# **STATE OF MINNESOTA** Office of the State Auditor



**Rebecca Otto State Auditor** 

# FREEBORN COUNTY ALBERT LEA, MINNESOTA

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

# **Description of the Office of the State Auditor**

The mission of the Office of the State Auditor is to oversee local government finances for Minnesota taxpayers by helping to ensure financial integrity and accountability in local governmental financial activities.

Through financial, compliance, and special audits, the State Auditor oversees and ensures that local government funds are used for the purposes intended by law and that local governments hold themselves to the highest standards of financial accountability.

The State Auditor performs approximately 160 financial and compliance audits per year and has oversight responsibilities for over 3,300 local units of government throughout the state. The office currently maintains five divisions:

Audit Practice - conducts financial and legal compliance audits of local governments;

**Government Information** - collects and analyzes financial information for cities, towns, counties, and special districts;

**Legal/Special Investigations** - provides legal analysis and counsel to the Office and responds to outside inquiries about Minnesota local government law; as well as investigates allegations of misfeasance, malfeasance, and nonfeasance in local government;

**Pension** - monitors investment, financial, and actuarial reporting for approximately 730 public pension funds; and

**Tax Increment Financing** - promotes compliance and accountability in local governments' use of tax increment financing through financial and compliance audits.

The State Auditor serves on the State Executive Council, State Board of Investment, Land Exchange Board, Public Employees Retirement Association Board, Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, and the Rural Finance Authority Board.

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# Year Ended December 31, 2010



Audit Practice Division Office of the State Auditor State of Minnesota

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**Introductory Section** 

### ORGANIZATION DECEMBER 31, 2010

Office	Name	Term Expires
Board of County Commissioners		
District 1	Glen Mathiason	January 2013
District 2	Daniel Belshan	January 2011
District 3	James Nelson	January 2013
District 4	Christopher Shoff*	January 2011
District 5	Mike Lee	January 2013
County Officers		
Elected		
Attorney	Craig Nelson	January 2011
Auditor/Treasurer	Dennis A. Distad	January 2011
District Judge	John Chesterman	January 2011
District Judge	Steven Schwab	January 2011
Recorder	Kelly Callahan	January 2011
Registrar of Titles	Kelly Callahan	January 2011
Sheriff	Mark Harig	January 2011
Appointed		
Administrator	John Kluever	Indefinite
Assessor	Ryan Rasmussen	Indefinite
County Engineer	Susan Miller	Indefinite
Court Services	Tom Jensen	Indefinite
Court Administrator	Kristi Maiers	Indefinite
Finance Manager	William Helfritz	Indefinite
Veterans Service Officer	Jon Rhiger	Indefinite

\*Chair

### ORGANIZATION DECEMBER 31, 2010 (Continued)

Office	Name	Term Expires
Human Services		
Board		
Chair	Daniel Belshan	January 2011
Vice Chair	Vacant	January 2013
Member	James Nelson	January 2013
Member	Christopher Shoff	January 2011
Member	Glen Mathiason	January 2013
Appointed		
Director	Brian Buhmann	Indefinite
Accountant	Alan Olson	Indefinite

**Financial Section** 



STATE OF MINNESOTA OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

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### **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

Board of County Commissioners Freeborn County

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Freeborn County, Minnesota, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2010, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of Freeborn 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; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*. 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 that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Freeborn County as of December 31, 2010, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, thereof for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Page 3

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis and Required Supplementary Information as listed in the table of contents be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. In accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise Freeborn County's basic financial statements taken as a whole. The supplementary information listed in the table of contents, including the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards required by OMB Circular A-133, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. The supplementary information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. This 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 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.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued a report dated September 27, 2011, on our consideration of Freeborn County's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, 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 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.

/s/Rebecca Otto

REBECCA OTTO STATE AUDITOR /s/Greg Hierlinger

GREG HIERLINGER, CPA DEPUTY STATE AUDITOR

September 27, 2011

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

### MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS DECEMBER 31, 2010 (Unaudited)

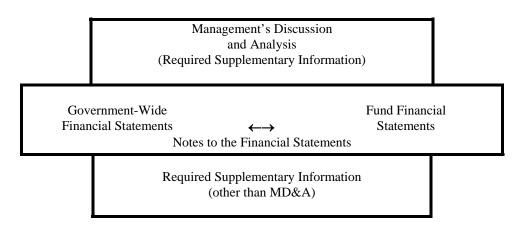
Freeborn County's Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) provides an overview of the County's financial activities for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2010. Since this information is designed to focus on the current year's activities, resulting changes, and currently known facts, it should be read in conjunction with the County's financial statements.

## FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Governmental activities' total net assets are \$73,434,776, of which \$54,564,938 is invested in capital assets, net of related debt, and \$5,037,551 is restricted to specific purposes.
- Freeborn County's net assets decreased by \$2,546,133 for the year ended December 31, 2010.
- The net cost of governmental activities was \$20,545,516 for the current fiscal year. The net cost was funded by general revenues and other items totaling \$17,999,383.

### **OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

This MD&A is intended to serve as an introduction to the basic financial statements. Freeborn County's basic financial statements consist of three parts: government-wide financial statements, fund financial statements, and notes to the financial statements. The MD&A (this section) and certain budgetary comparison schedules are required to accompany the basic financial statements and, therefore, are included as required supplementary information. The following chart demonstrates how the different pieces are interrelated.



There are two government-wide financial statements. The Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities (Exhibits 1 and 2) provide information about the activities of the County as a whole and present a longer-term view of the County's finances. Fund financial statements start with Exhibit 3. For governmental activities, these statements tell how these services were financed in the short term as well as what remains for future spending. Fund financial statements also report the County's operations in more detail than the government-wide statements by providing information about the County's most significant funds. The remaining statements provide financial information about activities for which the County acts solely as a trustee or agent for the benefit of those outside of the government.

# Government-Wide Financial Statements--The Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities

Our analysis of the County as a whole begins on Exhibit 1. The Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities report information about the County as a whole and about its activities in a way that helps the reader determine whether the County's financial condition has improved or declined as a result of the year's activities. These statements include all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These two statements report the County's net assets and changes in them. You can think of the County's net assets--the difference between assets and liabilities--as one way to measure the County's financial health or financial position. Over time, increases or decreases in the County's net assets are one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. You will need to consider other nonfinancial factors, however, such as changes in the County's property tax base and the condition of County roads, to assess the overall health of the County.

In the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities, the County reports its governmental activities. The County has no business-type activities or discretely presented component units.

Governmental activities reported here include the County's basic services of general government, public safety, highways and streets, human services, health, environmental services, culture and recreation, and conservation of natural resources. Property taxes and state and federal grants finance most of these activities.

## **Fund Financial Statements**

Our analysis of the County's major funds begins on Exhibit 3. These fund financial statements provide detailed information about the significant funds, not the County as a whole. Some funds are required to be established by state law and by bond covenants. However, the County Board establishes some funds to help it control and manage money for a particular purpose or to show that it is meeting legal responsibilities for using certain taxes, grants, and other money. The County's two kinds of funds--governmental and proprietary--use different accounting methods.

- Governmental funds--Most of the County's basic services are reported in governmental funds, which focus on how money flows in and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. These funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting. This method measures cash and all other financial assets that can be readily converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the County's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the County's programs. We describe the relationship (or differences) between governmental activities (reported in the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities) and governmental funds in reconciliation in a statement following each governmental fund financial statement.
- Proprietary funds--When the County charges customers for the services it provides--whether to outside customers or to other units of the County--these services are generally reported in proprietary funds. Proprietary funds are reported in the same way that all activities are reported in the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities. We use internal service funds to report activities that provide services for the County's other programs and activities, such as building rental.

# **Reporting the County's Fiduciary Responsibilities**

The County is the trustee, or fiduciary, over assets which can only be used for the trust beneficiaries based on the trust arrangement. All of the County's fiduciary activities are reported in separate Statements of Fiduciary Net Assets and Changes in Fiduciary Net Assets on Exhibits 10 and 11. We exclude these activities from the County's other financial statements because the County cannot use these assets to finance its operations. The County is responsible for ensuring that the assets reported in these funds are used for their intended purposes.

## THE COUNTY AS A WHOLE

The County's combined net assets decreased from \$75,980,909 to \$73,434,776. Our analysis focuses on the net assets (Table 1) and changes in net assets (Table 2) of the County's governmental activities.

### Table 1 Net Assets (in millions)

	Governmental Activities				
		2010		2009	
Assets					
Current and other assets	\$	29.2	\$	26.4	
Capital assets		74.8		78.6	
Total Assets	\$	104.0	\$	105.0	
Liabilities					
Long-term debt outstanding	\$	28.4	\$	25.8	
Other liabilities		2.2		3.2	
Total Liabilities	\$	30.6	\$	29.0	
Net Assets					
Invested in capital assets, net of debt	\$	54.6	\$	57.8	
Restricted		5.0		5.0	
Unrestricted		13.8		13.2	
Total Net Assets	\$	73.4	\$	76.0	

Net assets of the County's governmental activities decreased (\$73.4 million compared to \$76.0 million). Unrestricted net assets--the part of net assets that can be used to finance day-to-day operations without constraints established by debt covenants, enabling legislation, or other legal requirements--changed from a \$13.2 million surplus at December 31, 2009, to \$13.8 million at the end of this year.

### Table 2 Changes in Net Assets (in millions)

	Governmental Activities				
		2010	2	2009	
Revenues					
Program revenues					
Fees, fines, charges, and other	\$	5.1	\$	5.3	
Operating grants and contributions		13.1		12.6	
Capital grants and contributions		0.2		4.7	
General revenues					
Property taxes		14.9		14.2	
Grants and contributions		2.6		3.3	
Other general revenues		0.5		0.2	
Total Revenues	\$	36.4	\$	40.3	
Program Expenses					
General government	\$	4.4	\$	4.5	
Public safety		9.6		6.1	
Highways and streets		10.4		9.8	
Human services		7.3		8.0	
Health		3.4		3.4	
Sanitation		0.4		0.4	
Culture and recreation		0.6		0.4	
Conservation of natural resources		1.6		1.4	
Interest		1.2		1.1	
Total Program Expenses	\$	38.9	\$	35.1	
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	\$	(2.5)	\$	5.2	

### **Governmental Activities**

Revenues were \$36.4 million and expenses were \$38.9 million for the County's governmental activities. This resulted in a decrease of \$2.5 million to net assets in the year ended December 31, 2010.

The amount that taxpayers ultimately financed for these activities through County taxes and other general sources was only \$18.0 million because some of the cost was paid by those who directly benefited from the programs (\$5.1 million) or by other governments and organizations that subsidized certain programs with grants and contributions (\$13.3 million). The County paid for the remaining "public benefit" portion of governmental activities with \$18.0 million in general revenues, primarily taxes (some of which could be used only for certain programs) and other revenues, such as interest and general entitlements.

Table 3 presents the cost of each of the County's six largest program functions, as well as each function's net cost (total cost, less revenues generated by the activities). The net cost shows the financial burden that was placed on the County's taxpayers by each of these functions.

	 nmental A in million		s				
	20	10			20	09	
	Total CostNetof Servicesof Set						et Cost ervices
Highways and streets	\$ 10.4	\$	4.8	\$	9.8	\$	0.3
Public safety	9.6		6.4		6.1		3.6
Human services	7.3		3.4		8.1		3.5
General government	4.4		3.5		4.5		3.5
Health	3.4		0.5		3.4		1.2
Conservation of natural resources	1.6		0.3		1.4		(0.6)
All others	 2.2		1.6		1.9		1.1
Total	\$ 38.9	\$	20.5	\$	35.2	\$	12.6

# Table 3

# THE COUNTY'S FUNDS

As the County completed the year, its governmental funds (as presented in the balance sheet on Exhibit 3) reported a combined fund balance of \$19.6 million, which is \$3.3 million more than 2009. Included in this year's total fund balance is a fund balance of \$8.0 million in the County's General Fund, approximately \$1.9 million more than last year. The Ditch Special Revenue Fund's was unchanged. The Social Services Special Revenue Fund had an increase of \$0.7 million. The Road and Bridge Special Revenue Fund had an increase of \$1.0 million

## **General Fund Budgetary Highlights**

During the year, the County made no budget amendments. The largest variance occurred in the General Fund. Revenues were \$0.2 million higher than budget, and expenses were \$3.5 million higher than budget. This was due to issuing a \$3.6 million capital note for a County-wide radio upgrade.

### CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

### **Capital Assets**

At the end of 2010, the County had \$74.8 million invested in a broad range of capital assets including land, buildings, highways and streets, and equipment. (See Table 4.) This amount represents a net decrease (including additions and deductions) of \$3.8 million, or 4.9 percent, from last year. This came mainly from current year depreciation.

# Table 4Capital Assets at Year-End(Net of Depreciation, in millions)

	Governmental Activities				
	2	010	2	2009	
Land	\$	4.1	\$	4.1	
Land improvements		0.7		0.7	
Construction in progress		-		3.6	
Buildings and improvements		26.5		27.3	
Machinery, vehicles, furniture, and equipment		2.2		2.0	
Infrastructure		41.3		40.9	
Total	\$	74.8	\$	78.6	

### Debt

At year-end, the County had \$27.0 million in bonds and notes outstanding versus \$24.5 million last year, an increase of 10.4 percent, as shown in Table 5.

### Table 5 Outstanding Debt at Year-End (in millions)

		Governmen	tal Activitie	es
	2	2010	2	009
General obligation bonds and notes				
(backed by the County)	\$	7.6	\$	7.5
Special assessment bonds		3.1		3.5
General obligation capital notes		3.6		-
General obligation lease revenue		5.5		5.9
Lease revenue bonds		7.2		7.6
Total	\$	27.0	\$	24.5

The County's general obligation bond rating was "A+" at its last bond issuance in January 2010, and it was upgraded to" Aa3" in June 2011. Other obligations include accrued vacation pay and sick leave payable. More detailed information about the County's long-term liabilities is presented in Note 3.C. to the financial statements.

# ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGETS AND RATES

The County's elected and appointed officials considered many factors when setting the fiscal year 2011 budget, tax rates, and fees that will be charged for the business-type activities.

- County General Fund expenditures for 2011 are budgeted to increase 0.8 percent over 2010.
- The combined budget for 2011 increased \$114,864 or 0.03 percent, over the 2010 budget.
- The state decreased County aids for 2011 by \$413,349 and, in December 2010, unallotted \$815,560 of the 2010 aid.
- Property tax levies have increased 5.6 percent for 2011.

# CONTACTING THE COUNTY'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, customers, and investors and creditors with a general overview of the County's finances and to show the County's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report, or need additional financial information, contact the County Finance Manager, William M. Helfritz, at 411 South Broadway, Albert Lea, Minnesota 56007.

**BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** 

**GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** 

### EXHIBIT 1

### STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES DECEMBER 31, 2010

#### Assets

Cash and pooled investments	\$	18,304,731
Petty cash and change funds		2,275
Investment in joint venture		1,445,117
Taxes receivable		
Prior - net		571,757
Special assessments receivable		
Prior - net		52,104
Noncurrent - net		2,566,114
Accounts receivable - net		1,480,979
Accrued interest receivable		77,316
Loan receivable		418,478
Due from other governments		2,403,768
Inventories		239,581
Restricted assets		
Restricted cash and investments on deposit for debt service		1,063,825
Deferred charges		67,555
Leases receivable		540,000
Capital assets		
Non-depreciable		4,860,775
Depreciable - net of accumulated depreciation		69,925,363
Total Assets	<u>\$</u>	104,019,738
Liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$	553,984
Salaries payable		287,084
Contracts payable		5,141
Due to other governments		341,922
Accrued interest payable		469,419
Advances from other governments		551,515
Long-term liabilities		
Due within one year		2,060,766
Due in more than one year		26,315,131
Total Liabilities	\$	30,584,962

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

### EXHIBIT 1 (Continued)

### STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES DECEMBER 31, 2010

#### Net Assets

Invested in capital assets - net of related debt	\$ 54,564,938
Restricted for	
General government	406,430
Public safety	779,540
Highways and streets	822,694
Human services	690,600
Conservation of natural resources	1,285,803
Debt service	867,228
Economic development	173,829
Endowment - nonexpendable	11,427
Unrestricted	 13,832,287
Total Net Assets	\$ 73,434,776

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

EXHIBIT 2

#### STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

		Program Revenues						Ν	et (Expense)
	Expenses		Fees, Charges, Fines, and Other		Operating Grants and Contributions		Capital Grants and Contributions		Revenue and Changes in Net Assets
Functions/Programs									
Primary government									
Governmental activities									
General government	\$ 4,409,570	\$	850,865	\$	98,836	\$	-	\$	(3,459,869)
Public safety	9,607,279		2,489,412		693,472		-		(6,424,395)
Highways and streets	10,430,230		73,333		5,456,426		186,587		(4,713,884)
Sanitation	397,808		3,188		370,663		-		(23,957)
Human services	7,292,340		462,245		3,415,990		-		(3,414,105)
Health	3,345,068		1,099,792		1,751,141		-		(494,135)
Culture and recreation	561,488		56,681		63,563		-		(441,244)
Conservation of natural resources	1,641,086		63,797		1,263,069		26		(314,194)
Economic development	17,942		-		-		-		(17,942)
Interest	1,241,791		-		-		-		(1,241,791)
Total Governmental Activities	\$ 38,944,602	\$	5,099,313	\$	13,113,160	\$	186,613	\$	(20,545,516)
	General Revenu	es						¢	14040040
	Property taxes							\$	14,949,842
	Gravel taxes								112,399
	Mortgage regist								15,468
	Payments in lieu				· c•				34,323
	Grants and cont			ed to	specific progra	ms			2,580,137
	Unrestricted inv	estme	int earnings						143,512
	Miscellaneous	•.	1						108,849
	Gain on sale of	capita	l assets						54,853
	Total general	reven	ues					\$	17,999,383
	Change in net a	assets						\$	(2,546,133)
	Net Assets - Beg	innin	g						75,980,909
	Net Assets - End	ing						\$	73,434,776

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

FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## **GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**

EXHIBIT 3

#### BALANCE SHEET GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS DECEMBER 31, 2010

	General	Road and Bridge	Social Services	Ditch	Nonmajor Funds	Total
Assets						
Cash and pooled investments	\$ 6,199,027	\$ 3,416,972	\$ 5,483,980	\$ 2,349,903	\$ 854,849	\$ 18,304,731
Petty cash and change funds Taxes receivable	2,275	-	-	-	-	2,275
Prior	286,043	91,539	168,798	-	25,377	571,757
Special assessments						
Prior	35,215	-	-	16,889	-	52,104
Noncurrent	-	-	-	2,565,461	653	2,566,114
Accounts receivable	218,889	14,470	901,493	-	-	1,134,852
Accrued interest receivable	76,917	-	-	-	399	77,316
Loans receivable	282,063	-	-	-	136,415	418,478
Due from other funds	258,743	1,332	-	-	-	260,075
Due from other governments	594,018	983,165	773,089	53,496	-	2,403,768
Leases receivable	540,000	-	-	-	-	540,000
Inventories	-	239,581	-	-	-	239,581
Advances to other funds	815,427	-	-	-		815,427
Total Assets	\$ 9,308,617	\$ 4,747,059	\$ 7,327,360	\$ 4,985,749	\$ 1,017,693	\$ 27,386,478

#### EXHIBIT 3 (Continued)

#### BALANCE SHEET GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS DECEMBER 31, 2010

		General	 Road and Bridge	 Social Services	 Ditch	] 	Nonmajor Funds	 Total
Liabilities and Fund Balances								
Liabilities								
Accounts payable	\$	287,129	\$ 69,207	\$ 226,034	\$ 12,737	\$	-	\$ 595,107
Salaries payable		171,593	34,212	81,279	-		-	287,084
Contracts payable		-	5,141	-	-		-	5,141
Due to other funds		-	-	218,952	-		-	218,952
Due to other governments		178,843	2,763	148,838	8,218		3,260	341,922
Deferred revenue - unavailable		660,772	1,015,275	999,689	2,582,350		22,057	5,280,143
Advance from other governments		-	551,515	-	-		-	551,515
Advance from other funds		-	 -	 -	 469,300		-	 469,300
Total Liabilities	\$	1,298,337	\$ 1,678,113	\$ 1,674,792	\$ 3,072,605	\$	25,317	\$ 7,749,164
Fund Balances								
Reserved for								
Debt service	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,199,713	\$	793,282	\$ 1,992,995
Inventories		-	239,581	-	-		-	239,581
Advances to other funds		815,427	-	-	-		-	815,427
Law library		86,775	-	-	-		-	86,775
Recorder's technology compliant	ce	62,756	-	-	-		-	62,756
Recorder's equipment		248,428	-	-	-		-	248,428
Enhanced 911		183,201	-	-	-		-	183,201
Attorney's forfeited property		8,471	-	-	-		-	8,471
Loans receivable		282,063	-	-	-		-	282,063
Endowments		-	-	-	-		135,239	135,239
Economic development		-	-	-	-		62,976	62,976
Health care		-	-	690,600	-		-	690,600
Unreserved				.,				.,
Designated for								
Cash flows		3,241,194	544,862	2,445,878	_		-	6,231,934
Compensated absences		858,574	194,865	318,219	_		-	1,371,658
Future expenditures		-	2,088,839		_		-	2,088,839
Undesignated		2,223,391	799	2,197,871	713,431		-	5,135,492
Unreserved, reported in nonmajor		_,,		_,_, , , , , ,	,			-,,
Permanent fund		-	 -	 -	 -		879	 879
Total Fund Balances	\$	8,010,280	\$ 3,068,946	\$ 5,652,568	\$ 1,913,144	\$	992,376	\$ 19,637,314
Total Liabilities and Fund								
Balances	\$	9,308,617	\$ 4,747,059	\$ 7,327,360	\$ 4,985,749	\$	1,017,693	\$ 27,386,478

EXHIBIT 4

#### RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET TO THE GOVERNMENT-WIDE STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS DECEMBER 31, 2010

Fund balances - total governmental funds (Exhibit 3)		\$ 19,637,314
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net assets are different because:		
Investment in joint venture is not reported in the governmental funds because it is not a current financial resource.		1,445,117
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.		74,786,138
Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current period expenditures and, therefore, are deferred in the governmental funds.		5,280,143
An Internal Service Fund is used by management to charge the cost of building facilities to individual funds. The assets and liabilities of the Internal Service Fund are included in governmental activities in the statement of net assets. (See Exhibit 7.)		
Total Internal Service Fund net assets Net assets representing capital assets included above Net assets representing long-term debt included below	\$ 3,102,026 (14,870,998) 12,900,352	1,131,380
Long-term liabilities, including bonds payable, are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.		
General obligation bonds General obligation lease revenue bonds Lease revenue bonds General obligation capital notes Compensated absences Loans payable Special assessment debt payable Accrued interest payable Unamortized discount	\$ $\begin{array}{c} (7,585,000) \\ (5,535,000) \\ (7,180,000) \\ (3,575,000) \\ (1,386,565) \\ (106,145) \\ (3,105,000) \\ (469,419) \\ 96,813 \end{array}$	 (28,845,316)
Net Assets of Governmental Activities (Exhibit 1)		\$ 73,434,776

**EXHIBIT 5** 

#### STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

	General	<u> </u>	Road and Bridge		Social Services		Ditch	]	Nonmajor Funds		Total
Revenues											
Taxes	\$ 6,335,599	\$	2,800,168	\$	5,202,479	\$	-	\$	742,504	\$	15,080,750
Special assessments	370,528		-		-		1,200,555		1,849		1,572,932
Licenses and permits	128,536		10,025		-		-		-		138,561
Intergovernmental	4,414,790		5,233,386		4,444,548		52,307		-		14,145,031
Charges for services	3,816,587		50,448		382,591		-		-		4,249,626
Fines and forfeits	38,693		-		636		-		-		39,329
Gifts and contributions	7,916		-		43,342		-		-		51,258
Investment earnings	137,931		-		-		-		5,581		143,512
Miscellaneous	415,807		37,005		488,612		5,794		-		947,218
Total Revenues	\$ 15,666,387	\$	8,131,032	\$	10,562,208	\$	1,258,656	\$	749,934	\$	36,368,217
Expenditures											
Current											
General government	\$ 4,909,011	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$	4,909,011
Public safety	9,331,173		-		205,811		-		-		9,536,984
Highways and streets	11,252		6,859,989		-		-		-		6,871,241
Sanitation	382,825		-		-		-		-		382,825
Human services	68,480		-		7,738,757		-		-		7,807,237
Health	1,463,759		-		1,887,936		-		-		3,351,695
Culture and recreation	561,488		-		-		-		-		561,488
Conservation of natural											
resources	560,677		-		-		848,826		237,368		1,646,871
Economic development	15,000		-		-		-		2,942		17,942
Capital outlay	478,074		285,448		-		-		-		763,522
Debt service											
Principal	-		-		-		310,459		564,992		875,451
Interest	-		-		-		94,943		422,492		517,435
Bond issuance costs	21,663		-		-		-		-		21,663
Administrative (fiscal) charges			-		-		18,791		1,665		20,456
Total Expenditures	\$ 17,803,402	\$	7,145,437	\$	9,832,504	\$	1,273,019	\$	1,229,459	\$	37,283,821
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	\$ (2,137,015)	\$	985,595	\$	729,704	\$	(14,363)	\$	(479,525)	\$	(915,604)
(Under) Expenditures	φ (2,137,015)	φ	703,393	Φ	149,104	Φ	(14,303)	Φ	(4/9,525)	φ	(913,004)

EXHIBIT 5 (Continued)

#### STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

	 General	 Road and Bridge	 Social Services	 Ditch	1	Nonmajor Funds	 Total
Other Financing Sources (Uses)							
Transfers in	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$	92,619	\$ 92,619
Transfers out	(92,619)	-	-	-		-	(92,619)
Bonds issued	525,000	-	-	-		-	525,000
Capital notes issued	3,575,000	-	-	-		-	3,575,000
Proceeds from sale of capital							
assets	 61,065	 -	 -	 -		-	 61,065
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	\$ 4,068,446	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$	92,619	\$ 4,161,065
Net Change in Fund Balance	\$ 1,931,431	\$ 985,595	\$ 729,704	\$ (14,363)	\$	(386,906)	\$ 3,245,461
Fund Balance - January 1 Increase (decrease) in reserved	6,078,849	2,011,705	4,922,864	1,927,507		1,379,282	16,320,207
for inventories	 -	 71,646	 -	 -		-	 71,646
Fund Balance - December 31	\$ 8,010,280	\$ 3,068,946	\$ 5,652,568	\$ 1,913,144	\$	992,376	\$ 19,637,314

EXHIBIT 6

#### RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE GOVERNMENT-WIDE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds (Exhibit 5)		\$ 3,245,461
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:		
In the funds, under the modified accrual basis, distributions of joint venture equity interest are recorded as revenues. In the statement of net assets, an asset is reported for the equity interest in joint ventures, and distributions (decreases) and increases in joint venture equity are reported in the statement of activities. The change in the net assets differs from the change in fund balance by the increases and decreases in the investment in joint venture.		536,899
In the funds, under the modified accrual basis, receivables not available for expenditure are deferred. In the statement of activities, those revenues are recognized when earned. The adjustment to revenue between the fund statements and the statement of activities is the increase or decrease in revenue deferred as unavailable.		
Deferred revenue - December 31 Deferred revenue - January 1	\$ 5,280,143 (5,289,509)	(9,366)
Governmental funds report capital outlay as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. Also, in the statement of activities, only the gain or loss on the disposal of assets is reported; whereas, in the governmental funds, the proceeds from the sale increase financial resources. Therefore, the change in net assets differs from the change in fund balance by the net book value of the assets sold.		
Expenditures for general capital assets and infrastructure Net book value of assets disposed Current year depreciation	\$ 916,188 (2,089,764) (2,221,681)	(3,395,257)
Issuing long-term debt provides current financial resources to governmental funds, while the repayment of debt consumes current financial resources. Neither transaction, however, has any effect on net assets. Also, governmental funds report the net effect of issuance costs, premiums, discounts, and similar items when debt is first issued; whereas, those amounts are deferred and amortized over the life of the debt in the statement of net assets.		(3,225,432)
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.		
Change in accrued interest payable Change in compensated absences Change in inventories	\$ (29,657) (43,950) 71,646	(1,961)
Internal service funds are used by management to charge the costs of certain activities to individual funds. The net revenues (expenses) of the Internal Service Fund are reported with governmental activities.		 303,523
Change in Net Assets of Governmental Activities (Exhibit 2)		\$ (2,546,133)

