.424	ф. <b>2</b> 00 <b>5</b> 0 <b>7</b>	ф <b>д5</b> Д 000	Ф. 204.027	Ф. 1.071.020
BALANCES - ENDING	\$ 488,424	\$ 280,587	\$757,890	\$ 324,927	\$ 1,851,828

# STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY ASSETS AND LIABILITIES - CASH BASIS FIDUCIARY FUNDS

June 30, 2011

	Agency Funds
ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 222,100
LIABILITIES	
Due to other governments	
State	62,528
Schools	63,999
<b>Educational Service Units</b>	883
Technical College	5,155
Natural Resource Districts	1,875
Fire Districts	889
Municipalities	8,186
Agricultural Society	679
Cemetery Districts	5,220
Townships	57,018
Hospital	1,795
Others	13,873
TOTAL LIABILITIES	222,100
TOTAL NET ASSETS	\$ -

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2011

#### 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies utilized in the accounting system of Franklin County.

#### A. Reporting Entity

Franklin County, Nebraska (County) is a governmental entity established under and governed by the laws of the State of Nebraska (State). The County is managed by county officials who are elected on a political ballot for four-year terms. As a political subdivision of the State, the County is exempt from State and Federal income taxes. The financial statements include all funds of the County that are not legally separate. The County has also considered all potential component units for which it is financially accountable, as well as other organizations which are either fiscally dependent on the County or maintain a significant relationship with the County such that exclusion would be misleading or incomplete. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. These criteria include appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body, and (1) the ability of the County to impose its will on that organization, or (2) the potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to, or impose specific financial burdens on, the County.

**Component Unit.** These financial statements present the County (the primary government). The Franklin County Memorial Hospital (Hospital) is a component unit of the County because of the significance of its operational and financial relationships with the County. The financial statements do not include the data of the Hospital necessary for reporting in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). Complete financial statements of the Hospital can be obtained from the Hospital's administrative office.

### Joint Organization.

Behavioral Health Region III - The County has entered into an agreement with surrounding counties and the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services to provide services to carry out the provisions of the Nebraska Behavioral Health Services Act (Act). Agreements were established under the authority of the Interlocal Cooperation Act for services to be provided under the Act. Region III (Region) consists of the following counties: Blaine, Loup, Garfield, Wheeler, Custer, Valley, Greeley, Sherman, Howard, Buffalo, Hall, Phelps, Kearney, Adams, Clay, Furnas, Harlan, Hamilton, Merrick, Franklin, Webster, and Nuckolls.

The governing board for the Region includes representatives from the participating county boards. Each county contributes to the financial support of the Region activities based on formulas developed by the Region governing board and as required by the Act.

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

#### 1. <u>Summary of Significant Accounting Policies</u> (Continued)

Funding is provided by a combination of Federal, State, local, and private funding. The County contributed \$6,601 toward the operation of the Region during fiscal year 2011. In the event of the termination of the agreement, assets would be disposed of in accordance with the terms of the agreement. The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services requires the Region to be audited annually in accordance with State statute. Financial information for the Region is available in those audit reports.

<u>Health Department</u> – The County has entered into an agreement with Two Rivers Health Department (Department) to provide public health services. Agreements were established under authority of the Interlocal Cooperation Act for services to be provided per Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 71-1626 to 71-1636 (Reissue 2009, Supp. 2011).

The Department's governing board is established by statute and includes representatives from the participating county boards and the health profession. Funding is provided by a combination of Federal, State, local, and private funding. The County made no contributions toward the operation of the Department during fiscal year 2011. In the event of the termination of the agreement, assets would be disposed of in accordance with the terms of the agreement. The Department is required to be audited annually in accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-304(4) (Reissue 2008). Financial information for the Department is available in that report.

#### B. Basis of Presentation

Government-wide Financial Statements. The Statement of Net Assets - Cash Basis and Statement of Activities - Cash Basis display information about the activities of the County and are in the format of government-wide statements, as required by GASB Statement Number 34. These statements include all the financial activities of the County, except for fiduciary activities and the Hospital. Internal activities in these statements were considered immaterial and have not been eliminated. Governmental Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) requires internal activity to be eliminated to minimize double counting. The County reports governmental activities only. Governmental activities are generally financed through taxes, intergovernmental receipts, and other nonexchange transactions. The County is reported separately from certain legally separate component units for which the primary government is financially accountable.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct disbursement of a given function or segment is offset by program receipts. Direct disbursements are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program receipts include 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods,

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

#### 1. <u>Summary of Significant Accounting Policies</u> (Continued)

services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment, and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Taxes and other items not properly included among program receipts are reported instead as general receipts.

