AUDIT REPORT OF NEMAHA COUNTY

JULY 1, 2021, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2022

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Issued on May 25, 2023

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NEMAHA COUNTY 1824 N Street Auburn, NE 68305

LIST OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

At June 30, 2022

		Term
Title	Name	Expires
Board of Commissioners	Mike Hall	Jan. 2023
	Larry Holtzman	Jan. 2023
	Bryan Mellage	Jan. 2025
Assessor	Mallory Lempka	Jan. 2023
Attorney	Louie Ligouri	Jan. 2023
Clerk Election Commissioner Register of Deeds	Diane Johnson	Jan. 2023
Clerk of the District Court	Amy Hector	Jan. 2023
Sheriff	Brent Lottman	Jan. 2023
Treasurer	Jana Gerdes	Jan. 2023
Surveyor	Tom Catlett	Appointed
Veterans' Service Officer	Jim Reed	Appointed
Highway Superintendent	Mark Mainelli	Appointed
Emergency Manager	J. Renee Critser	Appointed
Weed Superintendent	Kevin Schlange	Appointed



NEBRASKA AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Mike Foley State Auditor

Mike.Foley@nebraska.gov PO Box 98917 State Capitol, Suite 2303 Lincoln, Nebraska 68509 402-471-2111, FAX 402-471-3301 auditors.nebraska.gov

NEMAHA COUNTY

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Commissioners Nemaha County, Nebraska

Report on the Audit of Financial Statements

Adverse and Unmodified Opinions

We have audited the cash-basis financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Nemaha County, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements of the County's primary government, as listed in the table of contents.

Summary of Opinions

Opinion UnitType of OpinionGovernmental ActivitiesUnmodifiedDiscretely Presented Component UnitAdverseMajor FundsUnmodifiedAggregate Remaining Fund InformationUnmodified

Adverse Opinion on Discretely Presented Component Unit

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the Basis for Adverse and Unmodified Opinions section of our report, the financial statements referred to above do not present fairly the financial position of the discretely presented component unit of Nemaha County, as of June 30, 2022, or the changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Unmodified Opinions on Governmental Activities, Each Major Fund, and Aggregate Remaining Fund Information In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective cash-basis financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Nemaha County, as of June 30, 2022, and the respective changes in cash-basis financial position for the year then ended in accordance with the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

Basis for Adverse and Unmodified Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the County, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our adverse, and unmodified audit opinions.

Matters Giving Rise to Adverse Opinion on the Discretely Presented Component Unit

The financial statements do not include financial data for the County's legally separate component unit. Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require the financial data for that component unit to be reported with the financial data of the County's primary government unless the County also issues financial statements for the financial reporting entity that include the financial data for its component units. The County has not issued such reporting entity financial statements. The amount by which this departure would affect the assets, net position, receipts, and disbursements of the government-wide financial statements has not been determined.

Emphasis of Matter -- Basis of Accounting

We draw attention to Note 1 of the financial statements, which describes the basis of accounting. The financial statements are prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinions are not modified with respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the cash basis of accounting described in Note 1, and for determining that the cash basis of accounting is an acceptable basis for the preparation of the financial statements 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 Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and, therefore, is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and Government Auditing Standards, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 County's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the County's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Supplementary Information

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, budgetary comparison information, schedule of office activity, and schedule of taxes certified and collected, pages 18 - 31, are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from, and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated May 11, 2023, on our consideration of Nemaha 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 Nemaha County's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

May 11, 2023

Mark Avery, CPA Assistant Deputy Auditor Lincoln, Nebraska

NEMAHA COUNTY STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - CASH BASIS

June 30, 2022

	Governmental Activities		
ASSETS			
Cash and Cash Equivalents (Note 1.D)	\$	4,917,213	
Investments (Note 1.D)		1,258,180	
TOTAL ASSETS	\$	6,175,393	
NET POSITION			
Restricted for:			
Visitor Promotion	\$	42,251	
911 Emergency Services		168,259	
Law Enforcement		759	
Preservation of Records		4,017	
Federal Relief		1,257,764	
Road and Bridge Projects		919,061	
Unrestricted		3,783,282	
TOTAL NET POSITION	\$	6,175,393	

NEMAHA COUNTY STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES - CASH BASIS

For the Year Ended June 30, 2022

		Program C	Net (Disbursement)	
		Fees, Fines,	Operating	Receipts and
	Cash	and Charges	Grants and	Changes in
Functions:	Disbursements	for Services	Contributions	Net Position
Governmental Activities:				
General Government	\$ (1,979,500)	\$ 371,717	\$ 47,804	\$ (1,559,979)
Public Safety	(2,481,472)	446,111	99,159	(1,936,202)
Public Works	(2,867,502)	3,055	1,703,542	(1,160,905)
Public Assistance	(43,796)	-	-	(43,796)
Culture and Recreation	(14,789)	-	-	(14,789)
Capital Outlay	(195,876)			(195,876)
Total Governmental Activities	\$ (7,582,935)	\$ 820,883	\$ 1,850,505	(4,911,547)
	General Receipts: Taxes Grants and Con	tributions Not Re	estricted to	4,525,094
	Specific Prog	rams		1,226,241
	Investment Inco			9,153
	Licenses and Pe	ermits		31,211
	Miscellaneous			74,015
	Total General Re	ceipts		5,865,714
				0-115-
	Change in Net Po			954,167
	Net Position - Be			5,221,226
	Net Position - En	d of year		\$ 6,175,393

STATEMENT OF CASH BASIS ASSETS AND FUND BALANCES GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

June 30, 2022

	General		Inheritance	E	way Bridge Buyback	ad Bridge provement	COVID American escue Plan	Nonmajor	Total Governmental
	Fund	Road Fund	Fund	Pro	gram Fund	 Fund	 Fund	Funds	Funds
ASSETS									
Cash and Cash Equivalents (Note 1.D)	\$826,294	\$378,765	\$1,203,028	\$	919,061	\$ 661,422	\$ -	\$ 928,643	\$ 4,917,213
Investments (Note 1.D)	416					 	 1,257,764		1,258,180
TOTAL ASSETS	\$826,710	\$378,765	\$1,203,028	\$	919,061	\$ 661,422	 1,257,764	\$ 928,643	\$ 6,175,393
FUND BALANCES									
Restricted for:									
Visitor Promotion	-	-	-		-	-	-	42,251	42,251
911 Emergency Services	-	-	-		-	-	-	168,259	168,259
Law Enforcement	-	-	-		-	-	-	759	759
Preservation of Records	-	-	-		-	-	-	4,017	4,017
Federal Relief	-	-	-		-	-	1,257,764	-	1,257,764
Road and Bridge Projects	-	-	-		919,061	-	-	-	919,061
Committed to:									
Law Enforcement	-	-	-		-	-	-	52,274	52,274
Road and Bridge Maintenance	-	378,765	-		-	661,422	-	-	1,040,187
County Buildings	-	-	-		-	-	-	37,772	37,772
Future Compensation Benefts	-	-	-		-	-	-	15,283	15,283
Disaster Recovery	-	-	-		-	-	-	201,346	201,346
911 Emergency Services	-	-	-		-	-	-	25,557	25,557
Other Projects	-	-	-		-	-	-	344,075	344,075
Road Equipment	-	-	-		-	-	-	37,050	37,050
Assigned to:									
Other Purposes	-	-	1,203,028		-	-	-	-	1,203,028
Unassigned	826,710		<u> </u>			 	 	<u> </u>	826,710
TOTAL CASH BASIS FUND BALANCES	\$826,710	\$378,765	\$1,203,028	\$	919,061	\$ 661,422	\$ 1,257,764	\$ 928,643	\$ 6,175,393