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

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**PROPRIETARY FUND** 

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**EXHIBIT 7** 

#### STATEMENT OF FUND NET ASSETS GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES - INTERNAL SERVICE FUND DECEMBER 31, 2010

#### Assets

Restricted assets		
Cash and pooled investments on deposit for debt service	\$	1,063,825
Noncurrent assets		
Deferred debt issuance costs	\$	67,555
Capital assets		
Depreciable - net		14,870,998
Total noncurrent assets	<u>\$</u>	14,938,553
Total Assets	<u>\$</u>	16,002,378
<u>iabilities</u>		
Current liabilities payable from restricted assets		
Interest payable	\$	264,155
Revenue bonds payable - current		750,000
Total current liabilities payable from restricted assets	\$	1,014,155
Noncurrent liabilities		
Revenue bonds payable - long-term		11,886,197
Total Liabilities	<u>\$</u>	12,900,352
vet Assets		
Invested in capital assets - net of related debt	\$	2,234,798
Restricted for debt service	· · · · · ·	867,228
Total Net Assets	\$	3,102,026

#### **EXHIBIT 8**

#### STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN FUND NET ASSETS GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES - INTERNAL SERVICE FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

Operating Revenues Rental income	\$ 1,381,948
Operating Expenses Depreciation	 426,729
Operating Income (Loss)	\$ 955,219
Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses) Interest expense Bond issuance expense	\$ (639,585) (12,111)
Total Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)	\$ (651,696)
Change in Net Assets	\$ 303,523
Net Assets - January 1	 2,798,503
Net Assets - December 31	\$ 3,102,026

#### EXHIBIT 9

#### STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES - INTERNAL SERVICE FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010 Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Receipts from customers and users	\$	1,381,948
Cash Flows from Capital and Related Financing Activities		
Principal paid on long-term debt	\$	(720,000)
Interest paid on long-term debt	· · · ·	(652,523)
Net cash provided by (used in) capital and related financing	<b>.</b>	(1 250 500)
activities	\$	(1,372,523)
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	9,425
		.,
Cash and Cash Equivalents at January 1		1,054,400
	¢	1 0/2 925
Cash and Cash Equivalents at December 31	<u> </u>	1,063,825
Reconciliation of Operating Income (Loss) to Net Cash		
Provided by (Used in) Operating Activities		
Operating income (loss)	\$	955,219
Adjustments to reconcile operating income (loss) to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities		
Depreciation expense		426,729
Depresention on pointe		120,727
Net Cash Provided by (Used in) Operating Activities	\$	1,381,948

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FIDUCIARY FUNDS

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**EXHIBIT 10** 

#### STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET ASSETS FIDUCIARY FUNDS DECEMBER 31, 2010

	Private-Purpose Trust		Agency Funds
Assets			
Cash and pooled investments Accrued interest receivable Due from other governments	\$ 11,426 1 -	\$	979,521 - 25,524
Total Assets	\$ 11,427	\$	1,005,045
Liabilities			
Due to other funds Due to other governments Advance from General Fund	\$ - -	\$	41,123 617,795 346,127
Total Liabilities	\$ -	\$	1,005,045
<u>Net Assets</u>			
Net assets, held in trust for other purposes	\$ 11,427		

EXHIBIT 11

#### STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET ASSETS FIDUCIARY FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

		ate-Purpose Trust
Additions		
Investment earnings Interest	<u></u> \$	(458)
Change in Net Assets	\$	(458)
Net Assets - January 1		11,885
Net Assets - December 31	\$	11,427

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

# 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The County's financial statements are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2010. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is responsible for establishing GAAP for state and local governments through its pronouncements (statements and interpretations). Governments are also required to follow the pronouncements of the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued through November 30, 1989, (when applicable) that do not conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements. The more significant accounting policies established in GAAP and used by the County are discussed below.

### A. Financial Reporting Entity

Freeborn County was established February 20, 1855, and is an organized county having the powers, duties, and privileges granted counties by Minn. Stat. ch. 373. As required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, these financial statements present Freeborn County (primary government) and its component units for which the County is financially accountable. The County is governed by a five-member Board of Commissioners elected from districts within the County. The Board is organized with a chair and vice chair elected at the annual meeting in January of each year. The County Administrator, appointed by the Board, serves as the clerk of the Board of Commissioners but has no vote.

### Blended Component Unit

Blended component units are legally separate organizations so intertwined with the County that they are, in substance, the same as the County and, therefore, are reported as if they were part of the County. Freeborn County has one blended component unit.

Component Unit	Included in Reporting Entity Because	Separate Financial Statements
Freeborn County Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) provides services pursuant to Minn. Stat. §§ 469.001047.	County Commissioners are the HRA Board, and the HRA is a financial burden.	Separate financial statements are not prepared.

## 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

## A. <u>Financial Reporting Entity</u> (Continued)

#### Joint Ventures

The County participates in joint ventures described in Note 5.C. The County also participates in jointly-governed organizations described in Note 5.D.

#### B. <u>Basic Financial Statements</u>

### 1. <u>Government-Wide Statements</u>

The government-wide financial statements (the statement of net assets and the statement of activities) display information about the primary government and its component units. These statements include the financial activities of the overall County government, except for fiduciary activities. Eliminations have been made to minimize the double counting of internal activities.

The government-wide statement of net assets (a) is presented on a consolidated basis, and (b) is reported on a full accrual, economic resource basis, which recognizes all long-term assets and receivables as well as long-term debt and obligations. The County's net assets are reported in three parts: (1) invested in capital assets, net of related debt; (2) restricted net assets; and (3) unrestricted net assets. The County first utilizes restricted resources to finance qualifying activities.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of each function of the County's governmental activities are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those clearly identifiable with a specific function or activity. Program revenues include: (1) fees, fines, and charges paid by the recipients of goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or activity; and (2) grants and contributions restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or activity. Revenues not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, are presented as general revenues.

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

### B. <u>Basic Financial Statements</u> (Continued)

## 2. Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements provide information about the County's funds, including its fiduciary funds and blended component unit. Separate statements for each fund category--governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary--are presented. The emphasis of governmental fund financial statements is on major individual governmental funds, with each displayed as a separate column in the fund financial statements. All remaining governmental funds are aggregated and reported as nonmajor funds.

The County reports the following major governmental funds:

The <u>General Fund</u> is the County's primary operating fund. It accounts for all financial resources of the general government, except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

The <u>Road and Bridge Special Revenue Fund</u> is used to account for revenues and expenditures of the County Highway Department, which is responsible for the construction and maintenance of roads, bridges, and other projects affecting County roadways.

The <u>Social Services Special Revenue Fund</u> is used to account for economic assistance and community social services programs.

The <u>Ditch Special Revenue Fund</u> is used to account for the cost of constructing and maintaining an agricultural drainage ditch system. Financing is provided by special assessments levied against benefited property.

Additionally, the County reports the following fund types:

<u>Debt service funds</u> are used to account for the accumulation of resources for the payment of principal, interest, and related costs of long-term bonded debt.

The <u>Internal Service Fund</u> accounts for HRA building facilities (jail and other general office space) activities provided to other departments and funds on a cost-reimbursement basis.

## 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

### B. <u>Basic Financial Statements</u>

2. <u>Fund Financial Statements</u> (Continued)

<u>Private-purpose trust funds</u> are used to account for resources legally held in trust for others.

<u>Agency funds</u> are custodial in nature and do not present results of operations or have a measurement focus. These funds account for assets that the County holds for others in an agent capacity.

C. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

The government-wide, proprietary fund, and fiduciary fund financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned, and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Freeborn County considers all revenues as available if collected within 60 days after the end of the current period. Property and other taxes, licenses, and interest are all considered susceptible to accrual. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on general long-term debt, compensated absences, and claims and judgments, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent that they have matured. Proceeds of general long-term debt and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the County's policy to use restricted resources first and then unrestricted resources as needed.

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

## D. Assets, Liabilities, and Net Assets or Equity

## 1. Cash and Cash Equivalents

The County has defined cash and cash equivalents to include cash on hand, demand deposits, and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition. Additionally, each fund's equity in the County's investment pool is treated as a cash equivalent because the funds can deposit or effectively withdraw cash at any time without prior notice or penalty.

### 2. <u>Deposits and Investments</u>

The cash balances of substantially all funds are pooled and invested by the County Treasurer for the purpose of increasing earnings through investment activities. Pooled and fund investments are reported at their fair value at December 31, 2010, based on market prices. Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 385.07, investment earnings on cash and pooled investments are credited to the General Fund. Other funds received investment earnings based on other state statutes, grant agreements, contracts, and bond covenants. Pooled investment earnings for 2010 were \$137,931.

### 3. <u>Receivables and Payables</u>

Activity between funds representative of lending/borrowing arrangements outstanding at the end of the fiscal year is referred to as either "due to/from other funds" (the current portion of interfund loans) or "advances to/from other funds" (the noncurrent portion of interfund loans). All other outstanding balances between funds are reported as "due to/from other funds."

Advances between funds, as reported in the fund financial statements, are offset by a fund balance reserve account in applicable governmental funds to indicate that they are not available for appropriation and are not expendable available financial resources.

All receivables are shown net of an allowance for uncollectibles.

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

# D. Assets, Liabilities, and Net Assets or Equity

3. <u>Receivables and Payables</u> (Continued)

Property taxes are levied as of January 1 on property values assessed as of the same date. The tax levy notice is mailed in March with the first half payment due on May 15 and the second half payment due October 15. Unpaid taxes at December 31 become liens on the respective property and are classified in the financial statements as delinquent taxes receivable.

### 4. Inventories and Prepaid Items

All inventories are valued at cost using the weighted average method. Inventories in governmental funds are recorded as expenditures when purchased rather than when consumed. Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in both government-wide and fund financial statements.

### 5. <u>Restricted Assets</u>

Certain funds of the County are classified as restricted assets on the statement of net assets because the restriction is either imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation or imposed externally by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments. Therefore, their use is limited by applicable laws and regulations.

### 6. <u>Capital Assets</u>

Capital assets, which include property, plant, equipment, and infrastructure assets (such as roads, bridges, and similar items), are reported in the governmental activities column in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the government as assets with an initial, individual cost of more than \$5,000 and an estimated useful life in excess of three years. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair value at the date of donation.

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets' lives are not capitalized.

## 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

### D. Assets, Liabilities, and Net Assets or Equity

# 6. <u>Capital Assets</u> (Continued)

Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed.

Property, plant, and equipment of the County, as well as its component units, are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

Assets	Years
Buildings	25 - 75
Building improvements	20 - 30
Public domain infrastructure	25 - 75
Furniture, equipment, and vehicles	3 - 15

### 7. <u>Compensated Absences</u>

The liability for compensated absences reported in financial statements consists of unpaid, accumulated annual and sick leave balances. The liability has been calculated using the vesting method, in which leave amounts for both employees who currently are eligible to receive termination payments and other employees who are expected to become eligible in the future to receive such payments upon termination are included. Compensated absences are accrued when incurred in the government-wide financial statements. A liability for these amounts is reported in the governmental funds only if they have matured, for example, as a result of employee resignations and retirements.

### 8. Deferred Revenue

All County funds and the government-wide financial statements defer revenue for resources that have been received, but not yet earned. Governmental funds also report deferred revenue in connection with receivables for revenues not considered available to liquidate liabilities of the current period.

### 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### D. Assets, Liabilities, and Net Assets or Equity (Continued)

#### 9. Long-Term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements and proprietary fund financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the applicable governmental activities or proprietary fund type statement of net assets. Bond premiums and discounts, as well as issuance costs, are deferred and amortized over the life of the bonds using the straight-line method. Bonds payable are reported net of the applicable bond premium or discount. Bond issuance costs are reported as deferred charges and amortized over the term of the related debt.

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund types recognize bond premiums and discounts, as well as bond issuance costs, during the current period. The face amount of the debt issued is reported as other financing sources. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing sources, while discounts on debt issuances are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs, whether or not withheld from the actual debt proceeds received, are reported as debt service expenditures.

#### 10. Fund Equity

In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report reservations of fund balance for amounts not available for appropriation or legally restricted by outside parties for use for a specific purpose. Designations of fund balance represent tentative management plans subject to change.

#### 11. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### 2. Stewardship, Compliance, and Accountability

#### Excess of Expenditures Over Budget

For the year ended December 31, 2010, expenditures exceeded budgeted amounts in the following funds: The General Fund issued \$3,575,000 in Capital Notes to finance the purchase of a county wide radio system, and \$525,000 in G.O. Waste Disposal Bonds. These two items were not in the budget.

	Final Budget		Expenditures		Excess	
General Fund	\$	14,328,856	\$	17,803,402	\$	3,474,546

#### 3. Detailed Notes on All Funds

A. Assets

#### 1. Deposits and Investments

The County's total cash and investments are reported as follows:

Governmental funds	
Cash and pooled investments	\$ 18,304,731
Petty cash and change funds	2,275
Internal Service Fund	
Cash and pooled investments on deposit for debt service	1,063,825
Fiduciary funds	
Cash and pooled investments	
Private-Purpose Trust Fund	11,426
Agency funds	 979,521
Total Cash and Investments	\$ 20,361,778

#### a. Deposits

The County is authorized by Minn. Stat. §§ 118A.02 and 118A.04 to designate a depository for public funds and invest in certificates of deposit. The County is required by Minn. Stat. § 118A.03 to protect deposits with insurance, surety bond, or collateral. The market value of collateral pledged shall be at least ten percent more than the amount on deposit at the close of the financial institution's banking day, not covered by insurance or bonds.