**Fund Financial Statements.** The fund financial statements provide information about the County's funds, including its fiduciary funds. GAAP requires separate statements by fund category - governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary. The County uses only the governmental and fiduciary fund categories. The County Board is the highest level of decision-making authority and has the authority, by resolution, to establish, modify or rescind the commitment or assignment of a fund balance to a specific purpose. When resources for a specific purpose are available in more than one fund balance classification, the County's policy is to use resources in the following order: restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major governmental funds. All remaining governmental funds are aggregated and reported as nonmajor funds.

The County reports the following major governmental funds:

**General Fund.** This is the County's primary operating fund. It accounts for financial resources of the general government, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

**Road Fund.** This fund is used to account for costs associated with the repair and maintenance of roads and bridges.

**Inheritance Fund.** This fund is used to account for the receipts generated from inheritance taxes.

The County reports the following additional fund types:

**Special Revenue Funds.** These funds account for the proceeds from a specific receipt source that is restricted to disbursements for a specified purpose.

**Agency Funds.** These funds account for assets held by the County as an agent for various local governments.

The County designates fund balances as:

**Restricted.** The fund balance is restricted by external impositions such as creditors, grantors, or laws or regulations of other governments.

**Committed.** The fund balance has been designated by the County Board for a specific purpose.

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

#### 1. <u>Summary of Significant Accounting Policies</u> (Continued)

**Assigned.** The fund balances has not been designated by the County Board for a specific purpose, but has been separated based on the type of revenue.

**Unassigned.** The portion of the General Fund not restricted, committed, or assigned for a specific purpose.

### C. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus and basis of accounting. The accounting records of the County are maintained and the government-wide financial statements were reported on the basis of cash receipts and disbursements. As such, the measurement focus includes only those assets and fund balances arising from cash transactions on the Statement of Net Assets - Cash Basis and the Statement of Activities - Cash Basis. Receipts are recognized when received and disbursements are recognized when warrants are paid. This differs from governmental GAAP, which requires the government-wide and fiduciary fund financial statements to be reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Under this measurement focus and basis of accounting receipts are recorded when earned and disbursements are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows.

The governmental fund financial statements were also reported on the cash receipt and disbursement basis of accounting. As such, the same measurement focus and basis of accounting were used, as described above. This differs from governmental GAAP, which require governmental fund financial statements to be reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this measurement focus and basis of accounting, receipts are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Receipts are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. Disbursements generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, disbursements related to compensated absences and claims and judgments are recorded only when payment is due.

#### D. Assets and Net Assets

**Cash and Cash Equivalents.** The County's cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand and demand deposits.

**Investments.** The types of investments in which the County is authorized to invest funds are enumerated in Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 77-2315, 77-2340, and 77-2341 (Reissue 2009), and generally include U.S. Government obligations, certificates of deposit, and time deposits and securities, which are authorized by the Nebraska Investment Council.

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

#### 1. <u>Summary of Significant Accounting Policies</u> (Concluded)

Capital Assets. Under the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting, capital assets are not capitalized in the funds used to acquire or construct them. Instead, capital acquisitions are reflected as disbursements in governmental funds. GAAP requires capital assets, which would include property, plant, equipment, and infrastructure assets (e.g., roads, bridges, sidewalks, and similar items) to be reported in the applicable governmental activities columns in the government-wide financial statements.

Depreciation expenses on capital assets were not recorded on the cash basis financial statements. Under GAAP, depreciation expenses would be recorded in the Statement of Activities. The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that does not add to the value of the asset or extend asset life is not capitalized.

Compensated Absences. Vested or accumulated vacation leave that is liquidated with expendable available financial resources is reported as a disbursement of the County funds as paid. Upon termination, employees are paid for any unused vacation. Under the receipts and disbursements basis of accounting, the liabilities for compensated absences are not reported since they do not represent liabilities arising from cash transactions. Under GAAP, the compensated absences liability would be reported in the government-wide financial statements and would be recorded in accordance with the County's policy, which is to recognize the expense and accrued liability when vacation and compensatory leave is earned.

**Restricted Net Assets.** When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the County's policy to use restricted resources first, then the unrestricted resources, as they are needed. Net assets are reported as restricted when constraints placed on their use are either externally imposed or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

#### 2. Deposits and Investments

The County has generally pooled the cash resources of the various funds for investment purposes. Interest earned on pooled funds is credited to the County General Fund in accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 77-2315 (Reissue 2009).

At year end, the County's carrying amount of deposits was \$1,831,828 for County funds and \$222,100 for Fiduciary funds. The bank balances for all funds totaled \$2,047,949. For purposes of classifying categories of custodial risk, the bank balances of the County's deposits, as of June 30, 2011, were either entirely insured or collateralized with securities held by the County's agent in the County's name.

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

#### 2. <u>Deposits and Investments</u> (Concluded)

The County's carrying value of investments are stated at cost, which approximates market. Investments consisted of \$20,000 in U.S. Government Securities. The U.S. Government Securities were held by the County or its agent in the name of the County.