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

	General Fund	Road Fund	Inheritance Fund	Highway Bridge Buyback Program Fund	Road Bridge Improvement Fund	COVID American Rescue Plan Fund	Nonmajor Funds	Total Governmental Funds
RECEIPTS								
Taxes	\$4,006,795	\$ 199	\$ 421,463	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 96,637	\$ 4,525,094
Licenses and Permits	31,211	-	-	-	-	-	-	31,211
Investment Income	9,153	-	-	-	-	-	-	9,153
Intergovernmental	608,585	1,277,336	-	406,852	-	677,114	106,859	3,076,746
Charges for Services	769,826	3,055	-	-	-	-	48,002	820,883
Miscellaneous	24,488	15,445	-	-	-	-	34,082	74,015
TOTAL RECEIPTS	5,450,058	1,296,035	421,463	406,852		677,114	285,580	8,537,102
DISBURSEMENTS								
General Government	1,824,908	-	26,233	-	_	96,465	31,894	1,979,500
Public Safety	2,253,868	-	-	-	-	-	227,604	2,481,472
Public Works	-	2,496,223	-	143,536	25,072	-	202,671	2,867,502
Public Assistance	43,796	-	-	-	-	-	-	43,796
Culture and Recreation	-	-	-	-	-	-	14,789	14,789
Capital Outlay	-	-	-	-	-	-	195,876	195,876
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	4,122,572	2,496,223	26,233	143,536	25,072	96,465	672,834	7,582,935
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS								
OVER DISBURSEMENTS	1,327,486	(1,200,188)	395,230	263,316	(25,072)	580,649	(387,254)	954,167
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)								
Transfers in	-	1,262,903	51,002	-	-	-	268,543	1,582,448
Transfers out	(1,449,668)	(5,000)	(100,000)				(27,780)	(1,582,448)
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)	(1,449,668)	1,257,903	(48,998)				240,763	
Net Change in Fund Balances CASH BASIS FUND	(122,182)	57,715	346,232	263,316	(25,072)	580,649	(146,491)	954,167
BALANCES - BEGINNING	948,892	321,050	856,796	655,745	686,494	677,115	1,075,134	5,221,226
CASH BASIS FUND BALANCES - ENDING	\$ 826,710	\$ 378,765	\$1,203,028	\$ 919,061	\$ 661,422	\$ 1,257,764	\$ 928,643	\$ 6,175,393

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

For the Year Ended June 30, 2022

	Fund	ustodial l Balances y 1, 2021	Receipts	_Di	sbursements	Fun	Custodial d Balances e 30, 2022
ASSETS							
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	573,054	\$ 17,713,451	\$	17,825,108	\$	461,397
LIABILITIES							
Due to other governments							
State - Collected by County Treasurer		203,079	1,791,295		1,824,502		169,872
State - Collected by Other Offices		4,426	97,704		92,645		9,485
Schools		158,345	11,805,879		11,834,555		129,669
Educational Service Units		1,295	180,647		180,748		1,194
Technical College		8,091	1,131,329		1,131,937		7,483
Natural Resource Districts		2,296	345,761		345,700		2,357
Fire Districts		2,019	329,806		330,225		1,600
Municipalities		37,879	1,358,702		1,364,610		31,971
Agricultural Society		407	56,895		56,925		377
Drainage Districts		54,423	163,723		192,153		25,993
Others - Collected by County Treasurer		31,680	181,733		184,806		28,607
Others - Collected by Other Offices		69,114	269,977		286,302		52,789
TOTAL LIABILITIES		573,054	17,713,451		17,825,108		461,397
TOTAL NET POSITION	\$		\$ -	\$	-	\$	

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2022

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

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

A. Reporting Entity

Nemaha 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 that 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 regardless of whether the organization has (1) a separately elected governing board, (2) a governing board appointed by a higher level of government, or (3) a jointly appointed board.

Component Unit. These financial statements present the County (the primary government). The Nemaha County 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 V – 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 V (Region) consists of the following counties: Polk, Butler, Saunders, Seward, Lancaster, Otoe, Fillmore, Saline, Thayer, Jefferson, Gage, Johnson, Nemaha, Pawnee, York, and Richardson.

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. Funding is provided by a combination of Federal, State, local, and private funding. The County contributed \$27,757 toward the operation of the Region during fiscal year 2022. 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 the Southeast District Health Department (Department) to provide public health services. The agreement was established under authority of the Interlocal Cooperation Act for services to be provided per Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 71-1626 to 71-1636 (Reissue 2018).

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

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 did not contribute toward the operation of the Department during fiscal year 2022. 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 audited in accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-304(4) (Cum. Supp. 2022). Financial information for the Department is available in that report.

South Region 911 Communication Services (911 Region) – The County has entered into an agreement the governing boards of the Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) of the City of Lincoln, City of Beatrice, City of Crete, City of Falls City, Cass County, Clay County, Fillmore County, Jefferson County, Johnson County, Pawnee County, Nuckolls County, Otoe County, Seward County, Thayer County, and York County to fund the planning, creation, and implementation of a 911 emergency call system for the southeast region of the State of Nebraska.

The governing board is established by interlocal agreement and includes representatives from the participating political subdivisions. Each political subdivision contributes to the financial support of the 911 Region based on formulas developed by the governing board. Funding is provided by a combination of Federal, State, local, and private funding. The County was named the fiscal agent for the 911 Region in 2016, and a separate County fund was created to account for the financial activity. The activity of this fund was included in the financial statements of the County and is included in this report. In the event of the termination of the agreement, assets would be disposed of in accordance with the terms of the agreement.

B. Basis of Presentation

Government-Wide Financial Statements. The Statement of Net Position - 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 Net Position presents the County's non-fiduciary assets in two categories:

Restricted. This category results when constraints are externally imposed on net asset use by creditors, grantors, or contributors, or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. 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.

Unrestricted. This category represents resources that do not meet the definition of the preceding category. Unrestricted resources often have constraints on resources that are imposed by management, but those constraints can be removed or modified.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

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

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 the following: 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, 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 and is primarily funded by State tax receipts.

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

Highway Bridge Buyback Program Fund. This fund is used to account for costs associated with the repair and maintenance of roads and bridges and is primarily funded by State purchase of Federal aid transportation funds at a discounted rate.

Road Bridge Improvement Fund. This fund is to set aside resources for future road and bridge projects and is primarily funded by transfers from other funds.

COVID American Rescue Plan Fund. This is used to account for aid received from the American Rescue Plan Act, Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds and is used for coronavirus aid and assistance in accordance with Federal guidelines.

The County reports the following additional non-major governmental 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.

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

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

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

Capital Project Funds. The Other Capital Projects Fund primarily accounts for all resources received and used for the acquisition or development of major capital improvements.

The County designates fund balances as follows:

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.

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

Unassigned. This portion of the General Fund is 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 Position - Cash Basis and the Statement of Activities - Cash Basis. Receipts are recognized when received, and disbursements are recognized when 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 requires 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 are generally 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 Position

Cash and Cash Equivalents. The County's cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, certificates of deposit, 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 2018) and generally include U.S. Government obligations and securities, which are authorized by the Nebraska Investment Council.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (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 Position. 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 position is reported as restricted when constraints placed on its use are either externally imposed or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. The government-wide statement of net position reports \$2,392,111 of restricted net position which is fully restricted by enabling legislation.