# 3. Detailed Notes on All Funds

# A. <u>Assets</u>

- 1. <u>Deposits and Investments</u>
  - a. <u>Deposits</u> (Continued)

Authorized collateral includes treasury bills, notes and bonds; issues of U.S. government agencies; general obligations rated "A" or better and revenue obligations rated "AA" or better; irrevocable standby letters of credit issued by the Federal Home Loan Bank; and certificates of deposit. Minnesota statutes require that securities pledged as collateral be held in safekeeping in a restricted account at the Federal Reserve Bank or in an account at a trust department of a commercial bank or other financial institution that is not owned or controlled by the financial institution furnishing the collateral.

# Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a financial institution failure, the County's deposits may not be returned to it. The County does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk other than complying with the requirements of Minnesota statutes. The County does not have custodial credit risk as of December 31, 2010.

b. Investments

The County may invest in the following types of investments as authorized by Minn. Stat. §§ 118A.04 and 118A.05:

- (1) securities which are direct obligations or are guaranteed or insured issues of the United States, its agencies, its instrumentalities, or organizations created by an act of Congress, except mortgage-backed securities defined as "high risk" by Minn. Stat. § 118A.04, subd. 6;
- (2) mutual funds through shares of registered investment companies provided the mutual fund receives certain ratings depending on its investments;

# 3. Detailed Notes on All Funds

## A. <u>Assets</u>

- 1. Deposits and Investments
  - b. Investments (Continued)
    - (3) general obligations of the State of Minnesota and its municipalities, and in certain state agency and local obligations of Minnesota and other states provided such obligations have certain specified bond ratings by a national bond rating service;
    - (4) bankers' acceptances of United States banks;
    - (5) commercial paper issued by United States corporations or their Canadian subsidiaries that is rated in the highest quality category by two nationally recognized rating agencies and matures in 270 days or less; and
    - (6) with certain restrictions, in repurchase agreements, securities lending agreements, joint powers investment trusts, and guaranteed investment contracts.

# Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in the market interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. The County minimizes its exposure to interest rate risk by investing in both short-term and long-term investments and by timing cash flows from maturities so that a portion of the portfolio is maturing or coming close to maturity evenly over time as necessary to provide the cash flow and liquidity needed for operations.

### Credit Risk

Generally, credit risk is the risk that an issuer of an investment will not fulfill its obligation to the holder of the investment. This is measured by the assignment of a rating by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization. It is the County's policy to invest only in securities that meet the ratings requirements set by state statute.

## 3. Detailed Notes on All Funds

### A. Assets

- 1. Deposits and Investments
  - b. Investments (Continued)

### Custodial Credit Risk

The custodial credit risk for investments is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty to a transaction, a government will not be able to recover the value of investment or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The County will minimize investment custodial credit risk by permitting brokers that obtained investments for the County to hold them only to the extent there is Securities Investor Protection Corporation (SIPC) coverage and excess SIPC coverage available. Securities purchased that exceed SIPC coverages shall be transferred to the County custodian. As of December 31, 2010, the County does not have any investments exposed to custodial credit risk.

### Concentration of Credit Risk

The concentration of credit risk is the risk of loss that may be caused by the County's investment in a single issuer. The County does not have a policy on concentration of credit risk.

The following table presents the County's deposit and investment balances at December 31, 2010, and information relating to potential investment risks:

	Crec	lit Risk	Concentration Risk	Interest Rate Risk	Carrying
Investment Type	t Type Credit Rating Agency		Over 5% of Portfolio	Maturity Date	 (Fair) Value
U.S. government agency securities					
Federal National Mortgage Association	AAA	S&P	18.5%	09/02/2014	\$ 491,326
Federal Farm Credit	AAA	S&P	18.7%	07/07/2014	496,302
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation	AAA	S&P	18.4%	08/22/2014	490,380
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation	AAA	S&P	18.7%	06/30/2014	 497,701
Total U.S. government agency securities			74%		\$ 1,975,709

## 3. Detailed Notes on All Funds

#### A. Assets

# 1. Deposits and Investments (Continued)

	Crec	lit Risk	Concentration Risk	Interest Rate Risk	Carrying
Investment Type	Credit Rating	Rating Agency	Over 5% of Portfolio	Maturity Date	(Fair) Value
Negotiable certificates of deposit					
Alliance B&T	N/A	N/A	9%	02/20/2014	\$ 246,835
BMW Bank North America	N/A	N/A	9%	08/13/2013	246,954
GE Money Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	07/05/2011	95,706
Goldman Sachs Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	01/14/2011	 95,036
Total negotiable certificates of deposit			26%		\$ 684,531
Total investments					\$ 2,660,240
Deposits					17,699,263
Petty cash					 2,275
Total Cash and Investments					\$ 20,361,778

N/A - Not Applicable N/R - Not Rated

#### 2. <u>Receivables</u>

Receivables as of December 31, 2010, for the County's governmental activities, including the applicable allowances for uncollectible accounts, are as follows:

Accounts receivable, gross Less: allowance for uncollectible	\$ 2,338,317
Social Services Special Revenue Fund	 (857,338)
Net Accounts Receivables	\$ 1,480,979

Receivables are expected to be collected within the next year.

# 3. Detailed Notes on All Funds

# A. <u>Assets</u> (Continued)

# 3. <u>Capital Assets</u>

Governmental capital asset activity for the year ended December 31, 2010, was as follows:

	Beginning Balance		6 6		 Decrease		Ending Balance
Capital assets not depreciated							
Land							
General	\$	625,953	\$	-	\$ -	\$	625,953
Highway infrastructure		3,534,332		-	-		3,534,332
Improvements other than buildings		700,490		-	-		700,490
Construction in progress							
Highway infrastructure		3,566,761		-	 3,566,761		-
Total capital assets not depreciated	\$	8,427,536	\$	-	\$ 3,566,761	\$	4,860,775
Capital assets depreciated							
Buildings and improvements	\$	31,886,633	\$	-	\$ -	\$	31,886,633
Other land improvements		110,838		-	-		110,838
Machinery, furniture, and equipment		5,738,579		851,342	531,696		6,058,225
Infrastructure - sewer		391,579			-		391,579
Infrastructure - highway		84,298,234		3,631,607	 3,419,549		84,510,292
Total capital assets depreciated	\$	122,425,863	\$	4,482,949	\$ 3,951,245	\$	122,957,567
Less: accumulated depreciation for							
Buildings and improvements	\$	4,708,803	\$	799,364	\$ -	\$	5,508,167
Other land improvements		11,546		5,542	-		17,088
Machinery, furniture, and equipment		3,712,009		556,562	407,310		3,861,261
Infrastructure - sewer		153,134		15,833	-		168,967
Infrastructure - highway		43,659,783		1,271,109	 1,454,171		43,476,721
Total accumulated depreciation	\$	52,245,275	\$	2,648,410	\$ 1,861,481	\$	53,032,204
Total capital assets depreciated, net	\$	70,180,588	\$	1,834,539	\$ 2,089,764	\$	69,925,363
Capital Assets, Net	\$	78,608,124	\$	1,834,539	\$ 5,656,525	\$	74,786,138

# 3. Detailed Notes on All Fund

# A. Assets

# 3. <u>Capital Assets</u> (Continued)

Depreciation expense was charged to functions/programs as follows:

852,778 72,506
72 506
12,500
,698,370
1,845
7,928
14,983
,648,410

# B. Interfund Receivables and Payables

The composition of interfund balances as of December 31, 2010, is as follows:

# 1. <u>Due To/From Other Funds</u>

Receivable Fund	Receivable Fund Payable Fund Des		Amount		
General Fund	Social Services Special Revenue Fund Insurance Agency Fund Collaborative Agency Fund	Services provided Services provided Services provided	\$	217,620 40,710 413	
Total General Fund			\$	258,743	
Road and Bridge Special Revenue Fund	Social Services Special Revenue Fund	Services provided		1,332	
Total Due To/From Other	Funds		\$	260,075	

#### 3. Detailed Notes on All Funds

# B. Interfund Receivables and Payables (Continued)

# 2. Advances From/To Other Funds

Receivable Fund	Payable Fund		Amount
General Fund	Ditch Special Revenue Fund	\$	469,300
	Motor Vehicle Agency Fund		25,000
	Payroll Clearing Agency Fund		25,524
	Insurance Agency Fund		126,703
	Turtle Creek Watershed Agency Fund		168,900
Total Advances To/From Other Funds		\$	815,427

# 3. Interfund Transfers

In 2010, \$92,619 was transferred from the General Fund to two of the nonmajor debt service funds to cover debt service interest and charges.

#### C. Liabilities

#### 1. Long-Term Debt

Type of Indebtedness	Final Maturity	Installment Amounts	Interest Rate (%)	Original Issue Amount	Outstanding Balance December 31, 2010
General obligation bonds 2002 G.O. Criminal Justice		\$255,000 -	3.00 -		
Bonds	2023	\$695,000	5.00	\$ 9,600,000	\$ 7,060,000
2010A G.O. Waste Disposal	2022	\$40,000 -	2.25 -	525 000	525 000
Bonds	2022	\$45,000	5.25	525,000	525,000
Total General Obligation Bonds				\$ 10,125,000	\$ 7,585,000
2010B G.O. Radio Capital Notes	2019	\$370,000 - \$440.000	2.00 - 3.75	\$ 3,575,000	\$ 3,575,000
Ditch Series 2006 G.O. Special Assessment Bonds	2022	\$325,000 - \$35,000	3.625 - 4.15	\$ 3,020,000	\$ 2,045,000
Ditch Series 2009 G.O. Special Assessment Bonds	2022	\$85,000 - \$90,000	1.15 - 3.75	1,060,000	1,060,000
Total G.O. Special Assessment Bonds				\$ 4,080,000	\$ 3,105,000

# 3. Detailed Notes on All Funds

# C. Liabilities

# 1. <u>Long-Term Debt</u> (Continued)

Type of Indebtedness	Final Maturity	Installment Amounts	Interest Rate (%)	Original Issue Amount	Outstanding Balance December 31, 2010
Lease Revenue Bonds Law Enforcement Center Lease Revenue Bonds with government commitment Less: unamortized discount	2023	\$85,000 - \$90,000	3.25 - 5.00	\$ 7,470,000	\$ 5,535,000 (21,219)
Total Lease Revenue Bonds with Government Commitment, net					\$ 5,513,781
Criminal Justice Center Lease Revenue Bonds Less: unamortized discount	2023	\$190,000 - \$550,000	3.50 - 5.50	\$ 9,630,000	\$ 7,180,000 (57,581)
Total Lease Revenue Bonds, net					\$ 7,122,419
Minnesota Department of Economic Development loan	2013	\$6,007 - \$42,606	3.00	\$ 280,000	\$ 106,145

# 2. Debt Service Requirements

Debt service requirements at December 31, 2010, were as follows:

Year Ending	General Obli	gation Bonds	Special Assessment Ditch Bonds				
December 31	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest			
2011	\$ 470,000	\$ 326,009	\$ 365,000	\$ 97,456			
2012	485,000	307,696	370,000	86,300			
2013	500,000	288,784	340,000	75,363			
2014	520,000	268,834	345,000	64,632			
2015	535,000	247,356	335,000	53,694			
2016 - 2020	3,005,000	858,688	1,100,000	134,114			
2021 - 2024	2,070,000	153,181	250,000	9,651			
Total	\$ 7,585,000	\$ 2,450,548	\$ 3,105,000	\$ 521,210			

# 3. Detailed Notes on All Funds

# C. Liabilities

# 2. <u>Debt Service Requirements</u> (Continued)

Year Ending		Law Enforcement Center G.O. Lease Revenue Bonds				Criminal Justice Lease Revenue Bonds					
December 31	Prin	Principal		Principal Interest		Interest	Principal		Interest		
2011	\$ 4	20,000	\$	377,025	\$	330,000	\$	239,847			
2012	4	35,000		355,650		340,000		226,447			
2013	4	55,000		332,547		355,000		212,547			
2014	4	75,000		307,553		370,000		198,048			
2015	4	95,000		281,484		385,000		182,562			
2016 - 2020	2,8	340,000		970,791		2,180,000		639,583			
2021 - 2026	2,0	)60,000		173,525		1,575,000		118,032			
Total	\$ 7,1	80,000	\$	2,798,575	\$	5,535,000	\$	1,817,066			

Year Ending	General Obliga	on Capital Notes	Loans Payable					
December 31	Principal	Interest	Principal	Interest				
2011	\$ 370,000	\$ 89,906 \$	36,438	\$ 2,686				
2012	375,000	82,506	37,547	1,578				
2013	380,000	75,006	32,160	444				
2014	385,000	67,406	-	-				
2015	390,000	59,706	-	-				
2016 - 2020	1,675,000	134,345	-					
Total	\$ 3,575,000	\$ 508,875 \$	5 106,145	\$ 4,708				

## 3. Detailed Notes on All Funds

# C. <u>Liabilities</u> (Continued)

## 3. Changes in Long-Term Liabilities

# Long-term liability activity for the year ended December 31, 2010, was as follows:

	Beginning Balance		Additions		<u> </u>	Reductions		Ending Balance		Due Within One Year	
Bonds payable	<i>.</i>	- 1-0 000	<b>.</b>		<i>.</i>	110.000	¢		¢		
General obligation bonds Special assessment refunding	\$	7,470,000	\$	525,000	\$	410,000	\$	7,585,000	\$	470,000	
bonds		105,000		-		105,000		-		-	
Special assessment G.O. bond		3,430,000		-		325,000		3,105,000		365,000	
G.O. lease revenue		5,850,000		-		315,000		5,535,000		330,000	
Lease revenue bonds		7,585,000		-		405,000		7,180,000		420,000	
Less: deferred amounts for											
issuance discounts		(104,128)		-		(7,315)		(96,813)		-	
Total bonds payable	\$	24,335,872	\$	525,000	\$	1,552,685	\$	23,308,187	\$	1,585,000	
Loans payable		141,508		-		35,363		106,145		36,438	
Capital notes payable		-		3,575,000		-		3,575,000		370,000	
Compensated absences		1,342,615		43,950		-		1,386,565		69,328	
Long-Term Liabilities	\$	25,819,995	\$	4,143,950	\$	1,588,048	\$	28,375,897	\$	2,060,766	

Payments on the general obligation ditch special assessment bonds are made by the affected land owners, not the general populace of Freeborn County.