#### 3. **Property Taxes**

Property taxes are levied by the County Board on or before October 15 of each year for all political subdivisions in the County. Real estate and personal property taxes are due and attach as an enforceable lien on January 1 following the levy date, and become delinquent in two equal installments on May 1 and September 1. Motor vehicle taxes are due when application is made for registration of a motor vehicle.

Counties are permitted by the State Constitution to levy a tax of up to \$.50/\$100 of assessed valuation for general governmental services other than the payment of principal and interest on bonded debt. They may levy taxes in addition to the 50 cent limitation upon a vote of the people.

The levy set in October 2010, for the 2010 taxes, which will be materially collected in May and September 2011, was set at \$.421446/\$100 of assessed valuation. The levy set in October 2009, for the 2009 taxes, which were materially collected in May and September 2010, was set at \$.436969/\$100 of assessed valuation. The amount collected for motor vehicle tax is outlined in State statute.

Additionally, there is currently a statutory lid limitation, which limits taxation to the prior year's level, with provisions for growth. It may be increased by 1% by a three-fourths majority of the County Board.

#### 4. Retirement System

The Retirement System for Nebraska Counties (the Plan) is a multiple-employer plan administered by the Public Employees Retirement Board in accordance with the provisions of the County Employees Retirement Act. The plan consists of a defined contribution option and a cash balance benefit. The cash balance benefit is a type of defined benefit plan. The Plan provisions are established under Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 23-2301 through 23-2335 (Reissue 2007, Cum. Supp. 2010, Supp. 2011) and may be amended through legislative action.

Participation in the Plan is required of all full-time employees. Part-time (working less than one-half of the regularly scheduled hours) employees may elect voluntary participation upon reaching age 20. Part-time elected officials may exercise the option to join.

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

#### **4. Retirement System** (Concluded)

County employees and elected officials contribute 4.5% of their total compensation. In addition, the County contributes an amount equal to 150% of the employee's contribution. The contribution rates are established by § 23-2307 and § 23-2308 and may be amended through legislative action. The employee's and employer's contributions are kept in separate accounts. The employee's account is fully vested. The employer's account is fully vested after three years of participation in the system or credit for participation in another governmental plan prior to actual contribution to the Plan. Prior service benefits are paid directly by the County to the retired employee.

A supplemental retirement plan was established on January 1, 2003, for the benefit of all present and future commissioned law enforcement personnel employed by the County. Employees contribute 1% of their salary, and the County contributes an amount equal to 100% of the employee's contribution. In a defined contribution plan, benefits depend solely on amounts contributed to the Plan plus investment earnings.

For the year ended June 30, 2011, 54 employees contributed \$53,364, and the County contributed \$80,047. Additionally, for the year ended June 30, 2011, 5 law enforcement employees and the County contributed \$1,327 in cash contributions for the supplemental law enforcement plan. Lastly, the County paid \$73 directly to 4 retired employees for prior service benefits.

#### 5. Risk Management

The County is exposed to various risks of loss related to the following: torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The County is a member of the Nebraska Intergovernmental Risk Management Association (NIRMA), a public entity risk pool currently operating as a common risk management and insurance program for 78 counties throughout Nebraska.

The County pays an annual deposit premium, as calculated by the administrator of the pool. The premium is based on the losses and exposures of each County and the entire pool. If the pool becomes insolvent or otherwise unable to discharge its legal liabilities and obligations, the County may be assessed by the Board for an additional contribution equal to its contribution for the current fiscal year, divided by the contribution of all participants for such year, times the amount of such deficiency. Each such assessment, and the manner of calculating the same, is sent to each county in writing, and each county has sixty days in which to pay the amount of such assessment. Each county remains liable for such assessments, regardless of such county's withdrawal from participation or the termination of the agreement, as well as for liabilities of the Pool incurred during such county's period of membership.

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

#### 5. Risk Management (Concluded)

The agreement with NIRMA requires the risk pool to provide coverage for up to a maximum amount per occurrence and purchase commercial insurance for claims in excess of coverage provided. In the event of a liability exceeding the commercial insurance, the County would be responsible for funding the excess amount.

	NIRMA	Maximum	
	Coverage		Coverage
General Liability Claim	\$ 300,000	\$	5,000,000
Worker's Compensation Claim	\$ 500,000	Stati	utory Limits
Property Damage Claim	\$ 250,000		red Value at lacement Cost

The County has not paid any additional assessments to the pool in the last three fiscal years, and no assessments are anticipated for fiscal year 2012. The County has not had to pay out any amounts that exceeded coverage provided by the pool in the last three fiscal years.