Budgetary Process. The County adopts an annual budget in accordance with the statutory requirements of the Nebraska Budget Act and County Budget Act of 1937. 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.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

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 2018).

At year end, the County's carrying amount of deposits was \$4,917,213 for County funds and \$461,397 for Fiduciary funds. The bank balances for all funds totaled \$5,356,028. For purposes of classifying categories of custodial risk, the bank balances of the County's deposits, as of June 30, 2022, were either entirely insured or collateralized with securities held by the County's agent in the County's name.

The County's carrying value of investments is stated at cost, which approximates market. Investments consisted of \$1,258,180 deposited in the Nebraska Public Agency Investment Trust (NPAIT). NPAIT is a public entity investment pool operated under the direction of a nine-member Board of Trustees. All net income of the trust is determined as of the close of business on each banking day and is credited thereafter pro rata to each participant's account. Net income that has accrued to each participant is converted as of the close of business of each calendar month into additional units, which thereafter are held in each participant's trust account. Since net income of the fund is allocated among participants each time net income is determined, the net asset value remains at \$1.00 per unit. Securities held by NPAIT are not held in the County's name.

3. 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 they 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. Counties may levy taxes in addition to the 50-cent limitation upon a vote of the people.

The levy set in October 2021, for the 2021 taxes, which will be materially collected in May and September 2022, was set at \$.329806/\$100 of assessed valuation. The levy set in October 2020, for the 2020 taxes, which were materially collected in May and September 2021, was set at \$.345263/\$100 of assessed valuation. The amount collected for the 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. The lid may be increased by 1% upon the approval of a three-fourths majority of the County Board.

The tax receipts classification also contains collections from the assessment of inheritance taxes, 911 surcharges, and lodging taxes.

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 23-2334 (Reissue 2022) and may be amended through legislative action.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Continued)

4. Retirement System (Concluded)

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 18. Part-time elected officials may exercise the option to join.

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. Non-vested County contributions are forfeited upon termination. Forfeitures are used to cover a portion of the pension plan's administrative expenses. Prior service benefits are paid directly by the County to the retired employee. The Plan's financial statements, including pension costs and obligations, are audited annually and can be obtained from the State of Nebraska Public Employees Retirement System.

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, 2022, 74 employees contributed \$130,877, and the County contributed \$198,057. Contributions included \$6,946 in cash contributions towards the supplemental law enforcement plan for 16 law enforcement employees. Lastly, the County paid \$478 directly to seven 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 106 counties and local governments 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 for an additional contribution. Each county remains liable for such assessments, regardless of the county's withdrawal from participation or the termination of the agreement, as well as for liabilities of the pool incurred during the county's period of membership.

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.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

(Concluded)

5. <u>Risk Management</u> (Concluded)

	NIRMA		Maximum
	Coverage		Coverage
General Liability Claim	\$ 300,000	\$	5,000,000
Workers' Compensation Claim	\$ 550,000	Statu	tory Limits
Property Damage Claim	\$ 250,000	Insured Value at	
		Repl	acement Cost

The County has not paid any additional assessments to the pool or paid out any amounts that exceeded coverage provided by the pool in the last three fiscal years. There were no significant reductions in insurance coverage from the prior year coverage.

6. Interfund Transfers

Interfund transfers for the year ended June 30, 2022, consisted of the following:

	General	Ir	heritance	Road	N	onmajor	
Transfers to	Fund		Fund	Fund		Funds	Total
Road Fund	\$ 1,262,903	\$		\$ 	\$		\$ 1,262,903
Inheritance Fund	51,002		-	-		-	51,002
Nonmajor Funds	135,763		100,000	5,000		27,780	268,543
Total	\$ 1,449,668	\$	100,000	\$ 5,000	\$	27,780	\$ 1,582,448

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.

In the year ended June 30, 2022, the County made a one-time transfer of \$5,000 from the Road Fund to the Vacation/Sick Leave Claim Reserve Fund to pay the accrued vacation and sick leave earned for road employee leave reserves. Additionally, the County made a one-time transfer of \$25,280 from the 911 Wireless Service Fund to the 911 Wireless Service Holding Fund to set aside funds for future 911 projects. Lastly, the County made a one-time transfer of \$2,500 from the 911 Emergency Management Fund to the 911 Emergency Comm. Study Agreement Fund to repay costs originally paid from the fund.

7. Contingent Liabilities

The County is a defendant in various lawsuits. Although the outcome of these lawsuits is not presently determinable, the County Attorney believes the resolution of these matters will not have a materially adverse effect on the financial condition of the County.

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL GENERAL FUND

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)	
RECEIPTS				(1 (egail (e)	-
Taxes	\$4,185,367	\$4,185,367	\$4,006,795	\$ (178,572)	,
Licenses and Permits	27,750	27,750	31,211	3,461	
Investment Income	5,040	5,040	9,153	4,113	
Intergovernmental	610,948	610,948	608,585	(2,363)	i
Charges for Services	737,936	737,936	769,826	31,890	
Miscellaneous	6,400	6,400	24,488	18,088	
TOTAL RECEIPTS	5,573,441	5,573,441	5,450,058	(123,383)	-
DISBURSEMENTS					
General Government:					
County Board	85,841	85,841	81,359	4,482	
County Clerk	149,208	149,208	147,101	2,107	
County Treasurer	158,795	158,795	157,371	1,424	
County Assessor	176,422	176,422	173,181	3,241	
Election Commissioner	24,300	24,300	20,015	4,285	
Clerk of the District Court	111,633	111,633	107,252	4,381	
County Court System	5,750	5,750	1,916	3,834	
District Judge	56,170	56,170	56,170	-	
Building and Grounds	194,855	194,855	101,009	93,846	
Agricultural Extension Agent	68,840	68,840	56,588	12,252	
Flood Plain Administrator	12,265	12,265	12,231	34	
Co Blg Annex - Multi-Plek Bldg	72,750	72,750	36,577	36,173	
Miscellaneous	1,046,839	1,046,839	874,138	172,701	
Public Safety					
County Sheriff	1,412,168	1,412,168	1,146,400	265,768	
County Attorney	169,367	169,367	169,367	-	
Communication Center	394,758	394,758	317,802	76,956	
County Jail	536,383	536,383	426,364	110,019	
Emergency Management	159,024	159,024	137,310	21,714	
Child Support	18,500	18,500	18,097	403	
Four County Juvenile Services Aid	75,745	75,745	38,528	37,217	
Public Assistance					
Veterans' Service Officer	39,600	39,600	37,797	1,803	
Institutions	4,500	4,500	2,190	2,310	
Relief	5,700	5,700	3,809	1,891	_
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	4,979,413	4,979,413	4,122,572	856,841	_
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS					
OVER DISBURSEMENTS	594,028	594,028	1,327,486	733,458	_
	10			(Continued)	

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL GENERAL FUND

For the Year Ended June 30, 2022

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers in	-	-	-	-
Transfers out	(1,292,903)	(1,292,903)	(1,449,668)	(156,765)
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING				
SOURCES (USES)	(1,292,903)	(1,292,903)	(1,449,668)	(156,765)
Net Change in Fund Balance	(698,875)	(698,875)	(122,182)	576,693
FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING	948,875	948,875	948,892	17_
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 826,710	\$ 576,710
				(C 1 - 1 - 1)

(Concluded)