### 4. Employee Retirement Systems and Pension Plan

### A. Plan Description

All full-time and certain part-time employees of Freeborn County are covered by defined benefit pension plans administered by the Public Employees Retirement Association of Minnesota (PERA). PERA administers the General Employees Retirement Fund, the Public Employees Police and Fire Fund, and the Local Government Correctional Service Retirement Fund (the Public Employees Correctional Fund), which are cost-sharing, multiple-employer retirement plans. These plans are established and administered in accordance with Minn. Stat. chs. 353 and 356.

### 4. Employee Retirement Systems and Pension Plan

### A. <u>Plan Description</u> (Continued)

General Employees Retirement Fund members belong to either the Coordinated Plan or the Basic Plan. Coordinated Plan members are covered by Social Security, and Basic Plan members are not. All new members must participate in the Coordinated Plan. All new members must participate in the Coordinated Plan, and benefits vest after three years of credited service (five years for those first eligible for membership after June 30, 2010).

All police officers, firefighters, and peace officers who qualify for membership by statute are covered by the Public Employees Police and Fire Fund. Members who are employed in a county correctional institution as a correctional guard or officer, a joint jailer/dispatcher, or as a supervisor of correctional guards or officers or of joint jailer/dispatchers and are directly responsible for the direct security, custody, and control of the county correctional institution and its inmates, are covered by the Public Employees Correctional Fund. For members first eligible for membership after June 30, 2010, benefits vest on a graduated schedule starting with 50 percent after five years and increasing 10 percent for each year of service until fully vested after ten years. Members eligible for membership before July 1, 2010, are fully vested after three years of service.

PERA provides retirement benefits as well as disability benefits to members and benefits to survivors upon death of eligible members. Benefits are established by state statute. Defined retirement benefits are based on a member's average yearly salary for the five highest-paid consecutive years of allowable service, age, and years of credit at termination of service.

Two methods are used to compute benefits for General Employees Retirement Fund Coordinated and Basic Plan members. The retiring member receives the higher of a step-rate benefit accrual formula (Method 1) or a level accrual formula (Method 2). Under Method 1, the annuity accrual rate for a Basic Plan member is 2.2 percent of average salary for each of the first ten years of service and 2.7 percent for each year thereafter. For a Coordinated Plan member, the annuity accrual rate is 1.2 percent of average salary for each of the first ten years and 1.7 percent for each successive year. Under Method 2, the annuity accrual rate is 2.7 percent of average salary for Basic Plan members and 1.7 percent for Coordinated Plan members for each year of service. For Public Employees Police and Fire Fund members, the annuity accrual rate is 3.0 percent

## 4. Employee Retirement Systems and Pension Plan

# A. <u>Plan Description</u> (Continued)

of average salary for each year of service. For Public Employees Correctional Fund members, the annuity accrual rate is 1.9 percent of average salary for each year of service.

For all General Employees Retirement Fund members hired prior to July 1, 1989, whose annuity is calculated using Method 1, and for all Public Employees Police and Fire Fund and Public Employees Correctional Fund members, a full annuity is available when age plus years of service equal 90. Normal retirement age is 55 for Public Employees Police and Fire Fund members and Public Employees Correctional Fund members, and either 65 or 66 (depending on date hired) for General Employees Retirement Fund members. A reduced retirement annuity is also available to eligible members seeking early retirement.

The benefit provisions stated in the previous paragraphs of this section are current provisions and apply to active plan participants. Vested, terminated employees who are entitled to benefits but are not yet receiving them are bound by the provisions in effect at the time they last terminated public service.

PERA issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for the General Employees Retirement Fund, the Public Employees Police and Fire Fund, and the Public Employees Correctional Fund. That report may be obtained on the internet at www.mnpera.org; by writing to PERA at 60 Empire Drive, Suite 200, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55103-2088; or by calling 651-296-7460 or 1-800-652-9026.

## Funding Policy

Pension benefits are funded from member and employer contributions and income from the investment of fund assets. Rates for employer and employee contributions are set by Minn. Stat. ch. 353. These statutes are established and amended by the State Legislature. The County makes annual contributions to the pension plans equal to the amount required by state statutes. General Employees Retirement Fund Basic Plan members and Coordinated Plan members are required to contribute 9.10 and 6.00 percent, respectively, of their annual covered salary. Public Employees Police and Fire Fund members are required to contribute 9.40 percent. Public Employees Correctional Fund members are required to contribute 5.83 percent of their annual covered salary.

#### 4. Employee Retirement Systems and Pension Plans

#### B. Funding Policy (Continued)

The County is required to contribute the following percentages of annual covered payroll in 2010:

General Employees Retirement Fund	
Basic Plan members	11.78%
Coordinated Plan members	7.00
Public Employees Police and Fire Fund	14.10
Public Employees Correctional Fund	8.75

The County's contributions for the years ending December 31, 2010, 2009, and 2008, for the General Employees Retirement Fund, the Public Employees Police and Fire Fund, and the Public Employees Correctional Fund were:

		2010	 2009	 2008
General Employees Retirement Fund	\$	708,252	\$ 660,611	\$ 627,647
Public Employees Police and Fire Fund		182,007	166,107	145,276
Public Employees Correctional Fund		251,016	137,658	114,684

These contribution amounts are equal to the contractually required contributions for each year as set by state statute.

#### C. Defined Contribution Plan

Five Commissioners and the Sheriff of Freeborn County are covered by the Public Employees Defined Contribution Plan, a multiple-employer, deferred compensation plan administered by PERA. The plan is established and administered in accordance with Minn. Stat. ch. 353D, which may be amended by the State Legislature. The plan is a tax qualified plan under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, and all contributions by or on behalf of employees are tax deferred until time of withdrawal.

Plan benefits depend solely on amounts contributed to the plan plus investment earnings, less administrative expenses. For those qualified personnel who elect to participate, Minn. Stat. § 353D.03 specifies plan provisions, including the employee and employer contribution rates. An eligible elected official who decides to participate contributes 5.00 percent of salary, which is matched by the employer. Employees may elect to make member contributions in an amount not to exceed the employer share. Employee and employer contributions are combined and used to purchase shares in one

## 4. Employee Retirement Systems and Pension Plans

## C. <u>Defined Contribution Plan</u> (Continued)

or more of the seven accounts of the Minnesota Supplemental Investment Fund. For administering the plan, PERA receives 2.00 percent of employer contributions and 0.25 percent of the assets in each member account annually.

Total contributions by dollar amount and percentage of covered payroll made by the County during the year ended December 31, 2010, were:

	En	nployee	Er	Employer			
Contribution amount	\$	8,179	\$	8,179			
Percentage of covered payroll		5%		5%			

Required contribution rates were 5.00 percent.

## D. Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

The County provides health insurance benefits for qualifying retired employees under a single-employer self-insured plan, financed and administered by Freeborn County and the Southeast Service Cooperative. Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota (BCBSM), under contract with Southeast Service Cooperative, is the claims administrator. The County provides benefits for retirees as required by Minn. Stat. § 471.61, subd. 2b. Active employees, who retire from the County when eligible to receive a retirement benefit from PERA (or similar plan) and do not participate in any other health benefits program providing coverage similar to that herein described, will be eligible to continue coverage with respect to both themselves and their eligible dependent(s) under the County's health benefits program. Retirees are required to pay 100 percent of the total group rate. Retirees hired prior to April 7, 1987, are entitled to a fixed County contribution of \$113.02 per month. This benefit can only be used with the County insurance plan. The premium is based on a Medicare Supplement rate determined on retiree population for all retirees 65 and older. As of January 1, 2008, there were 60 retirees receiving Medicare Supplements health benefits from the County's health plan. There were 9 retirees rated with the active employee plan. The County's health insurance plan is a defined contribution plan.

#### 4. Employee Retirement Systems and Pension Plans

#### D. Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) (Continued)

As of year-end, the County has 63 eligible participants. The County finances the plan on a pay-as-you-go basis. During 2010, the County expended \$78,210 for these benefits.

#### Elected Officials

The County offers the same benefit to elected officials. This benefit is funded on a pay-as-you-go basis. Freeborn County has six former elected officials eligible for this benefit. The County expended \$8,024 for this benefit in 2010.

#### Annual OPEB Cost and Net OPEB Obligations

The County's annual OPEB cost is calculated based on the annual required contribution (ARC) of the employer. The County has elected to calculate the ARC and related information using the alternative measurement method permitted by GASB Statement 45 for employers in plans with fewer than 100 total plan members. The ARC represents a level of funding that, if paid on an ongoing basis, is projected to cover normal costs each year and amortize any unfunded actuarial liabilities (or funding excess) over a period not to exceed 30 years. The following table shows the components of the County's annual OPEB cost for 2010, the amount actually contributed to the plan, and changes in the County's net OPEB obligation:

ARC Interest on net OPEB obligation Adjustment to ARC	\$ 62,160  24,074
Annual OPEB cost Contribution during the year	\$ 86,234 (86,234)
Decrease in net OPEB obligation Net OPEB Obligation - Beginning of Year	\$ -
Net OPEB Obligation - End of Year	\$ -

## 4. Employee Retirement Systems and Pension Plans

## D. Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

# Annual OPEB Cost and Net OPEB Obligations (Continued)

The County's annual OPEB cost, the percentage of annual OPEB cost contributed to the plan, and the net OPEB obligation for the year ended December 31, 2010, were as follows:

Fiscal Year Ended	Annual PEB Cost	mployer ntribution	Percentage Contributed	let OPEB
December 31, 2008	\$ 75,271	\$ 90,881	120.74%	\$ (15,610)
December 31, 2009	103,681	88,071	84.94	-
December 31, 2010	86,234	86,234	100.00	-

## Funded Status and Funding Progress

As of June 30, 2008, the actuarial accrued liability for benefits was \$2,242,530, all of which was unfunded. The covered payroll (annual payroll of active employees covered by the plan) was \$12,245,942, and the ratio of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability to the covered payroll was 18.2 percent. The projection of future benefit payments for an ongoing plan involves estimates of the value of reported amounts and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future. Examples include assumptions about future employment, mortality, and the health care cost trend. Amounts determined regarding the funded status of the plan and the annual required contributions of the employer are subject to continual revision as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future. The Schedule of Funding Progress - Other Postemployment Benefits, presented as required supplementary information following the notes to the financial statements, presents multi-year trend information about whether the actuarial value of plan assets is increasing or decreasing over time relative to the actuarial accrued liabilities for benefits.

## Actuarial Methods and Assumptions

Projections of benefits for financial reporting purposes are based on the substantive plan (the plan as understood by the employer and plan members) and include the types of benefits provided at the time of each valuation and the historical pattern of sharing of benefit costs between the employer and plan members to that point. The methods and

## 4. Employee Retirement Systems and Pension Plans

# D. Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

## Actuarial Methods and Assumptions (Continued)

assumptions used include techniques that are designed to reduce the effects of short-term volatility in actuarial accrued liabilities and the actuarial value of assets, consistent with the long-term perspective of the calculations.

The following simplifying assumptions were made:

Retirement age for 31 active employees - Based on the historical average retirement age for the covered group, active plan members were assumed to retire at age 65, or at the first subsequent year in which the members would qualify for benefits.

Marital status - Marital status of members at the calculation date was assumed to continue throughout retirement.

Mortality - Life expectancies were based on mortality tables from the "Social Security On-Line" statistics. The 2008 Trustee Report Cohort Life Tables V.A4 for Males and for Females were used.

Turnover - Nongroup-specific, age-based turnover data from GASB Statement 45 were used as the basis for assigning active members a probability of remaining employed until the assumed retirement age and for developing an expected future working lifetime assumption for purposes of allocating to periods the present value of total benefits to be paid.

Cost trend rate - The benefit is a fixed amount with no escalators.

Health insurance premiums - The benefit is fixed at \$113.02 per month. The actual health insurance premium has no bearing on the County's future cost.

Inflation rate - The cost is fixed; there is no inflation rate.

In addition, a simplified version of the entry age actuarial cost method was used. The unfunded actuarial accrued liability is being amortized as a level percentage of projected payroll on an open basis. The remaining amortization period at June 30, 2008, was 30 years.

# 5. <u>Summary of Significant Contingencies and Other Items</u>

## A. Risk Management

The County is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, or destruction of assets; errors or omissions; injuries to employees; or natural disasters for which the County carries commercial insurance. The County has entered into a joint powers agreement with other Minnesota counties to form the Minnesota Counties Intergovernmental Trust (MCIT). The County is a member of both the MCIT Workers' Compensation and Property and Casualty Divisions. For other risk, the County carries commercial insurance. There were no significant reductions in insurance from the prior year. The amount of settlements did not exceed insurance coverage for the past three fiscal years.

The Workers' Compensation Division of MCIT is self-sustaining based on the contributions charged, so that total contributions plus compounded earnings on these contributions will equal the amount needed to satisfy claims liabilities and other expenses. MCIT participates in the Workers' Compensation Reinsurance Association with coverage at \$450,000 per claim in 2010 and 2011. Should the MCIT Workers' Compensation Division liabilities exceed assets, MCIT may assess the County in a method and amount to be determined by MCIT.

The Property and Casualty Division of MCIT is self-sustaining, and the County pays an annual premium to cover current and future losses. MCIT carries reinsurance for its property lines to protect against catastrophic losses. Should the MCIT Property and Casualty Division liabilities exceed assets, MCIT may assess the County in a method and amount to be determined by MCIT.