#### 6. <u>Interfund Transfers</u>

Interfund transfers for the year ended June 30, 2011, consisted of the following:

	General	General Inheritance			
Transfers to	Fund	Fund Fund		Total	
General Fund	\$ -	\$ 50,000	\$ -	\$ 50,000	
Inheritance Fund	-	-	50,000	50,000	
Road Fund	601,000	150,000	-	751,000	
Nonmajor Funds	45,000			45,000	
Total	\$ 646,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 896,000	

Transfers are used to move unrestricted receipts collected in the General Fund and Inheritance Fund to finance various programs accounted for in other funds in accordance with budgetary authorizations.

#### NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

### 7. <u>Long-Term Debt</u>

In March 2008, \$3,945,000 of general obligation and refunding bonds were issued by the Franklin County Memorial Hospital with the proceeds to be used to: (1) provide for the payment and redemption of \$810,000 Series 2003 Hospital bonds, maturing on or after May 1, 2009, and (2) pay the costs of constructing an addition to the Hospital. As the bonds are general obligation bonds of the County, the County has the authority to levy additional ad valorem taxes, if necessary, to make the required principal and interest payments on the bonds in the event the Hospital cannot meet the debt service obligation. As of June 30, 2011, no additional taxes had been levied by the County. The balance of bonds payable at June 30, 2011, was \$3,510,000. Full disclosure of the liability can be found in the separately issued Hospital audit report.

In March 2012, the 2008 bond issue was refinanced for \$3,375,000.

# BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL GENERAL FUND

	For the Year Ended J		T7 1 1.1	
RECEIPTS	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	¢ 1702705	¢ 1 700 705	¢ 1 740 656	¢ (40.120)
Taxes	\$ 1,782,785 14,600	\$ 1,782,785	\$ 1,742,656	\$ (40,129)
Licenses and Permits	<i>'</i>	14,600	16,177	1,577
Interest	35,000	35,000 151,000	27,401	(7,599)
Intergovernmental	151,000	,	201,174	50,174
Charges for Services	165,050	165,050	188,461	23,411
Miscellaneous	15,000	15,000	5,967	(9,033)
TOTAL RECEIPTS	2,163,435	2,163,435	2,181,836	18,401
DISBURSEMENTS				
General Government:				
County Board	63,000	63,000	62,600	400
County Clerk	95,810	95,810	89,964	5,846
County Treasurer	97,235	97,235	92,795	4,440
County Assessor	98,210	98,210	92,678	5,532
Election Commissioner	37,775	37,775	26,685	11,090
Data Processing Department	36,400	36,400	26,508	9,892
Clerk of the District Court	29,100	29,100	17,217	11,883
County Court System	8,300	8,300	3,737	4,563
Building and Grounds	62,975	62,975	58,080	4,895
Agricultural Extension Agent	40,405	40,405	39,003	1,402
Miscellaneous	562,420	562,420	498,506	63,914
Public Safety:				
County Sheriff	184,827	187,827	187,537	290
County Attorney	81,662	81,662	78,502	3,160
County Jail	147,120	144,120	130,818	13,302
Miscellaneous	28,250	28,250	11,917	16,333
Public Works:				
Miscellaneous	5,000	5,000	14,666	(9,666)
Public Health:				
Miscellaneous	17,077	17,077	40,288	(23,211)
Public Assistance:				
Veterans' Service Officer	15,200	15,200	12,292	2,908
Miscellaneous	42,600	42,600	2,000	40,600
Culture and Recreation:				
Miscellaneous	2,000	2,000	4,550	(2,550)
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	1,655,366	1,655,366	1,490,343	165,023
				(Continued)

# BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL GENERAL FUND

				Variance with
				Final Budget
	Original	Final		Positive
	Budget	Budget	Actual	(Negative)
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY)				
OF RECEIPTS OVER				
DISBURSEMENTS	508,069	508,069	691,493	183,424
OTHER FINANCING				
SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers in	50,000	50,000	50,000	-
Transfers out	(646,000)	(646,000)	(646,000)	-
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING				
SOURCES (USES)	(596,000)	(596,000)	(596,000)	
Not Change in Fund Palance	(87,931)	(87,931)	95,493	183,424
Net Change in Fund Balance	` ' '	` ' '	,	103,424
FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING	392,931	392,931	392,931	_
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	\$ 305,000	\$ 305,000	\$ 488,424	\$ 183,424
				(Concluded)

# BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL MAJOR FUNDS

ROAD FUND	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
RECEIPTS	_			
Intergovernmental	\$ 515,750	\$ 515,750	\$ 578,003	\$ 62,253
Charges for Services	125,000	125,000	114,946	(10,054)
Miscellaneous	15,050	15,050	16,930	1,880
TOTAL RECEIPTS	655,800	655,800	709,879	54,079
DISBURSEMENTS	1,471,430	1,471,430	1,384,922	86,508
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS	(815,630)	(815,630)	(675,043)	140,587
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES) Transfers in Transfers out	751,000	751,000	751,000 (50,000)	(50,000)
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	751,000	751,000	701,000	(50,000)
Net Change in Fund Balance	(64,630)	(64,630)	25,957	90,587
FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING	254,630	254,630	254,630	
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	\$ 190,000	\$ 190,000	\$ 280,587	\$ 90,587
INHERITANCE FUND	_			
RECEIPTS Taxes Interest TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$ 126,938 - 126,938	\$ 126,938 - 126,938	\$ 76,210 47 76,257	\$ (50,728) 47 (50,681)
DISBURSEMENTS	420,000	420,000	86,429	333,571
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS	(293,062)	(293,062)	(10,172)	282,890
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES) Transfers in Transfers out TOTAL OTHER FINANCING	(200,000)	(200,000)	50,000 (200,000)	50,000
SOURCES (USES)	(200,000)	(200,000)	(150,000)	50,000
Net Change in Fund Balance	(493,062)	(493,062)	(160,172)	332,890
FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING	918,062	918,062	918,062	
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	\$ 425,000	\$ 425,000	\$ 757,890	\$ 332,890

#### NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

For the Year Ended June 30, 2011

#### **BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULES**

#### **GAAP Requirements**

Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP) requires budgetary comparison schedules for the General Fund, and for each major special revenue fund that has a legally adopted annual budget. GAAP further requires the budgetary comparison schedules to include the *original budget* and *final budget* amounts. The *original budget* is the first complete appropriated budget adjusted by reserves, transfers, allocations, supplemental appropriations, and other legally authorized legislative and executive changes *before* the beginning of the fiscal year. The original budget would also include actual appropriation amounts automatically carried over from prior years, when required by law. The *final budget* is the original budget adjusted by all reserves, transfers, allocations, supplemental appropriations, and other legally authorized legislative and executive changes applicable to the fiscal year, as approved by the County Board or otherwise legally authorized.

#### **Budgetary Process**

The County adopts an annual budget in accordance with the statutory requirements of the Nebraska Budget Act. The budget is prepared on the cash receipts and disbursements basis of accounting. The budget contains only those receipts actually received by the County Treasurer. The County does not utilize an encumbrance accounting system. All appropriated spending authority lapses at the end of the fiscal year.

On or before August 1, the county budget-making authority prepares and transmits a budget for each County fund to the County Board. The budget includes the requirements, the outstanding warrants, the operating reserves to be maintained, the cash on hand at the close of the preceding fiscal year, the receipts from sources other than taxation, and the amount to be raised by taxation. The County Board must hold at least one public hearing on the proposed budget. On or before September 20, the County Board adopts the budget and appropriates the amounts specified in the budget for the departments, offices, activities, and funds of the County.

The County Board is authorized to transfer budgeted amounts between departments within any fund through resolution; however, if revisions are made that alter the total disbursements of any fund, an additional public hearing must be held. The legal level of budgetary control for the General Fund is at the function level, and the special revenue fund types are at the fund level. The County Board is also authorized to budget for the transfer of money between County funds.

# COMBINING STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN CASH BASIS FUND BALANCES NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

	Bridge Historical Escrow Bridge Fund Fund		Reappraisal Fund	Veterans' Aid Fund	Stop Program Fund
RECEIPTS					
Property Taxes	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 23,631	\$ -	\$ -
Interest	1,450	632	-	1,659	-
Intergovernmental	-	-	1,395	1	-
Charges for Services	-	-	-	-	260
Miscellaneous					
TOTAL RECEIPTS	1,450	632	25,026	1,660	260
DISBURSEMENTS					
General Government	-	-	32,577	-	-
Public Safety	-	-	-	-	300
Public Works	66,568				
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	66,568		32,577		300
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS	(65,118)	632	(7,551)	1,660	(40)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES) Transfers in	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers out					
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)					
Net Change in Fund Balances	(65,118)	632	(7,551)	1,660	(40)
FUND BALANCES - BEGINNING	180,621	39,268	52,264	99,337	2,448
FUND BALANCES - ENDING	\$ 115,503	\$ 39,900	\$ 44,713	\$ 100,997	\$ 2,408
FUND BALANCES: Committed to:					
Law Enforcement	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,408
Road Maintenance	115,503	39,900	-	-	-
Aid and Assistance	-	-	-	100,997	-
Property Reappraisal	-	-	44,713	-	-
Weed Control					
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	\$ 115,503	\$ 39,900	\$ 44,713	\$ 100,997	\$ 2,408
					(Continued)

# COMBINING STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS, AND CHANGES IN CASH BASIS FUND BALANCES NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