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL MAJOR FUNDS

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
ROAD FUND				
RECEIPTS				
Taxes	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 199	\$ 199
Intergovernmental	1,003,500	1,003,500	1,277,336	273,836
Charges for Services	-	-	3,055	3,055
Miscellaneous	5,700	5,700	15,445	9,745
TOTAL RECEIPTS	1,009,200	1,009,200	1,296,035	286,835
DISBURSEMENTS	2,588,153	2,588,153	2,496,223	91,930
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS	(1,578,953)	(1,578,953)	(1,200,188)	378,765
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers in	1,262,903	1,262,903	1,262,903	_
Transfers out	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)	_
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING	(2,000)	(3,000)	(2,000)	
SOURCES (USES)	1,257,903	1,257,903	1,257,903	
Net Change in Fund Balance	(321,050)	(321,050)	57,715	378,765
FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING	321,050	321,050	321,050	-
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 378,765	\$ 378,765
INHERITANCE FUND				
RECEIPTS				
Taxes	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 421,463	\$ 346,463
TOTAL RECEIPTS	75,000	75,000	421,463	346,463
DISBURSEMENTS	661,796	661,796	26,233	635,563
EVOCAS (DEPLOYENCY) OF DESCRIPTS				
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS	(586,796)	(586,796)	395,230	982,026
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers in	30,000	30,000	51,002	21,002
Transfers out	(300,000)	(300,000)	(100,000)	200,000
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING	(5 5 5,5 5 5)	(2 2 2 3 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	(200,000)	
SOURCES (USES)	(270,000)	(270,000)	(48,998)	221,002
Net Change in Fund Balance	(856,796)	(856,796)	346,232	1,203,028
FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING	856,796	856,796	856,796	-
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	\$ -	\$ -	\$1,203,028	\$ 1,203,028
	- 20 -			(Continued)

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL MAJOR FUNDS

		Original Budget		Final Budget		Actual	Fi	riance with nal Budget Positive Negative)
HIGHWAY BRIDGE BUYBACK PROGRAM FUND								
RECEIPTS	-							
Intergovernmental	\$	321,685	\$	321,685	\$	406,852	\$	85,167
TOTAL RECEIPTS		321,685		321,685		406,852		85,167
DISBURSEMENTS		977,430		977,430		143,536		833,894
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS								
OVER DISBURSEMENTS		(655,745)		(655,745)		263,316		919,061
		<u> </u>				·		·
Net Change in Fund Balance		(655,745)		(655,745)		263,316		919,061
FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING	Φ.	655,745	Ф.	655,745	Φ.	655,745	Φ.	010.061
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	\$		\$			919,061	\$	919,061
ROAD BRIDGE IMPROVEMENT FUND	_							
RECEIPTS	\$		\$		\$		\$	
DISBURSEMENTS		686,494		686,494		25,072		661,422
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS		(686,494)		(686,494)		(25,072)		661,422
Net Change in Fund Balance		(686,494)		(686,494)		(25,072)		661,422
FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING		686,494		686,494		686,494		-
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	\$	-	\$	-	\$	661,422	\$	661,422
COVID AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUND RECEIPTS	-							
Intergovernmental	\$	677,114	\$	677,114	\$	677,114	\$	
TOTAL RECEIPTS		677,114		677,114		677,114		
DISBURSEMENTS		1,354,229		1,354,229		96,465		1,257,764
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS OVER DISBURSEMENTS		(677,115)		(677,115)		580,649		1,257,764
Net Change in Fund Balance		(677,115)		(677,115)		580,649		1,257,764
FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING		677,115		677,115		677,115		-,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	\$	-	\$	-	\$	1,257,764	\$	1,257,764
								(Concluded)

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL NONMAJOR FUNDS

		Original Budget		Final Budget		Actual	Fin I	iance with al Budget Positive Jegative)
ROAD EQUIPMENT FUND			_		_		_	
Receipts	\$	75,000	\$	75,000	\$	22,842	\$	(52,158)
Disbursements		(243,572)		(243,572)		(154,364)		89,208
Transfers in		100,000		100,000		100,000		-
Transfers out								
Net Change in Fund Balance		(68,572)		(68,572)		(31,522)		37,050
Fund Balance - Beginning		68,572		68,572		68,572		-
Fund Balance - Ending	\$	_	\$	-	\$	37,050	\$	37,050
COUNTY VISITORS' PROMOTION FUND								
Receipts	\$	7,500	\$	7,500	\$	11,814	\$	4,314
Disbursements		(18,071)		(18,071)		(5,289)		12,782
Net Change in Fund Balance		(10,571)		(10,571)		6,525		17,096
Fund Balance - Beginning		10,571		10,571		10,571		-
Fund Balance - Ending	\$		\$	-	\$	17,096	\$	17,096
COUNTY VISITORS' IMPROVEMENT FUND	_							
Receipts	\$	7,500	\$	7,500	\$	11,814	\$	4,314
Disbursements		(30,341)		(30,341)		(9,500)		20,841
Net Change in Fund Balance		(22,841)		(22,841)		2,314		25,155
Fund Balance - Beginning		22,841		22,841		22,841		
Fund Balance - Ending	\$		\$	-	\$	25,155	\$	25,155
PRESERVATION AND MODERNIZATION FUND								
Receipts	\$	5,000	\$	5,000	\$	6,348	\$	1,348
Disbursements		(6,895)		(6,895)		(4,226)		2,669
Net Change in Fund Balance		(1,895)		(1,895)		2,122		4,017
Fund Balance - Beginning		1,895		1,895		1,895		
Fund Balance - Ending	\$	-	\$	-	\$	4,017	\$	4,017
VACATION/SICK LEAVE CLAIM RESERVE FUND	_							
Receipts	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Disbursements		(25,000)		(25,000)		(9,717)		15,283
Transfers in		5,000		5,000		5,000		-
Transfers out		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>		<u> </u>		<u> </u>
Net Change in Fund Balance		(20,000)		(20,000)		(4,717)		15,283
Fund Balance - Beginning		20,000		20,000		20,000		
Fund Balance - Ending	\$		\$	-	\$	15,283	\$	15,283
		- 22 -					(0	Continued)

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL NONMAJOR FUNDS

	(Original		Final			Fin	iance with al Budget Positive
		Budget		Budget		Actual	(N	legative)
JUVENILE DIVERSION PROGRAM FUND								
Receipts	\$	33,206	\$	33,206	\$	36,005	\$	2,799
Disbursements		(33,206)		(33,206)		(1,833)		31,373
Net Change in Fund Balance		-		-		34,172		34,172
Fund Balance - Beginning				_				
Fund Balance - Ending	\$				\$	34,172	\$	34,172
DIVERSION PROGRAM STOP FUND								
Receipts	\$	2,500	\$	2,500	\$	1,500	\$	(1,000)
Disbursements		(7,618)		(7,618)		(3,622)		3,996
Net Change in Fund Balance		(5,118)		(5,118)		(2,122)		2,996
Fund Balance - Beginning		5,118		5,118		5,118		_
Fund Balance - Ending	\$	-	\$	-	\$	2,996	\$	2,996
FEDERAL DRUG FORFEITURE FUND Receipts	- \$	10,000	\$	10,000	\$		\$	(10,000)
Disbursements	Ψ	(10,500)	Ψ	(10,500)	Ψ	_	Ψ	10,500
Net Change in Fund Balance		(500)		(500)				500
Fund Balance - Beginning		500		500		500		-
Fund Balance - Ending	\$	-	\$		\$	500	\$	500
Ü								
CANINE DOG FUND					_		_	
Receipts	\$	7,500	\$	7,500	\$	- (0.4.7)	\$	(7,500)
Disbursements		(8,098)		(8,098)		(945)		7,153
Transfers in		-		-		500		500
Transfers out		(500)		(500)		(445)		1.52
Net Change in Fund Balance		(598)		(598)		(445)		153
Fund Balance - Beginning	\$	598	\$	598	\$	598	\$	152
Fund Balance - Ending	<u> </u>		<u> </u>		<u> </u>	153	<u> </u>	153
FEDERAL CRIME GRANT FUND	_							
Receipts	\$	3,000	\$	3,000	\$	1,336	\$	(1,664)
Disbursements		(3,723)		(3,723)		(1,800)		1,923
Net Change in Fund Balance		(723)		(723)		(464)		259
Fund Balance - Beginning		723		723		723		
Fund Balance - Ending	\$	-	\$	_	\$	259	\$	259