# B. <u>Contingent Liabilities</u>

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

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

# 5. <u>Summary of Significant Contingencies and Other Items</u> (Continued)

# C. Joint Ventures

# Family Services Collaborative

The Freeborn County Family Services Collaborative was established in 1996 under the authority of Minn. Stat. §§ 471.59 and 124D.23. The Collaborative includes Freeborn County; the City of Albert Lea; and Independent School Districts 241, 242, and 2866, each of which appoints members to the Collaborative's governing board. The purpose of the Collaborative is to provide a coordinated approach to support and nurture individuals and families through prevention and intervention so as to ensure success for every child.

Control of the Collaborative is vested in a Board of Directors. Freeborn County appoints 2 members to this 13-member Board. The Freeborn County Department of Social Services acts as fiscal agent for the Collaborative. The Collaborative is financed by state grants and appropriations from participating members. During 2010, Freeborn County provided no funding. In the event of withdrawal from the Collaborative, the withdrawing party shall give a 30-day notice. The withdrawing party remains liable for fiscal obligations incurred prior to the effective date of withdrawal and shall not be entitled to any compensation as long as the Collaborative continues in existence. Should the Collaborative cease to exist, all property, real and personal, at the time of termination shall be distributed by the Minnesota Department of Education.

The Collaborative was audited by Ahrens, Montag, and Voglar for 2005. Financial information can be obtained by contacting Alan Olson, Accountant, Freeborn County Social Services, P. O. Box 1248, Albert Lea, Minnesota 56007.

## South Country Health Alliance

The South Country Health Alliance (SCHA) was created by a joint powers agreement between Brown, Dodge, Freeborn, Goodhue, Kanabec, Mower, Sibley, Steele, Wabasha, and Waseca Counties on July 24, 1998, under Minn. Stat. § 471.59. Mower County has since withdrawn. In 2008, Cass, Crow Wing, Morrison, Todd, and Wadena Counties joined in the joint venture. Freeborn, Cass, and Crow Wing Counties voted to withdraw as of December 31, 2010. The agreement was in accordance with Section 256B.692, which allows the formation of a Board of Directors to operate, control, and manage all matters concerning the fourteen participating member counties' health care functions, referred to as county-based purchasing.

# 5. <u>Summary of Significant Contingencies and Other Items</u>

## C. Joint Ventures

# South Country Health Alliance (Continued)

The purpose of the SCHA is to improve the social and health outcomes of its clients and all citizens of its member counties by better coordinating social service, public health and medical services, and promoting the achievement of public health goals. The SCHA is authorized to provide prepaid comprehensive health maintenance services to persons enrolled under Medicaid and General Assistance Medical Care in each of the aforementioned member counties.

Each member county has an explicit and measurable right to its share of the total capital surplus of the SCHA. Gains and losses are allocated annually to all members based on the percentage of their utilization. The County's equity interest in the SCHA at December 31, 2010, was \$1,445,117. This will be paid to the county in five yearly installments, beginning September 15, 2011, and ending on September 15, 2015. Interest will accrue at the rate of 3.250 percent. Total equity and interest payments received over the five-year repayment are \$1,558,522. The equity interest is reported as an investment in joint venture on the government-wide statement of net assets. Changes in equity are included in the government-wide statement of activities as human services expenses.

Complete financial statements for the SCHA can be obtained from its fiscal agent at 630 Florence Avenue, P. O. Box 890, Owatonna, Minnesota 55060-0890.

## D. Jointly-Governed Organizations

Freeborn County, in conjunction with other governmental entities and various private organizations, has formed the jointly-governed organizations listed below:

## Minnesota Counties Computer Cooperative

The Minnesota Counties Computer Cooperative was established to provide computer programming to member counties. During the year, Freeborn County expended \$103,861 to the Cooperative.

## 5. <u>Summary of Significant Contingencies and Other Items</u>

# D. Jointly-Governed Organizations (Continued)

## South Central Minnesota County Comprehensive Water Planning Project

The South Central Minnesota County Comprehensive Water Planning Project was established to provide regional water quality to Minnesota River Basin member counties. During the year, Freeborn County expended \$625 to the Project.

## Southeast Minnesota Emergency Management Services

The Southeast Minnesota Emergency Management Services (EMS) was established to provide various health services to member counties. During the year, Freeborn County made no payments to the EMS.

## Southeast Minnesota Water Quality Board

The Southeast Minnesota Water Quality Board was established to provide regional water quality services to member counties. During the year, Freeborn County made no payments to the Board.

## Southeastern Minnesota Library

The Southeastern Minnesota Library was established to provide library services to member counties. During the year, Freeborn County expended \$262,000 to the Library.

## Southeastern Minnesota Narcotics Task Force

The Southeastern Minnesota Narcotics Task Force was established to provide drug investigation services to member counties. During the year, Freeborn County expended \$6,500 to the Task Force.

**REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** 

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EXHIBIT A-1

# SCHEDULE OF FUNDING PROGRESS - OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS DECEMBER 31, 2010

			Unfunded			
		Actuarial	Actuarial			UAAL as a
	Actuarial	Accrued	Accrued			Percentage
Actuarial	Value of	Liability	Liability	Funded	Covered	of Covered
Valuation	Assets	(AAL)	(UAAL)	Ratio	Payroll	Payroll
Date	(a)	(b)	(b - a)	(a/b)	(c)	((b - a)/c)
June 30, 2008	\$-	\$ 2,242,530	\$ 2,242,530	0.0%	\$ 12,245,942	18.4%

See Note 4.D., Other Postemployment Benefits, for more information.

EXHIBIT A-2

#### BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE GENERAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

	Budgeted	l Amo	ints	Actual	Variance with		
	 Original		Final	 Amounts	Fi	nal Budget	
Revenues							
Taxes	\$ 7,327,050	\$	7,327,050	\$ 6,335,599	\$	(991,451)	
Special assessments	305,000		305,000	370,528		65,528	
Licenses and permits	115,800		115,800	128,536		12,736	
Intergovernmental	3,260,829		3,260,829	4,414,790		1,153,961	
Charges for services	3,187,700		3,187,700	3,816,587		628,887	
Fines and forfeits	45,500		45,500	38,693		(6,807)	
Gifts and contributions	1,100		1,100	7,916		6,816	
Investment earnings	801,000		801,000	137,931		(663,069)	
Miscellaneous	 457,137		457,137	 415,807		(41,330)	
Total Revenues	\$ 15,501,116	\$	15,501,116	\$ 15,666,387	\$	165,271	
Expenditures							
Current							
General government							
Commissioners	\$ 159,359	\$	159,359	\$ 167,218	\$	(7,859)	
Courts	172,000		172,000	98,701		73,299	
County administration	1,188,992		1,188,992	749,242		439,750	
County auditor-treasurer	597,412		597,412	515,398		82,014	
License bureau	259,717		259,717	240,572		19,145	
County assessor	521,331		521,331	436,892		84,439	
Elections	100,000		100,000	65,980		34,020	
Data processing	377,261		377,261	346,503		30,758	
Attorney	566,942		566,942	552,041		14,901	
Law library	29,500		29,500	13,361		16,139	
Recorder	365,578		365,578	444,772		(79,194)	
Surveyor	10,000		10,000	4,265		5,735	
Planning and zoning	132,979		132,979	171,482		(38,503)	
Buildings and plant	721,011		721,011	803,400		(82,389)	
Veterans service officer	154,823		154,823	144,599		10,224	
Other general government	 37,000		37,000	 154,585		(117,585)	
Total general government	\$ 5,393,905	\$	5,393,905	\$ 4,909,011	\$	484,894	

EXHIBIT A-2 (Continued)

#### BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE GENERAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

	 Budgeted	Amounts		Actual		Variance with		
	 Original		Final		Amounts	F	inal Budget	
Expenditures								
Current (Continued)								
Public safety								
Sheriff	\$ 2,105,373	\$	2,105,373	\$	5,315,102	\$	(3,209,729)	
Boat and water safety	5,291		5,291		8,240		(2,949)	
Ambulance	3,500		3,500		3,500		-	
Coroner	79,578		79,578		78,743		835	
E-911 system	64,520		64,520		247,579		(183,059)	
County jail	2,614,484		2,614,484		2,765,271		(150,787)	
Law enforcement center	6,000		6,000		19,593		(13,593)	
Community corrections	733,680		733,680		806,705		(73,025)	
Civil defense	61,359		61,359		86,293		(24,934)	
Other public safety	 11,300		11,300		147		11,153	
Total public safety	\$ 5,685,085	\$	5,685,085	\$	9,331,173	\$	(3,646,088)	
Highways and streets								
Administration	\$ 10,000	\$	10,000	\$	11,252	\$	(1,252)	
Sanitation								
Recycling	\$ 405,717	\$	405,717	\$	382,825	\$	22,892	
Human services								
Income maintenance	\$ 50,000	\$	50,000	\$	34,240	\$	15,760	
Social services	 50,000		50,000		34,240		15,760	
Total human services	\$ 100,000	\$	100,000	\$	68,480	\$	31,520	
Health								
Community health	\$ 413,891	\$	413,891	\$	363,148	\$	50,743	
Administration	288,703		288,703		298,787		(10,084)	
Health education	79,223		79,223		149,178		(69,955)	
WIC	162,845		162,845		178,519		(15,674)	
Maternal and child health	57,988		57,988		20,683		37,305	
Disease prevention	78,117		78,117		85,229		(7,112)	
Child and teen checkups	56,329		56,329		47,981		8,348	
Home health	 428,082		428,082		320,234		107,848	
	\$							

EXHIBIT A-2 (Continued)

#### BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE GENERAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

	 Budgetee	l Amo	Amounts		Actual	Variance with		
	 Original		Final		Amounts	F	inal Budget	
Expenditures								
Current (Continued)								
Culture and recreation								
Parks	\$ 70,900	\$	70,900	\$	273,095	\$	(202,195	
Museum	33,000		33,000		25,118		7,882	
County/regional library	262,000		262,000		262,000		-	
Other culture and recreation	 1,275		1,275		1,275		-	
Total culture and recreation	\$ 367,175	\$	367,175	\$	561,488	\$	(194,313	
Conservation of natural resources								
County extension	\$ 179,449	\$	179,449	\$	170,554	\$	8,895	
Soil and water conservation	141,000		141,000		141,000		-	
Agricultural inspection	56,139		56,139		35,600		20,539	
Agricultural society/County fair	65,000		65,000		62,783		2,217	
Water planning	118,153		118,153		101,664		16,489	
Water quality	19,600		19,600		43,745		(24,145	
Environmental services	 82,355		82,355		5,331		77,024	
Total conservation of natural								
resources	\$ 661,696	\$	661,696	\$	560,677	\$	101,019	
Economic development								
Community development	\$ 10,000	\$	10,000	\$	10,000	\$	-	
Tourism	1,600		1,600		-		1,600	
Other economic development	 5,000		5,000		5,000		-	
Total economic development	\$ 16,600	\$	16,600	\$	15,000	\$	1,600	
Capital outlay								
General government	\$ 50,000	\$	50,000	\$	69,671	\$	(19,671	
Public safety	23,500		23,500		351,690		(328,190	
Highways and streets	 50,000		50,000		56,713		(6,713	
Total capital outlay	\$ 123,500	\$	123,500	\$	478,074	\$	(354,574	
Debt service								
Bond issuance costs	\$ -	\$	-	\$	21,663	\$	(21,663	
Total Expenditures	\$ 14,328,856	\$	14,328,856	\$	17,803,402	\$	(3,474,546	

EXHIBIT A-2 (Continued)

#### BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE GENERAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

	Budgeted Amounts					Actual	Variance with	
		Original		Final		Amounts	F	inal Budget
Excess of Revenues Over (Under)	¢	1 150 0/0	¢	1 150 0/0	¢	(2, 127, 015)	¢	(2 200 255)
Expenditures	\$	1,172,260	\$	1,172,260	\$	(2,137,015)	\$	(3,309,275)
Other Financing Sources (Uses)								
Transfers out	\$	-	\$	-	\$	(92,619)	\$	(92,619)
Bonds issued		-		-		525,000		525,000
Capital notes issued		-		-		3,575,000		3,575,000
Proceeds from sale of capital assets		25,000		25,000		61,065		36,065
<b>Total Other Financing Sources</b>								
(Uses)	\$	25,000	\$	25,000	\$	4,068,446	\$	4,043,446
Net Change in Fund Balance	\$	1,197,260	\$	1,197,260	\$	1,931,431	\$	734,171
Fund Balance - January 1		6,078,849		6,078,849		6,078,849		-
Fund Balance - December 31	\$	7,276,109	\$	7,276,109	\$	8,010,280	\$	734,171

EXHIBIT A-3

#### BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE ROAD AND BRIDGE SPECIAL REVENUE FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

	Budgetee	l Amou	ints	Actual	Variance with		
	 Original		Final	 Amounts	F	inal Budget	
Revenues							
Taxes	\$ 2,856,897	\$	2,856,897	\$ 2,800,168	\$	(56,729)	
Licenses and permits	-		-	10,025		10,025	
Intergovernmental	6,375,000		6,375,000	5,233,386		(1,141,614)	
Charges for services	1,000		1,000	50,448		49,448	
Miscellaneous	 55,750		55,750	 37,005		(18,745)	
Total Revenues	\$ 9,288,647	\$	9,288,647	\$ 8,131,032	\$	(1,157,615)	
Expenditures							
Current							
Highways and streets							
Administration	\$ 372,773	\$	372,773	\$ 288,937	\$	83,836	
Maintenance	3,166,304		3,166,304	2,313,744		852,560	
Construction	5,095,000		5,095,000	3,013,177		2,081,823	
Equipment maintenance and shop	654,570		654,570	972,758		(318,188)	
Other	 -		-	 271,373		(271,373)	
Total highways and streets	\$ 9,288,647	\$	9,288,647	\$ 6,859,989	\$	2,428,658	
Capital outlay							
Highways and streets	\$ -	\$	-	\$ 285,448	\$	(285,448)	
Total Expenditures	\$ 9,288,647	\$	9,288,647	\$ 7,145,437	\$	2,143,210	
Excess of Revenues Over (Under)							
Expenditures	\$ -	\$	-	\$ 985,595	\$	985,595	
Fund Balance - January 1 Increase (decrease) in reserved for	2,011,705		2,011,705	2,011,705		-	
inventories	 -		-	 71,646		71,646	
Fund Balance - December 31	\$ 2,011,705	\$	2,011,705	\$ 3,068,946	\$	1,057,241	