								Total	
	Drug Law			d Abuse			Nonmajor		
		ement &		leglect	Weed		Governmental		
	Education Fund		F	und	Fu	nd	Funds		
RECEIPTS									
Property Taxes	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	23,631	
Interest		-		-		-		3,741	
Intergovernmental		-		-		-		1,396	
Charges for Services		-		-	17	,453		17,713	
Miscellaneous						209		209	
TOTAL RECEIPTS					17	,662		46,690	
DISBURSEMENTS									
General Government		-		-		-		32,577	
Public Safety		422		-		-		722	
Public Works					71	,574		138,142	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		422			71	,574		171,441	
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS		(422)		_	(53	,912)		(124,751)	
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)						<i>,</i>			
Transfers in		-		-	45	,000		45,000	
Transfers out									
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)					45	,000		45,000	
Net Change in Fund Balances		(422)		_	(8	,912)		(79,751)	
FUND BALANCES - BEGINNING		422		250	,	,068		404,678	
FUND BALANCES - ENDING	\$	_	\$	250	-	,156	\$	324,927	
<b>FUND BALANCES:</b> Committed to:									
Law Enforcement	\$	-	\$	250	\$	-	\$	2,658	
Road Maintenance		-		-		-		155,403	
Aid and Assistance		-		-		-		100,997	
Property Reappraisal		-		-		-		44,713	
Weed Control					21	,156		21,156	
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	\$		\$	250	\$21	,156	\$	324,927	
	<u> </u>						(Co	oncluded)	

# BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL NONMAJOR FUNDS

			Variance with							
	Original			Final				Final Budget Positive		
	Budget			Budget		Actual	(Negative)			
BRIDGE ESCROW FUND								<u> </u>		
RECEIPTS										
Interest	\$	2,379	\$	2,379	\$	1,450	\$	(929)		
TOTAL RECEIPTS		2,379		2,379		1,450		(929)		
DISBURSEMENTS		183,000		183,000		66,568		116,432		
Net Change in Fund Balance		(180,621)		(180,621)		(65,118)		115,503		
FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING		180,621		180,621		180,621		-		
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	\$		\$	-	\$	115,503	\$	115,503		
HISTORICAL BRIDGE FUND										
RECEIPTS	_									
Interest	\$	832	\$	832	\$	632	\$	(200)		
TOTAL RECEIPTS		832		832		632		(200)		
DISBURSEMENTS		40,100		40,100				40,100		
Net Change in Fund Balance		(39,268)		(39,268)		632		39,900		
FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING		39,268		39,268		39,268		-		
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	\$	_	\$	_	\$	39,900	\$	39,900		
REAPPRAISAL FUND	_									
RECEIPTS	_									
Taxes	\$	23,890	\$	23,890	\$	23,631	\$	(259)		
Intergovernmental		-		-		1,395		1,395		
Miscellaneous		4,346 28,236		4,346		25.026		(4,346)		
TOTAL RECEIPTS		28,230		28,236		25,026		(3,210)		
DISBURSEMENTS		64,500		64,500		32,577		31,923		
Net Change in Fund Balance		(36,264)		(36,264)		(7,551)		28,713		
FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING		52,264		52,264		52,264				
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	\$	16,000	\$	16,000	\$	44,713	\$	28,713		
							((	Continued)		

# BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL NONMAJOR FUNDS

		$\mathcal{C}$		Final Budget	Actual		ance with al Budget ositive egative)
VETERANS' AID FUND			•				
RECEIPTS							
Interest	\$	2,663	\$	2,663	\$ 1,659	\$	(1,004)
Intergovernmental					1		1
TOTAL RECEIPTS		2,663		2,663	1,660		(1,003)
DISBURSEMENTS		72,000		72,000			72,000
Net Change in Fund Balance		(69,337)		(69,337)	1,660		70,997
FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING		99,337		99,337	99,337		-
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	\$	30,000	\$	30,000	\$ 100,997	\$	70,997
STOP PROGRAM FUND	_						
RECEIPTS	φ.	400	4	400	• • •	4	(4.40)
Charges for Services	\$	400	\$	400	\$ 260	\$	(140)
TOTAL RECEIPTS		400		400	260		(140)
DISBURSEMENTS		2,848		2,848	300		2,548
Net Change in Fund Balance		(2,448)		(2,448)	(40)		2,408
FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING		2,448		2,448	2,448		-
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 2,408	\$	2,408
DRUG LAW ENFORCEMENT & EDUCATION FUND							
RECEIPTS							
Miscellaneous	\$	3		3	\$ 	\$	(3)
TOTAL RECEIPTS		3		3			(3)
DISBURSEMENTS		425		425	422		3
Net Change in Fund Balance		(422)		(422)	(422)		-
FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING		422		422	 422		
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	\$	-
						(C	ontinued)

# BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL NONMAJOR FUNDS

	Original Budget		Final Budget		Actual		Fina P	ance with al Budget ositive egative)
CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT FUND RECEIPTS	<b>-</b> •		¢		Ф		¢	
RECEIPTS	\$		\$		\$		\$	
DISBURSEMENTS		250		250				250
Net Change in Fund Balance		(250)		(250)		_		250
FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING		250		250		250		_
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	\$	-	\$	-	\$	250	\$	250
WEED FUND	_	_						
RECEIPTS								
Charges for Services	\$	22,791	\$	22,791	\$	17,453	\$	(5,338)
Miscellaneous						209		209
TOTAL RECEIPTS		22,791		22,791		17,662		(5,129)
DISBURSEMENTS		77,859		77,859		71,574		6,285
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)								
Transfers in		45,000		45,000		45,000		-
Transfers out								
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING								
SOURCES (USES)		45,000		45,000		45,000		
Net Change in Fund Balance		(10,068)		(10,068)		(8,912)		1,156
FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING		30,068		30,068		30,068		1,150
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	\$	20,000	\$	20,000	\$	21,156	\$	1,156
		,		,		, 3		oncluded)

# FRANKLIN COUNTY SCHEDULE OF OFFICE ACTIVITIES

	County Clerk	Clerk of the District Court	County Sheriff	County Attorney	Weed Superintendent	Highway Superintendent *	Veterans' Service Officer	Total	
BALANCES JULY 1, 2010	\$ 3,387	\$ 3,953	\$ 6,004	\$ 641	\$ 6,763	\$ 33,097	\$ 14,704	\$ 68,549	
RECEIPTS									
Licenses and Permits	-	-	500	-	-	-	-	500	
Charges for Services	18,868	6,496	30,695	-	17,529	128,103	-	201,691	
Miscellaneous	-	-	515	-	-	14,560	90	15,165	
State Fees	19,802	3,822	-	-	-	-	-	23,624	
Other Liabilities		106,849	17,316					124,165	
TOTAL RECEIPTS	38,670	117,167	49,026		17,529	142,663	90	365,145	
DISBURSEMENTS									
Payments to County Treasurer	18,343	5,316	31,277	-	16,770	129,506	-	201,212	
Payments to State Treasurer	19,424	3,991	-	-	-	-	-	23,415	
Other Liabilities		108,290	17,347					125,637	
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	37,767	117,597	48,624		16,770	129,506		350,264	
BALANCES JUNE 30, 2011	\$ 4,290	\$ 3,523	\$ 6,406	\$ 641	\$ 7,522	\$ 46,254	\$ 14,794	\$ 83,430	
BALANCES CONSIST OF:									
Due to County Treasurer	\$ 346	\$ 1,527	\$ 5,746	\$ -	\$ 7,522	\$ 46,254	\$ 14,794	\$ 76,189	
Petty Cash	1,500	-	-	641	-	-	-	2,141	
Due to State Treasurer	2,444	232	-	-	-	-	-	2,676	
Due to Others		1,764	660					2,424	
BALANCES JUNE 30, 2011	\$ 4,290	\$ 3,523	\$ 6,406	\$ 641	\$ 7,522	\$ 46,254	\$ 14,794	\$ 83,430	

<sup>\*</sup> Audit adjustment to beginning balance of \$30,637 to correct accounts receivable balance.

# SCHEDULE OF TAXES CERTIFIED AND COLLECTED FOR ALL POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS IN THE COUNTY

June 30, 2011

Item		2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Tax Certified by Assessor			_		_	_
Real Estate	\$	6,135,084	\$ 6,068,027	\$ 5,999,436	\$ 6,257,316	\$ 6,499,674
Personal and Specials		460,668	438,795	465,361	843,074	1,092,363
Total		6,595,752	6,506,822	6,464,797	7,100,390	7,592,037
Corrections						
Additions		651	5,120	768	15,701	58
Deductions		(2,167)	(2,433)	(1,139)	(675)	(541)
Net Additions/	-	(=,==,)	(=,:::)	 (-,)	 (0,0)	 (= 1-)
(Deductions)		(1,516)	2,687	(371)	15,026	(483)
Corrected Certified Tax		6,594,236	6,509,509	 6,464,426	7,115,416	7,591,554
Net Tax Collected by						
County Treasurer during						
Fiscal Year Ending:						
June 30, 2007		3,876,581	-	-	-	-
June 30, 2008		2,703,329	3,903,677	-	-	-
June 30, 2009		6,877	2,592,817	3,952,113	_	-
June 30, 2010		1,725	4,708	2,496,629	4,348,195	-
June 30, 2011		1,802	3,483	8,322	2,752,746	4,783,354
Total Net Collections		6,590,314	6,504,685	6,457,064	7,100,941	4,783,354
Total Uncollected Tax	\$	3,922	\$ 4,824	\$ 7,362	\$ 14,475	\$ 2,808,200
Percentage Uncollected Tax		0.06%	0.07%	0.11%	0.20%	36.99%



# NEBRASKA AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

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#### FRANKLIN COUNTY

# 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

Board of Supervisors Franklin County, Nebraska

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Franklin County as of and for the year ended June 30, 2011, and have issued our report thereon dated May 10, 2012. The report notes the financial statements were prepared on the basis of cash receipts and disbursements and do not include the financial data of the Franklin County Memorial Hospital, a component unit of Franklin County. Except as noted above, 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.

#### Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered Franklin County's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Franklin County's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the 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 significant deficiencies or material weaknesses and, therefore, there can be no assurance that all deficiencies, significant deficiencies, or material weaknesses have been identified. However, as discussed below, we identified a certain deficiency in internal control that we consider to be a material weakness.

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, detect, or correct misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the County's financial statements will not be prevented, detected or corrected on a timely basis. We consider the following deficiency to be a material weakness:

• The County offices had a lack of segregation of duties since one person could handle all aspects of processing a transaction from beginning to end. Good internal control includes a plan of organization, procedures, and records designed to safeguard assets and provide reliable financial records. Due to a limited number of personnel, an adequate segregation of duties may not be possible without additional cost.

#### **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Franklin County's financial statements are free of 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*.

We also noted certain matters that we reported to management of Franklin County in a separate letter dated May 10, 2012.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of management, the County Board, others within the entity, the State Legislature, the appropriate Federal and regulatory agencies, and citizens of the State of Nebraska, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

SIGNED ORIGINAL ON FILE

May 10, 2012

Deann Haeffner, CPA Assistant Deputy Auditor



# NEBRASKA AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Mike Foley State Auditor Mike.Foley@nebraska.gov P.O. Box 98917 State Capitol, Suite 2303 Lincoln, Nebraska 68509 402-471-2111, FAX 402-471-3301 www.auditors.state.ne.us

May 10, 2012

Board of Supervisors Franklin County, Nebraska

**Dear Supervisors:** 

We have audited the basic financial statements of Franklin County (County) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011, and have issued our report thereon dated May 10, 2012. In planning and performing our audit of the basic financial statements of the County, we considered internal control in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the basic financial statements. An audit does not include examining the effectiveness of internal control and does not provide assurance on internal control. We also performed tests of the County's compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants.

During our audit, we noted certain matters involving internal control over financial reporting and other operational matters that are presented here. These comments and recommendations are intended to improve the internal control over financial reporting or result in operational efficiencies in the areas as follows:

#### **COUNTY OVERALL**

#### **Segregation of Duties**

Good internal control includes a plan of organization, procedures, and records designed to safeguard assets and provide reliable financial records. A system of internal control should include a proper segregation of duties so no one individual is capable of handling all phases of a transaction from beginning to end.

We noted the offices of the County each had a lack of segregation of duties since one person could handle all aspects of processing a transaction from beginning to end. Due to a limited number of personnel, an adequate segregation of duties is not possible without additional cost. This was also noted in prior audits.

We recommend the County review this situation. As always, the County must weigh the cost of hiring additional personnel versus the benefit of a proper segregation of duties.

#### **COUNTY SHERIFF**

#### **Balancing Procedures**

We noted at June 30, 2011, office records indicated assets were long \$2,670 compared to office liabilities, an increase from the prior year of \$132. We also noted \$591 in fees which were never recorded, and therefore were not remitted to the County Treasurer. Comments on balancing procedures have been noted in prior audit reports.

Good internal control requires procedures be in place to ensure assets (cash on hand, reconciled bank statement, and accounts receivable) are in agreement with office liabilities (fees and trust accounts) and that appropriate receipts are remitted to the County Treasurer's office and payments from the trust balance are correct. Without proper oversight of transaction activity and a failure to determine asset-to-liability balancing variances, there is an increased risk of loss, theft, or misuse of funds allowing errors to more easily go undetected.

We recommend the County Sheriff implement documented monthly balancing procedures, including an analysis of bank activity and a timely follow up on any unexplained variances.

County Sheriff's Response: I plan to pay in to the treasurer \$3,000 of the variance which I will do this month (May).

\* \* \* \* \*

It should be noted this report is critical in nature since it contains only our comments and recommendations on the areas noted for improvement and does not include our observations on any strong features of the County.

Draft copies of this report were furnished to the County to provide them an opportunity to review the report and to respond to the comments and recommendations included in this report. All formal responses received have been incorporated into this report. Where no response has been included, the County declined to respond. Responses have been objectively evaluated and recognized, as appropriate, in the report. Responses that indicate corrective action has been taken were not verified at this time, but will be verified in the next audit.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the County, the appropriate Federal and regulatory agencies, and citizens of the State of Nebraska, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Sincerely,

#### SIGNED ORIGINAL ON FILE

Deann Haeffner, CPA Assistant Deputy Auditor