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL NONMAJOR FUNDS

For the Year Ended June 30, 2022

		Original		Final			Fi	riance with nal Budget Positive
		Budget		Budget		Actual	(Negative)
DISASTER FUND	_							
Receipts	\$	500,000	\$	500,000	\$	28,945	\$	(471,055)
Disbursements		(710,991)		(710,991)		(38,590)		672,401
Net Change in Fund Balance		(210,991)		(210,991)		(9,645)		201,346
Fund Balance - Beginning		210,991		210,991		210,991		
Fund Balance - Ending	\$		\$	_	\$	201,346	\$	201,346
911 EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FUND								
Receipts	\$	275,000	\$	275,000	\$	24,521	\$	(250,479)
Disbursements		(332,551)		(332,551)		(40,228)		292,323
Transfers in		30,000		30,000		-		(30,000)
Transfers out		-		-		(2,500)		(2,500)
Net Change in Fund Balance		(27,551)		(27,551)		(18,207)		9,344
Fund Balance - Beginning		27,551		27,551		27,551		-
Fund Balance - Ending	\$	-	\$	-	\$	9,344	\$	9,344
911 WIRELESS SERVICE FUND								
Receipts	\$	48,488	\$	48,488	\$	48,488	\$	-
Disbursements		(47,500)		(47,500)		(23,208)		24,292
Transfers in		-		-		-		-
Transfers out		(988)		(988)		(25,280)		(24,292)
Net Change in Fund Balance		-		-		-		-
Fund Balance - Beginning								
Fund Balance - Ending	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
911 WIRELESS SERVICE HOLDING FUND								
Receipts	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Disbursements		(229,683)		(229,683)		(95,060)		134,623
Transfers in		988		988		25,280		24,292
Transfers out		-		-		-		-
Net Change in Fund Balance		(228,695)		(228,695)		(69,780)		158,915
Fund Balance - Beginning		228,695		228,695		228,695		
Fund Balance - Ending	\$		\$		\$	158,915	\$	158,915
LAW ENFORCEMENT OPERATING FUND								
Receipts	\$	10,000	\$	10,000	\$	_	\$	(10,000)
Disbursements	Ψ	(10,071)	Ψ	(10,071)	Ψ	_	Ψ	10,071
Net Change in Fund Balance		(71)		(71)				71
Fund Balance - Beginning		71		71		71		, 1
Fund Balance - Ending	\$		\$		\$	71	\$	71
·			<u> </u>			, 1	<u> </u>	(Cti1)

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL NONMAJOR FUNDS

		Original Budget		Final Budget		Actual	Fi	riance with nal Budget Positive Negative)
JAIL COMMISSARY FUND	_							
Receipts	\$	6,000	\$	6,000	\$	6,889	\$	889
Disbursements		(17,856)		(17,856)		(3,925)		13,931
Net Change in Fund Balance		(11,856)		(11,856)		2,964		14,820
Fund Balance - Beginning		11,856		11,856		11,918		62
Fund Balance - Ending	\$	-	\$		\$	14,882	\$	14,882
COUNTY BUILDINGS FUND								
Receipts	- \$	_	\$	_	\$	_	\$	_
Disbursements	4	(250,000)	Ψ	(250,000)	4	(12,228)	4	237,772
Transfers in		200,000		200,000		(12,220)		(200,000)
Transfers out		-				_		(200,000)
Net Change in Fund Balance		(50,000)		(50,000)		(12,228)		37,772
Fund Balance - Beginning		50,000		50,000		50,000		37,772
Fund Balance - Ending	\$	-	\$	-	\$	37,772	\$	37,772
911 EMERGENCY COMM. STUDY AGREEMENT FUND								
Receipts	- \$	350,000	\$	350,000	\$	75,078	\$	(274,922)
Disbursements		(324,962)		(324,962)		(56,983)		267,979
Transfers in		-		-		2,500		2,500
Transfers out		(30,000)		(30,000)		-		30,000
Net Change in Fund Balance		(4,962)		(4,962)		20,595		25,557
Fund Balance - Beginning		4,962		4,962		4,962		-
Fund Balance - Ending	\$	-	\$	-	\$	25,557	\$	25,557
OTHER CAPITAL PROJECTS FUND								
Receipts	- \$	10,000	\$	10,000	\$	10,000	\$	_
Disbursements	Ψ	(420,128)	Ψ	(420,128)	Ψ	(211,316)	Ψ	208,812
Transfers in		(120,120)		(120,120)		135,263		135,263
Transfers out		- -		- -		155,205		155,205
Net Change in Fund Balance		(410,128)		(410,128)		(66,053)		344,075
Fund Balance - Beginning		410,128		410,128		410,128		JTT,U/J -
Fund Balance - Beginning Fund Balance - Ending	\$	710,120	\$	710,120	\$	344,075	\$	344,075
i und Datanee - Ending	—		Ф		—	J 11, 0/J	<u>Ф</u>	J 11 ,0/J
							(Concluded)

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

For the Year Ended June 30, 2022

	Road Equipment Fund	County Visitors' Promotion Fund	County Visitors' Improvement Fund	Preservation and Modernization Fund	Vacation/Sick Leave Claim Reserve Fund
RECEIPTS	•				
Taxes	\$ -	\$ 11,814	\$ 11,814	\$ -	\$ -
Intergovernmental	-	=	=	-	=
Charges for Services	-	-	-	6,348	=
Miscellaneous	22,842	- 11.014	11.014	- (240	
TOTAL RECEIPTS	22,842	11,814	11,814	6,348	
DISBURSEMENTS					
General Government	_	_	_	4,226	_
Public Safety	_	_	<u>-</u>	7,220	_
Public Works	154,364	_	<u>-</u>	-	9,717
Culture and Recreation	134,304	5,289	9,500	_	7,717
Capital Outlay	_	5,267	7,500	_	_
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	154,364	5,289	9,500	4,226	9,717
TOTAL DISDORSEMENTS	134,304	3,267	<u></u>	7,220	
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS					
OVER DISBURSEMENTS	(131,522)	6,525	2,314	2,122	(9,717)
S (Die Die De Stad Die 15	(101,022)				(2,111)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)					
Transfers in	100,000	-	-	-	5,000
Transfers out	-	=	=	-	· -
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING					
SOURCES (USES)	100,000	-	_	-	5,000
,					
Net Change in Fund Balances	(31,522)	6,525	2,314	2,122	(4,717)
FUND BALANCES - BEGINNING	68,572	10,571	22,841	1,895	20,000
FUND BALANCES - ENDING	\$ 37,050	\$ 17,096	\$ 25,155	\$ 4,017	\$ 15,283
FUND BALANCES:					
Restricted for:					
Visitor Promotion		17,096	25,155		
911 Emergency Services	-	17,090	25,155	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Law Enforcement	_	_	<u>-</u>	-	_
Preservation of Records	_	_		4,017	_
Committed to:				7,017	
Law Enforcement	_	_	_	_	_
County Buildings	_	_	_	_	_
Future Compensation Benefts	_	_	_	_	15,283
Disaster Recovery	_	_	_	_	15,205
911 Emergency Services	_	_	-	-	- -
Other Projects	-	<u>-</u>	- -	_	-
Road Equipment	37,050	_	-	-	- -
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	\$ 37,050	\$ 17,096	\$ 25,155	\$ 4,017	\$ 15,283
TO THE POINT DIEDINGED	Ψ 37,030	Ψ 17,070	Ψ 23,133	Ψ Τ,017	Ψ 13,203