EXHIBIT A-4

#### BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE SOCIAL SERVICES SPECIAL REVENUE FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

	Budgeted			unts	Actual	Variance with		
		Original		Final	 Amounts	Fi	nal Budget	
Revenues								
Taxes	\$	5,332,994	\$	5,332,994	\$ 5,202,479	\$	(130,515)	
Intergovernmental		4,300,162		4,300,162	4,444,548		144,386	
Charges for services		437,800		437,800	382,591		(55,209)	
Fines and forfeits		4,000		4,000	636		(3,364)	
Gifts and contributions		40,800		40,800	43,342		2,542	
Miscellaneous		482,000		482,000	 488,612		6,612	
Total Revenues	\$	10,597,756	\$	10,597,756	\$ 10,562,208	\$	(35,548)	
Expenditures								
Current								
Public safety								
Victim crisis	\$	195,319	\$	195,319	\$ 205,811	\$	(10,492)	
Human services								
Income maintenance	\$	2,617,218	\$	2,617,218	\$ 2,505,616	\$	111,602	
Social services		5,985,024		5,985,024	 5,233,141		751,883	
Total human services	\$	8,602,242	\$	8,602,242	\$ 7,738,757	\$	863,485	
Health								
Mental health center	\$	1,800,195	\$	1,800,195	\$ 1,887,936	\$	(87,741)	
Total Expenditures	\$	10,597,756	\$	10,597,756	\$ 9,832,504	\$	765,252	
Excess of Revenues Over (Under)								
Expenditures	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 729,704	\$	729,704	
Fund Balance - January 1		4,922,864		4,922,864	 4,922,864		-	
Fund Balance - December 31	\$	4,922,864	\$	4,922,864	\$ 5,652,568	\$	729,704	

EXHIBIT A-5

#### BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE DITCH SPECIAL REVENUE FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

	<b>Budgeted Amounts</b>			Actual	Variance with	
	 Original		Final	 Amounts	Fir	nal Budget
Revenues						
Special assessments	\$ 1,281,000	\$	1,281,000	\$ 1,200,555	\$	(80,445)
Intergovernmental	-		-	52,307		52,307
Miscellaneous	 -		-	 5,794		5,794
Total Revenues	\$ 1,281,000	\$	1,281,000	\$ 1,258,656	\$	(22,344)
Expenditures						
Current						
<b>Conservation of natural resources</b>						
Other	\$ 850,000	\$	850,000	\$ 848,826	\$	1,174
Debt service						
Principal	325,000		325,000	310,459		14,541
Interest	106,000		106,000	94,943		11,057
Administrative (fiscal) charges	 -		-	 18,791		(18,791)
Total Expenditures	\$ 1,281,000	\$	1,281,000	\$ 1,273,019	\$	7,981
Excess of Revenues Over (Under)						
Expenditures	\$ -	\$	-	\$ (14,363)	\$	(14,363)
Fund Balance - January 1	 1,927,507		1,927,507	 1,927,507		-
Fund Balance - December 31	\$ 1,927,507	\$	1,927,507	\$ 1,913,144	\$	(14,363)

# NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

## 1. Budgetary Information

Annual budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles for the General Fund, all special revenue funds other than the Revolving Loan Fund, and the Courthouse Improvement Debt Service Fund. All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year-end.

On or before mid-June of each year, all departments and agencies submit requests for appropriations to the Freeborn County Administrator so that a budget can be prepared. Before October 31, the proposed budget is presented to the County Board for review. The Board holds public hearings, and a final budget must be prepared and adopted no later than December 31.

The appropriated budget is prepared by fund, function, and department. The County's department head may make transfers of appropriations within a department. Transfers of appropriations between departments require approval of the County Board. The legal level of budgetary control (the level at which expenditures may not legally exceed appropriations) is the fund level. During the year, the Board made no supplemental budgetary appropriations.

Encumbrance accounting is employed in governmental funds. Encumbrances (for example, purchase orders or contracts) outstanding at year-end are reported as reservations of fund balances and do not constitute expenditures or liabilities because the commitments will be reapportioned and honored during the subsequent year.

## 2. Excess of Expenditures Over Appropriations

For the year ended December 31, 2010, expenditures exceeded appropriations in the General Fund by \$3,474,546.

#### 3. Other Postemployment Benefits

Beginning in 2008, Freeborn County implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 45, *Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*. Since the County has not irrevocably deposited funds in a trust for future health benefits, the actuarial value of the assets is zero. Currently, only one year's worth of data is available. Future reports will provide additional trend analysis to meet the three-actuarial-valuation data requirement as the information becomes available.

See Note 4.D. in the notes to the financial statements for additional information regarding the County's other postemployment benefits.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

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# NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

# SPECIAL REVENUE FUND

Special revenue funds account for proceeds of specific revenue sources legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes.

The <u>Revolving Loan Fund</u> accounts for economic development relating to the loan from the State of Minnesota's Department of Employment and Economic Development. Part of the money received back will be used again for new loans.

# DEBT SERVICE FUNDS

Debt service funds account for the resources used to pay the County's long-term debt principal and interest.

The <u>TIF #1 Fund</u> accounts for the accumulation of resources used for the retirement of the 1998 General Obligation Taxable Tax Increment Bonds and related interest costs.

The <u>Courthouse Improvement Fund</u> accounts for the accumulation of resources used for the retirement of the 2002 General Obligation Criminal Justice Bonds and related interest costs.

The <u>Turtle Creek Watershed District Fund</u> accounts for the accumulation of resources used for the retirement of the 2002 Turtle Creek Watershed District Special Assessment Refunding Bonds and related interest costs.

The <u>Radio Bonds Fund</u> accounts for the accumulation of resources used for the retirement of the 2010 General Obligation Capital Notes and related interest costs.

The <u>Waste Disposal Bonds Fund</u> accounts for the accumulation of resources used for the retirement of the 2010 General Obligation Waste Disposal Bonds and related interest costs.

# NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS (Continued)

# PERMANENT FUND

Permanent funds report resources legally restricted to the extent that only earnings, and not principal, may be used to support the County's programs.

The <u>U.S. Fish and Wildlife Fund</u> accounts for money received because of land acquired and taken off the tax rolls. Interest is to be used to offset the taxes.

EXHIBIT B-1

#### COMBINING BALANCE SHEET NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS DECEMBER 31, 2010

	Special			Debt S		Permanent				
		Revenue Revolving Loan	-	ourthouse provement	W	rtle Creek Vatershed District		Fund U.S. Fish d Wildlife	Total (Exhibit 3)	
Assets										
Cash and pooled investments	\$	40,333	\$	592,366	\$	86,090	\$	136,060	\$	854,849
Taxes receivable Prior		_		25,377		_		_		25,377
Special assessments receivable				23,377						23,311
Noncurrent		-		-		653		-		653
Accrued interest receivable Loans receivable		341 136,415		-		-		58		399 136,415
Loans receivable		150,415				-				150,415
Total Assets	\$	177,089	\$	617,743	\$	86,743	\$	136,118	\$	1,017,693
Liabilities and Fund Balances										
Liabilities										
Due to other governments	\$	3,260	\$	-	\$	-		-	\$	3,260
Deferred revenue - unavailable		-		21,404		653		-		22,057
Total Liabilities	\$	3,260	\$	21,404	\$	653	\$	-	\$	25,317
Fund Balances										
Reserved for debt service	\$	110,853	\$	596,339	\$	86,090	\$	-	\$	793,282
Reserved for endowments Reserved for economic		-		-		-		135,239		135,239
development		62,976		-		-		-		62,976
Unreserved		02,770								02,770
Undesignated		-		-		-		879		879
Total Fund Balances	\$	173,829	\$	596,339	\$	86,090	\$	136,118	\$	992,376
Total Liabilities and Fund	¢	177 000	¢	(17 74)	¢	96 742	¢	126 119	¢	1 017 602
Balances	\$	177,089	\$	617,743	\$	86,743	\$	136,118	\$	1,017,693

#### COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

	]	Special <u>Revenue</u> Revolving Loan			Courthouse TIF #1 Improvement		
Revenues							
Taxes	\$	-	\$	-	\$	742,504	
Special assessments		-		-		-	
Investment earnings		4,702		-		-	
Total Revenues	\$	4,702	\$	-	\$	742,504	
Expenditures							
Current							
Conservation of natural							
resources	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	
Economic development		-		2,942		-	
Debt service							
Principal		35,451		-		410,000	
Interest		3,673		-		321,890	
Administrative (fiscal) charges						538	
Total Expenditures	\$	39,124	\$	2,942	\$	732,428	
Excess of Revenues Over							
(Under) Expenditures	\$	(34,422)	\$	(2,942)	\$	10,076	
Other Financing Sources (Uses)							
Transfers in		-		-		-	
Net Change in Fund Balance	\$	(34,422)	\$	(2,942)	\$	10,076	
Fund Balance - January 1		208,251		2,942		586,263	
Fund Balance - December 31	\$	173,829	\$	-	\$	596,339	

Debt Service 1rtle Creek				Waste		manent Fund			
Watershed District		Radio Bonds		Disposal Bonds	U.	S. Fish Wildlife	Total (Exhibit 5)		
\$ - 1,849 -	\$	- - -	\$	- - -	\$	- - 879	\$	742,504 1,849 5,581	
\$ 1,849	\$		\$		\$	879	\$	749,934	
\$ 237,112	\$	- - -	\$	- - -	\$	256	\$	237,368 2,942	
 119,541 5,410 27		79,667 550		11,852 550		- - -		564,992 422,492 1,665	
\$ 362,090	\$	80,217	\$	12,402	\$	256	\$	1,229,459	
\$ (360,241)	\$	(80,217)	\$	(12,402)	\$	623	\$	(479,525)	
 		80,217		12,402				92,619	
\$ (360,241)	\$	-	\$	-	\$	623	\$	(386,906)	
 446,331		-		-		135,495		1,379,282	
\$ 86,090	\$	-	\$	-	\$	136,118	\$	992,376	

EXHIBIT C-1

#### BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE COURTHOUSE IMPROVEMENT DEBT SERVICE FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

	 Budgeted Amounts			Actual		Variance with	
	 Original		Final	 Amounts	Fir	nal Budget	
Revenues							
Taxes	\$ 758,000	\$	758,000	\$ 742,504	\$	(15,496)	
Expenditures							
Debt service							
Principal	\$ 395,000	\$	395,000	\$ 410,000	\$	(15,000)	
Interest	353,000		353,000	321,890		31,110	
Administrative (fiscal) charges	 1,500		1,500	 538		962	
Total Expenditures	\$ 749,500	\$	749,500	\$ 732,428	\$	17,072	
Excess of Revenues Over (Under)							
Expenditures	\$ 8,500	\$	8,500	\$ 10,076	\$	1,576	
Fund Balance - January 1	 586,263		586,263	 586,263		-	
Fund Balance - December 31	\$ 594,763	\$	594,763	\$ 596,339	\$	1,576	

# FIDUCIARY FUNDS

# AGENCY FUNDS

The <u>Agency Collections Fund</u> accounts for the following:

The Current School Section accounts for collection of penalty and interest on property taxes and transmission tax. These taxes are distributed according to Minn. Stat. §§ 276.131 and 127A.34.

The Group Insurance Section accounts for payroll deductions for group health insurance.

The Mortgage Registry Tax Section accounts for the taxes received in registering a mortgage within the County.

The Post Placement Program Section accounts for money received by court services to help adolescents adapt to living in the community.

The Prepaid Tax Section accounts for payments received on taxes before the preparation of the tax statements or prior to January 1 of the year due.

The Refunding Section accounts for the refunding of property taxes.

The State Deed Tax Section accounts for the transfer of money to the state received from the sale of state deed stamps.

The State Revenue Section accounts for funds held pending remittance to the state.

The Stream Maintenance Agreement Section accounts for money received to help maintain area streams.

The <u>Collaborative Fund</u> accounts for funds associated with the Family Collaborative Joint Powers Board.

The <u>Recorder's Clearing Fund</u> accounts for funds collected by the Recorder's Department for other governments.

# FIDUCIARY FUNDS

# AGENCY FUNDS (Continued)

The <u>Tax Collection Fund</u> accounts for the collection and distribution of property taxes and other amounts.

The Payroll Clearing Fund accounts for payroll withholdings.

The Insurance Fund accounts for insurance payments.

The Motor Vehicle Fund accounts for drivers' licenses and vehicle licenses.

The Turtle Creek Watershed Fund accounts for the operations of the watershed district.