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

For the Year Ended June 30, 2022

	Juvenile Diversion Program Fund	Diversion Program Stop Fund	Federal Drug Forfeiture Fund	Canine Dog Fund	Federal Crime Grant Fund	Disaster Fund
RECEIPTS						
Taxes	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Intergovernmental	-	1,500	-	-	1,336	28,945
Charges for Services	36,005	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL RECEIPTS	36,005	1,500			1,336	28,945
DISBURSEMENTS						
General Government	_	_	_	_	_	_
Public Safety	1,833	3,622	_	945	1,800	_
Public Works	-	-	_	-	-	38,590
Culture and Recreation	_	_	_	_	_	-
Capital Outlay	_	_	_	_	_	_
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	1,833	3,622		945	1,800	38,590
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS						
OVER DISBURSEMENTS	34,172	(2,122)		(945)	(464)	(9,645)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)						
Transfers in	-	-	-	500	-	-
Transfers out	-	_	-	_	_	-
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING						
SOURCES (USES)	-	-	-	500	-	-
Net Change in Fund Balances	34,172	(2,122)	-	(445)	(464)	(9,645)
FUND BALANCES - BEGINNING		5,118	500	598	723	210,991
FUND BALANCES - ENDING	\$ 34,172	\$ 2,996	\$ 500	\$ 153	\$ 259	\$ 201,346
FUND BALANCES:						
Restricted for:						
Visitor Promotion	-	-	-	-	_	-
911 Emergency Services	-	-	-	=	-	=
Law Enforcement	-	-	500	-	259	-
Preservation of Records	-	-	-	-	-	-
Committed to:						
Law Enforcement	34,172	2,996	-	153	=	=
County Buildings	-	-	-	-	-	-
Future Compensation Benefts	-	-	-	-	-	-
Disaster Recovery	-	-	-	-	-	201,346
911 Emergency Services	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Projects	-	-	-	-	-	-
Road Equipment TOTAL FUND BALANCES	\$ 34,172	\$ 2,996	\$ 500	\$ 153	\$ 259	\$ 201,346

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

For the Year Ended June 30, 2022

	Mai	911 nergency nagement Fund	911 Wireles Service Fund		Se	Vireless rvice ng Fund	Enford Open	aw cement rating and		Jail nmissary Fund
RECEIPTS	ď	24.521	¢ 40.40	00	ø		ď		¢	
Taxes Intergovernmental	\$	24,521	\$ 48,48	88	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Charges for Services		_		_				_		5,649
Miscellaneous		_		_				_		1,240
TOTAL RECEIPTS		24,521	48,48	38		<u> </u>				6,889
DISBURSEMENTS										
General Government		_		_		_		_		_
Public Safety		40,228	23,20)8		95,060		_		3,925
Public Works		-0,220	23,20	-		-		_		5,725
Culture and Recreation		_		_		_		_		_
Capital Outlay		_		_		_		_		_
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		40,228	23,20)8		95,060		_		3,925
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS										
OVER DISBURSEMENTS		(15,707)	25,28	30_		(95,060)				2,964
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)										
Transfers in		_		_		25,280		_		_
Transfers out		(2,500)	(25,28	30)		-		_		_
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING		(=,= = =)	(== ;= =	, , ,						
SOURCES (USES)		(2,500)	(25,28	30)		25,280				
Net Change in Fund Balances		(18,207)		_		(69,780)		_		2,964
FUND BALANCES - BEGINNING		27,551		_		228,695		71		11,918
FUND BALANCES - ENDING	\$	9,344	\$	_	\$ 1	58,915	\$	71	\$	14,882
FUND BALANCES:										
Restricted for:										
Visitor Promotion		_		_		_		_		_
911 Emergency Services		9,344		_	1	58,915		_		_
Law Enforcement		-		_		, -		_		_
Preservation of Records		-		_		_		_		-
Committed to:										
Law Enforcement		-		-		-		71		14,882
County Buildings		-		-		-		-		-
Future Compensation Benefts		-		-		-		-		-
Disaster Recovery		-		-		-		-		-
911 Emergency Services		-		-		-		-		-
Other Projects		-		-		-		-		-
Road Equipment		_		_				_		
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	\$	9,344	\$	<u> </u>	\$ 1	58,915	\$	71	\$	14,882

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

For the Year Ended June 30, 2022

	County Buildings Fund	911 Emergency Comm. Study Agreement Fund	Other Capital Projects Fund	Total Nonmajor Funds
RECEIPTS	Ф	Ф	Φ.	Φ 06.627
Taxes	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 96,637
Intergovernmental	-	75,078	-	106,859
Charges for Services Miscellaneous	-	-	10,000	48,002
TOTAL RECEIPTS		75,078	10,000	34,082 285,580
TOTAL RECEIPTS		/3,078	10,000	283,380
DISBURSEMENTS				
General Government	12,228	-	15,440	31,894
Public Safety	-	56,983	- -	227,604
Public Works	-	_	-	202,671
Culture and Recreation	-	-	-	14,789
Capital Outlay	-	-	195,876	195,876
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	12,228	56,983	211,316	672,834
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF RECEIPTS				
OVER DISBURSEMENTS	(12,228)	18,095	(201,316)	(387,254)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers in	_	2,500	135,263	268,543
Transfers out	_	2,500	133,203	(27,780)
TOTAL OTHER FINANCING				(27,700)
SOURCES (USES)	_	2,500	135,263	240,763
SOURCES (OSES)		2,300	133,203	240,703
Net Change in Fund Balances	(12,228)	20,595	(66,053)	(146,491)
FUND BALANCES - BEGINNING	50,000	4,962	410,128	1,075,134
FUND BALANCES - ENDING	\$ 37,772	\$ 25,557	\$ 344,075	\$ 928,643
TIND DAY ANGEG				
FUND BALANCES: Restricted for:				
Visitor Promotion				42,251
911 Emergency Services	-	<u>-</u>	-	168,259
Law Enforcement	_	_	<u>-</u>	759
Preservation of Records	_	_	_	4,017
Committed to:				4,017
Law Enforcement	_	_	_	52,274
County Buildings	37,772	_	_	37,772
Future Compensation Benefts	37,772	_	_	15,283
Disaster Recovery	_	_	_	201,346
911 Emergency Services	_	25,557	_	25,557
Other Projects	_	-	344,075	344,075
Road Equipment	_	-	-	37,050
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	\$ 37,772	\$ 25,557	\$ 344,075	\$ 928,643

(Concluded)

NEMAHA COUNTY SCHEDULE OF OFFICE ACTIVITIES

	County Clerk		Di	k of the istrict		ounty heriff	County ttorney	ension ffice	S	eterans' ervice officer	Total
BALANCES JULY 1, 2021	\$ 8,2	<u> </u>	\$	67,054	\$	4,474	\$ 5,910	\$ 25	\$	2,833	\$ 88,583
RECEIPTS											
Taxes		-		-		5,997	-	-		-	5,997
Licenses and Permits	1,6	2		-		700	-	-		-	2,312
Intergovernmental		-		-		5,037	-	-		-	5,037
Charges for Services	74,33	7		17,416		66,158	2,868	-		-	160,779
Miscellaneous	1,34	5		-		1,946	-	4		-	3,295
State Fees	87,6	1		9,637		416	-	-		-	97,704
Other Liabilities		1	1	180,353		89,132	 421	 			269,977
TOTAL RECEIPTS	165,0	6	2	207,406	1	69,386	3,289	4		_	545,101
DISBURSEMENTS											
Payments to County Treasurer	75,43	2		17,500		77,916	2,858	_		_	173,706
Payments to State Treasurer	81,64	5		10,584		416	_	_		_	92,645
Petty Cash & Other Payments	1,34	5		_		1,946	-	_		_	3,291
Other Liabilities	,	1	1	196,784		89,026	421	_		_	286,302
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	158,49	3	2	224,868	1	69,304	3,279	-		_	555,944
BALANCES JUNE 30, 2022	\$ 14,8	0 =	\$	49,592	\$	4,556	\$ 5,920	\$ 29	\$	2,833	\$ 77,740
BALANCES CONSIST OF:											
Due to County Treasurer	\$ 5,45	9	\$	1,493	\$	1,728	\$ 1,124	\$ 4	\$	2,833	\$ 12,641
Petty Cash	30	0		-		2,500	-	25		-	2,825
Due to State Treasurer	9,0	1		434		-	-	-		-	9,485
Due to Others				47,665		328	 4,796	 			 52,789
BALANCES JUNE 30, 2022	\$ 14,8	0	\$	49,592	\$	4,556	\$ 5,920	\$ 29	\$	2,833	\$ 77,740

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

June 30, 2022

Item	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Tax Certified by Assessor					
Real Estate	\$ 14,931,468	\$ 15,270,032	\$ 14,956,668	\$ 14,754,218	\$ 15,266,415
Personal and Specials	841,344	635,628	989,643	1,007,850	1,064,907
Total	15,772,812	15,905,660	15,946,311	15,762,068	16,331,322
Corrections					
Additions	4,550	1,216	1,878	-	-
Deductions	(10,995)	(6,722)	(5,478)	(2,528)	(2,566)
Net Additions/					
(Deductions)	(6,445)	(5,506)	(3,600)	(2,528)	(2,566)
Corrected Certified Tax	15,766,367	15,900,154	15,942,711	15,759,540	16,328,756
Net Tax Collected by County Treasurer during Fiscal Year Ending:					
June 30, 2018	9,855,874	-	-	-	-
June 30, 2019	5,883,342	9,873,497	-	-	-
June 30, 2020	15,264	6,004,425	9,873,258	-	-
June 30, 2021	7,422	13,199	6,047,504	10,205,773	-
June 30, 2022	864	4,491	9,295	5,539,704	11,148,944
Total Net Collections	15,762,766	15,895,612	15,930,057	15,745,477	11,148,944
Total Uncollected Tax	\$ 3,601	\$ 4,542	\$ 12,654	\$ 14,063	\$ 5,179,812
Percentage Uncollected Tax	0.02%	0.03%	0.08%	0.09%	31.72%

Note: Tax refunds are netted against tax collections to determine Net Tax Collected.



NEBRASKA AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Mike Foley State Auditor

Mike.Foley@nebraska.gov PO Box 98917 State Capitol, Suite 2303 Lincoln, Nebraska 68509 402-471-2111, FAX 402-471-3301 auditors.nebraska.gov

NEMAHA 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 Commissioners Nemaha County, Nebraska

We have audited, 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, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Nemaha County, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated May 11, 2023. 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 Nemaha County Hospital, a component unit of Nemaha County.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the County's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the 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 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, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a 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 of this section 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. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. We consider the following deficiency in the County's internal control to be a significant deficiency:

• The County offices lacked a segregation of duties, as 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. Inadequate segregation of duties could lead to the misappropriation of assets or improper reporting. Due to a limited number of personnel, an adequate segregation of duties may not be possible without additional cost.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Nemaha 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 financial statements. 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*.

Additional Items

We also noted certain matters that we reported to the management of Nemaha County in a separate letter dated May 11, 2023.

Nemaha County's Response to Findings

Nemaha County declined to respond to the finding described above.

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 results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the County'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 County's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

May 11, 2023

Mark Avery, CPA Assistant Deputy Auditor Lincoln, Nebraska

Mark hery



NEBRASKA AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

Mike Foley State Auditor

Mike.Foley@nebraska.gov PO Box 98917 State Capitol, Suite 2303 Lincoln, Nebraska 68509 402-471-2111, FAX 402-471-3301 auditors.nebraska.gov

May 11, 2023

Board of Commissioners Nemaha County, Nebraska

Dear Commissioners:

We have audited the basic financial statements of Nemaha County (County) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022, and have issued our report thereon dated May 11, 2023. 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 following areas:

COUNTY BOARD

Employees Receiving Wages as Contractors

We noted three County employees were paid wages during the fiscal year through the claims process instead of the payroll process, and as a result retirement contributions and payroll taxes were not correctly withheld.

In March 2021, the County entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the governing boards of Johnson County, Pawnee County, and Richardson County for the purpose of obtaining County Juvenile Services Aid Program Funds and pooling resources to provide juvenile diversion services for all of the counties involved. Nemaha County was named the fiscal agent for the purposes of applying for the program funds.

During the fiscal year, the County Board paid three of its employees the following additional wages through the claims process as independent contractors for diversion services provided to individuals over 18 years old and under 11 years old, as part of the four-county juvenile services program:

Employee Title	Claim Date	Amount
Four County Diversion Director (Terminated February 2022)	9/1/21 - 2/2/22	\$ 1,018
Four County Diversion Director	4/13/22	\$ 81
Four County Diversion Coordinator	4/13/22	\$ 149
Total		\$ 1,248

However, there were no signed service agreements on file with these three employees to pay them as independent contractors. Further, based on a discussion with the County Diversion Office, the County, in consultation with the other three counties, was responsible for hiring the Diversion Office employees, and overseeing the services provided, including when, how, and to whom the diversion services were provided. The Memorandum of Understanding also stated that the County will "employee [sic] individual(s) to implement the planned services throughout the four-county area." Therefore, it appears these individuals had an employer-employee relationship with the County.

Internal Revenue Service (IRS) Publication 15-A (2022), "Employer's Supplemental Tax Guide," requires an employer to withhold Federal income taxes, social security, and Medicare taxes and pay unemployment tax on wages paid to an employee. If an employee is misclassified as an independent contractor, the employer may be liable for employment taxes for that worker.

The IRS Publication also states, "Under common-law rules, anyone who performs services for you is your employee if you can control what will be done and how it will be done." When employees are paid as independent contractors, the County does not comply with IRS regulations.

Further, we noted that all three employees were members of County Employees' Retirement Plan [Plan], as they each had retirement contributions withheld from their wages paid through the payroll process during the fiscal year. According to the Nebraska County Employees Retirement System Handbook, revised January 2022, "Once you become a member, you are subject to all provisions of the Plan and cannot withdraw funds or cancel participation until you terminate employment at all employers participating in the plan."

Neb. Rev. Stat. § 23-2308(2) (Reissue 2022) of the County Employees Retirement Act states the following:

The county clerk shall pay to the board or an entity designated by the board an amount equal to two hundred fifty percent of the amounts deducted from the compensation of employees in accordance with the provisions of section 23-2307, which two hundred fifty percent equals the employees' contributions plus the county's contributions of one hundred fifty percent of the employees' contributions.

Further, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 23-2301(5)(a) (Reissue 2022) of the Act defines compensation as "gross wages or salaries payable to the member for personal services performed during the plan year." Therefore, the County should have withheld retirement contributions from the wages paid through the claims process.

Good internal controls and sound accounting practices require the County Board to implement procedures to ensure that employees are not misclassified as independent contractors, and the County is properly withholding taxes and retirement contributions, if applicable, on employee wages.

Without such procedures, there is an increased risk for not only noncompliance with IRS regulations but also loss or misuse of County funds.

We recommend the County Board implement procedures to ensure employees are not misclassified as independent contractors, and the County is properly withholding taxes and retirement contributions, if applicable, on employee wages.

Lack of Bidding for Gravel Purchases

We noted that the County Board did not obtain bids for the purchase of gravel for county roads. However, the County paid a total of \$763,974 to Martin Marietta Materials, Inc., during the fiscal year for the purchase of gravel.

Neb. Rev. Stat. § 39-810(1)(c) (Cum. Supp. 2022) states the following:

All contracts for materials for repairing, erecting, and constructing bridges and approaches thereto or culverts or for the purchase of gravel for roads, the cost and expense of which exceed twenty thousand dollars, shall be let to the lowest responsible bidder, but the board may reject any and all bids submitted for such materials.

Additionally, good internal controls and sound business practices require procedures to ensure that all contracts for road gravel exceeding an estimated value of \$20,000 are properly bid and let to the lowest bidder, and documentation of the bidding process is maintained.

When required bidding procedures are not followed for road gravel purchases exceeding \$20,000, the County is not in compliance with State statute, and there is an increased risk for the loss and/or misuse of County funds.

We recommend the County Board implement procedures to ensure statutory bidding requirements are followed for all road gravel purchases.

COUNTY ATTORNEY

Unknown Trust Balance

As of June 30, 2022, the County Attorney had a trust balance of \$4,796, but he could not identify the recipient(s) of those funds. Although that amount has decreased slightly over the years, this issue has been noted in the prior 12 audit reports.

Neb. Rev. Stat. § 23-1207 (Reissue 2022) says, in relevant part, the following:

- (1) It shall be the duty of the county attorney, whenever he or she shall receive any money or other property in his or her official capacity, to give to the person paying or depositing such money or other property duplicate receipts, one of which shall be filed by such person with the county clerk.
- (2) Whenever any such money is received by the county attorney, he or she shall carefully manage it and may, when the money cannot immediately be paid out to its rightful owner, deposit the money in interest-bearing accounts in insured banking or savings institutions. Any interest accrued from such deposit shall be paid over to the county treasurer to be credited to the county general fund, except that when the funds so deposited belonged to a deceased person whose personal representative has not yet been appointed by a court of competent jurisdiction, then the interest accruing on such money shall be paid to the estate of such person after the appointment of a personal representative and upon order of the court.
- (3) <u>Any property other than money</u> which is received by the county attorney shall be held by him or her in safekeeping until claimed by the rightful owner or, if there is a dispute as to the ownership of such property, until ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction to give possession of the property to some person.

(Emphasis added.) Additionally, Neb. Rev. Stat. § 84-1213(1) (Reissue 2014) states the following, as is relevant:

All records made or received by or under the authority of or coming into the custody, control, or possession of state or local agencies in the course of their public duties are the property of the state or local agency concerned

Thus, an elected official receives and assumes responsibility for properly managing any records or other property, including trust balances, held by the office at the time he or she undertakes his or her official duties. It is important, therefore, that the proper documentation be created – through the issuance of duplicate receipts, per § 23-1207(1) – and maintained to allow for the proper identification of the beneficiaries for any trust funds held by the County Attorney.

Furthermore, because they have been held for more than three years, the trust funds at issue must be presumed abandoned property under the Uniform Disposition of Unclaimed Property Act (Act), as set out at Neb. Rev. Stat. § 69-1301 et. seq. (Reissue 2018, Cum. Supp. 2022), and remitted to the State Treasurer.

Neb. Rev. Stat. § 69-1307.01 (Reissue 2018) of the Act states the following:

Except as otherwise provided by law, all intangible personal property held for the owner by any court, public corporation, public authority, or public officer of this state, or a political subdivision thereof, that has remained unclaimed by the owner for more than three years is presumed abandoned.

Neb. Rev. Stat. § 69-1310 (Cum. Supp. 2022) provides, in relevant part, the following:

(a) <u>Every person holding funds or other property, tangible or intangible, presumed abandoned under the Uniform Disposition of Unclaimed Property Act shall report to the State Treasurer with respect to the property as hereinafter provided.</u>

* * * *

(d) The report shall be filed before November 1 of each year as of June 30 next preceding, but the report of life insurance corporations shall be filed before May 1 of each year as of December 31 next preceding. A one-time supplemental report shall be filed by life insurance corporations with regard to property subject to section 69-1307.05 before November 1, 2003, as of December 31, 2002, as if section 69-1307.05 had been in effect before January 1, 2003. The property must accompany the report unless excused by the State Treasurer for good cause. The State Treasurer may postpone the reporting date upon written request by any person required to file a report. Any person holding intangible property presumed abandoned due to be reported with a cumulative value of fifty dollars or less in a single reporting year shall not be required to report the property in that year but shall report the property in any year when the property value or total report value exceeds fifty dollars.

(Emphasis added.) Good internal controls require procedures to ensure that proper documentation is created – through the issuance of duplicate receipts, per § 23-1207(1) – and maintained to allow for the accurate identification of the beneficiaries for all money held in trust by the County Attorney's office. Those same procedures should ensure also that any such funds presumed abandoned are remitted timely to the State Treasurer, as required by statute.

Without such procedures, there is an increased risk for not only failure to comply with State statute but also loss, theft, or misuse of funds.

We recommend the implementation of procedures to ensure the following: 1) proper documentation is created – through the issuance of duplicate receipts, per § 23-1207(1) – and maintained to allow for the accurate identification of the beneficiaries for all trust funds held by the County Attorney's office; and 2) any such money presumed abandoned is remitted timely to the State Treasurer, as required by statute.

COUNTY OVERALL

Segregation of Duties

We noted that the offices of the County each lacked a segregation of duties, as one person could handle all aspects of processing a transaction from beginning to end. A lack of segregation of duties increases the risk of possible errors or irregularities; however, due to a limited number of personnel, an adequate segregation of duties may not be possible without additional cost.

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.

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.

* * * * *

It should be noted this report is critical in nature, as 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 management with 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 that indicate corrective action has been taken were not verified at this time, but they will be verified in the next audit.

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 County'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 County's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Sincerely,

Mark Avery, CPA

Assistant Deputy Auditor