EXHIBIT D-1

#### COMBINING STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ALL AGENCY FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

	Balance January 1 Additions		Deductions		Balance December 31		
AGENCY COLLECTIONS							
Assets							
Cash and pooled investments	\$	76,630	\$ 3,988,907	\$	3,940,463	\$	125,074
Liabilities							
Due to other governments	\$	76,630	\$ 3,988,907	\$	3,940,463	\$	125,074
<b>COLLABORATIVE</b>							
Assets							
Cash and pooled investments	\$	102,067	\$ 304,126	\$	336,972	\$	69,221
Liabilities							
Due to other funds Due to other governments	\$	- 102,067	\$ 40,710 263,416	\$	336,972	\$	40,710 28,511
Total Liabilities	\$	102,067	\$ 304,126	\$	336,972	\$	69,221
RECORDER'S - CLEARING							
Assets							
Cash and pooled investments	\$	3,557	\$ 53,202	\$	52,916	\$	3,843
Liabilities							
Due to other governments	\$	3,557	\$ 53,202	\$	52,916	\$	3,843

EXHIBIT D-1 (Continued)

#### COMBINING STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ALL AGENCY FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

		alance nuary 1	 Additions	Deductions		Balance December 31	
TAX COLLECTION							
Assets							
Cash and pooled investments	\$	342,896	\$ 40,903,775	\$	40,939,409	\$	307,262
<u>Liabilities</u>							
Due to other funds	\$	-	\$ 18,239,053	\$	18,239,053	\$	-
Due to other governments		342,896	 22,664,722		22,700,356		307,262
Total Liabilities	<b>Þ</b>	342,896	\$ 40,903,775	\$	40,939,409	\$	307,262
<u>PAYROLL CLEARING</u> <u>Assets</u>							
Cash and pooled investments Due from other governments	\$	- 21,300	\$ 118,604 25,524	\$	118,604 21,300	\$	- 25,524
Total Assets	\$	21,300	\$ 144,128	\$	139,904	\$	25,524
<u>Liabilities</u>							
Accounts payable Advance from governmental funds	\$	21,300	\$ 118,604 25,524	\$	118,604 21,300	\$	25,524

\$

<u>21,300</u> <u>\$ 144,128</u> <u>\$ 139,904</u> <u>\$</u>

**Total Liabilities** 

25,524

EXHIBIT D-1 (Continued)

#### COMBINING STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ALL AGENCY FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

	Balance January 1 Additions		I	Deductions		Balance December 31	
<b>INSURANCE</b>							
Assets							
Cash and pooled investments	\$	116,703	\$ 10,413	\$	<u> </u>	\$	127,116
Liabilities							
Due to other funds	\$	-	\$ 413	\$	-	\$	413
Advance from governmental funds		116,703	 10,000		-		126,703
Total Liabilities	\$	116,703	\$ 10,413	\$		\$	127,116
MOTOR VEHICLE							
Assets							
Cash and pooled investments	\$	25,000	\$ 6,210,938	\$	6,210,938	\$	25,000
Liabilities							
Advance from governmental funds	\$	25,000	\$ 6,210,938	\$	6,210,938	\$	25,000

EXHIBIT D-1 (Continued)

#### COMBINING STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ALL AGENCY FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

	Balance anuary 1	Additions		Deductions		Balance December 31	
TURTLE CREEK WATERSHED							
Assets							
Cash and pooled investments Due from other governments	\$ 57,655 15,345	\$	458,004	\$	193,654 15,345	\$	322,005
Total Assets	\$ 73,000	\$	458,004	\$	208,999	\$	322,005
<b>Liabilities</b>							
Due to other governments Advance from governmental funds	\$ 73,000	\$	153,105 168,900	\$	73,000	\$	153,105 168,900
Total Liabilities	\$ 73,000	\$	322,005	\$	73,000	\$	322,005
<u>TOTAL ALL AGENCY FUNDS</u> <u>Assets</u>							
Cash and pooled investments Due from other governments	\$ 724,508 36,645	\$	52,047,969 25,524	\$	51,792,956 36,645	\$	979,521 25,524
Total Assets	\$ 761,153	\$	52,073,493	\$	51,829,601	\$	1,005,045
<b>Liabilities</b>							
Accounts payable Due to other funds Due to other governments Advance from governmental funds	\$ 525,150 236,003	\$	118,604 18,280,176 27,123,352 6,415,362	\$	118,604 18,239,053 27,030,707 6,305,238	\$	41,123 617,795 346,127
Total Liabilities	\$ 761,153	\$	51,937,494	\$	51,693,602	\$	1,005,045

**OTHER SCHEDULES** 

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#### EXHIBIT E-1

#### SCHEDULE OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

Shared Revenue		
State	•	
Highway users tax	\$	5,013,698
PERA rate reimbursement		44,126
Disparity reduction aid Police aid		45,827
County program aid		145,604
Market value credit		1,381,865 1,108,319
Enhanced 911		1,108,319
Total shared revenue	\$	7,853,010
Reimbursement for Services	<u></u>	
State		
Minnesota Department of Human Services	<u>\$</u>	556,001
Payments		
Local		
Local contributions	\$	176,210
Payments in lieu of taxes		34,323
Total payments	\$	210,533
Grants		
State		
Minnesota Department/Board of		
Agriculture	\$	700
Public Safety		156,345
Health		248,326
Natural Resources		67,688
Human Services		1,586,923
Corrections		193,141
Transportation Water and Soil Resources		186,587
		192,932
Pollution Control Agency Peace Officer Standards and Training Board		83,529 9,321
Teace officer Standards and Training Doard		9,521
Total state	\$	2,725,492
Federal		
Department of		
Agriculture	\$	413,184
Justice		18,757
Education		4,000
Health and Human Services		2,231,928
Homeland Security		122,548
Transportation		9,578
Total federal	<u>\$</u>	2,799,995
Total state and federal grants	<u>\$</u>	5,525,487
Total Intergovernmental Revenue	<u>\$</u>	14,145,031
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EXHIBIT E-2

#### SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

Federal Grantor Pass-Through Agency Grant Program Title	Federal CFDA Number	Ex	penditures
U.S. Department of Agriculture			
Direct			
Wetland reserve program	10.072	\$	43,410
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Health			
Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children	10.557		201,292
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Human Services			
State Administrative Matching Grants for the Supplemental Nutrition			
Assistance Program (SNAP) Cluster			
State Administrative Matching Grants for SNAP	10.561		206,836
State Administrative Matching Grants for SNAP - ARRA	10.561		6,511
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture		\$	458,049
U.S. Department of Justice			
Direct			
State Criminal Alien Assistance Program	16.606	\$	12,467
Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program	16.607		6,290
Total U.S. Department of Transportation		\$	18,757
U.S. Department of Transportation			
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Public Safety			
State and Community Highway Safety	20.600	\$	9,578
U.S. Department of Education			
Passed Through Albert Lea School District #241			
Special Education - Grants for Infants and Families	84.181	\$	4,000
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services			
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Health			
Public Health Emergency Preparedness	93.069	\$	50,105
Universal Newborn Hearing Screening	93.251		150
Immunization Cluster			
Immunization Grant	93.268		620
Immunization Grant - ARRA	93.712		2,498
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - Investigations and Technical			
Assistance	93.283		14,824
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	93.558		44,266
Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant to the States	93.994		38,365

The notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards are an integral part of this schedule.

#### EXHIBIT E-2 (Continued)

#### SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

Federal Grantor Pass-Through Agency	Federal CFDA		
Grant Program Title	Number	E	penditures
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Continued)			
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Human Services			
Promoting Safe and Stable Families	93.556		13,020
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	93.558		486,717
Child Support Enforcement Cluster			
Child Support Enforcement	93.563		511,653
Child Support Enforcement - ARRA	93.563		56,714
Refugee and Entrant Assistance - State-Administered Programs	93.566		263
Child Care Mandatory and Matching Funds of the Child Care and			
Development Fund	93.596		25,472
Stephanie Tubbs Jones Child Welfare Services Program	93.645		1,536
Foster Care Title IV-E	93.658		147,907
Social Services Block Grant	93.667		222,222
Chafee Foster Care Independence Program	93.674		3,657
Children's Health Insurance Program	93.767		305
Medical Assistance Program	93.778		614,878
Passed Through Mayo Foundation			
National Bioterrorism Hospital Preparedness Program	93.889		4,736
Total U.S. Department of Health and Human Services		\$	2,239,908
U.S. Department of Homeland Security			
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Natural Resources			
Boating Safety Financial Assistance	97.012	\$	4,594
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Public Safety			
Disaster Grants - Public Assistance (Presidentially Declared Disasters)	97.036		120,394
Emergency Management Performance Grants	97.042		13,263
Homeland Security Grant Program	97.067		3,000
Passed Through Southeastern Minnesota Regional Radio Board			
Interoperable Emergency Communications	97.055		250
Homeland Security Grant Program	97.067		11,725
Total U.S. Department of Homeland Security		\$	153,226
Total Federal Awards		\$	2,883,518

The notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards are an integral part of this schedule.

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# NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

#### 1. Reporting Entity

The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards presents the activities of federal award programs expended by Freeborn County. The County's reporting entity is defined in Note 1 to the financial statements.

#### 2. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards includes the federal grant activity of Freeborn County under programs of the federal government for the year ended December 31, 2010. The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*. Because the schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of Freeborn County, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, changes in net assets, or cash flows of Freeborn County.

#### 3. <u>Summary of Significant Accounting Policies</u>

Expenditures reported on the schedule are reported on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in OMB Circular A-87, *Cost Principles for State, Local and Indian Tribal Governments*, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement. Pass-through grant numbers were not assigned by the pass-through agencies.

#### 4. <u>Reconciliation to Schedule of Intergovernmental Revenue</u>

Federal grant revenue per Schedule of Intergovernmental Revenue	\$ 2,799,995
Grants received more than 60 days after year-end, deferred in 2010	12 110
Wetland Reserve Program (CFDA #10.072)	43,410
State Administrative Matching Grants for SNAP (CFDA #10.561)	1,455
Child Support Enforcement (CFDA #93.563)	26,603
Child Care Mandatory and Matching Funds of the Child Care and Development Fund	
(CFDA #93.596)	2,201
Foster Care Title IV-E (CFDA #93.658)	5,276
Disaster Grants - Public Assistance (Presidentially Declared Disasters) (CFDA #97.036)	44,522
Emergency Management Performance Grants (CFDA #97.042)	3,130
Deferred in 2009, recognized as revenue in 2010	
Child Support Enforcement (CFDA #93.563)	(26,100)
Emergency Management Performance Grants (CFDA #97.042)	 (16,974)
Expenditures Per Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards	\$ 2,883,518

# 5. <u>Subrecipients</u>

During 2010, Freeborn County did not pass any federal money to subrecipients.

#### 6. American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) requires recipients to clearly distinguish ARRA funds from non-ARRA funding. In the schedule, ARRA funds are denoted by the addition of ARRA to the program name.

Management and Compliance Section This page was left blank intentionally.

# SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2010

# I. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

- A. Our report expresses unqualified opinions on the basic financial statements of Freeborn County.
- B. Significant deficiencies in internal control were disclosed by the audit of financial statements of Freeborn County and are reported in the "Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards.*" None were material weaknesses.
- C. No instances of noncompliance material to the financial statements of Freeborn County were disclosed during the audit.
- D. No matters involving internal control over compliance relating to the audit of the major federal award programs are reported in the "Report on Compliance with Requirements That Could Have a Direct and Material Effect on Each Major Program and on Internal Control Over Compliance in Accordance with OMB Circular A-133."
- E. The Auditor's Report on Compliance for the major federal award programs for Freeborn County expresses an unqualified opinion.
- F. No findings were disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with Section 510(a) of OMB Circular A-133.
- G. The major programs are:

State Administrative Matching Grants for the Supplemental	
Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Cluster	
State Administrative Matching Grants for SNAP	CFDA #10.561
State Administrative Matching Grants For SNAP - ARRA	CFDA #10.561
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	CFDA #93.558
Child Support Enforcement Cluster	
Child Support Enforcement	CFDA #93.563
Child Support Enforcement - ARRA	CFDA #93.563
Medical Assistance Program	CFDA #93.778

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- H. The threshold for distinguishing between Types A and B programs was \$300,000.
- I. Freeborn County was not determined to be a low-risk auditee.

# II. FINDINGS RELATED TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AUDITED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

# INTERNAL CONTROL

# PREVIOUSLY REPORTED ITEMS NOT RESOLVED

#### 07-4 Segregation of Duties - Payroll

One basic objective of internal control is to provide segregation of incompatible duties. In other words, responsibilities should be separated between input, processing, and disbursing function. During our review of the County's payroll function, we noted the following:

- The individual who is entering the information from the time sheets is also the individual who is making the changes and adding new employees to the system.
- The same individual who inputs/processes payroll is also disbursing payroll.
- The employee disbursing payroll is also the only employee that receives the direct deposit confirmation.

The County should provide for the segregation of functions and responsibilities so that no one person has incompatible duties that would permit the perpetration and concealment of material errors or irregularities.

We recommend the County segregate the duties in the payroll process. This would include segregating the input function from the disbursing function and changes/adding new employees. The direct deposit confirmation should also be sent to an employee independent of the payroll disbursing function and verified to supporting documentation.

#### Client's Response:`

The personnel department authorizes all payroll changes with a status report. This includes adding or removing someone from payroll. They also review the payroll runs. The direct deposit confirmation is now sent to the Auditor's Office and compared to the authorized amount.

#### 08-2 Departmental Internal Accounting Controls

One basic objective of internal control is to provide for segregation of incompatible duties. In other words, responsibilities should be separated among employees so that a single employee is not able to authorize a transaction, record the transaction in accounts, and be responsible for custody of the asset resulting from the transaction. Due to the limited number of personnel within some County offices, segregation of accounting duties necessary to ensure adequate internal accounting control is not always possible. This is not unusual in operations the size of Freeborn County; however, the County's management should constantly be aware of this condition and realize that the concentration of duties and responsibilities in a limited number of individuals is not desirable from an internal control point of view.

We recommend when it is not feasible to segregate certain duties, Freeborn County's department management should implement monitoring procedures to verify that all collections received are immediately receipted and deposited in the County treasury on a timely basis. Monitoring procedures should also include the reviewing of the department's monthly collection reports to determine that the monthly collections meet budgetary expectations and are consistent with the prior years' monthly and year-to-date collections. Unexpected variance in the monthly collection should be investigated by the department management.

#### Client's Response:

The County has implemented monitoring of all budget to actual information by the department head on a quarterly basis. This is now being changed to a monthly basis.

#### 09-1 Disbursement Internal Controls

One basic objective of internal controls is to provide for segregation of incompatible duties so that no single individual can establish a vendor, authorize a transaction, record a transaction, and obtain custody of the asset resulting from the transaction. When it is not possible to limit an employee's incompatible duties, mitigating controls, such as independent review, should be implemented to ensure that transactions are authorized and appropriate. The County should provide for the segregation of functions and responsibilities so that no one person has incompatible duties that would permit the perpetration and concealment of material errors or irregularities.

We noted two employees have the ability to enter new vendors, create disbursements, print the warrants, and access the check stock. The County has procedures in place for the review of new vendors created, but the review had not been done for 2010 since January. We also noted for the Social Service Information System Fiscal Payment disbursement process, several employees can create disbursements, approve disbursements, modify payments, and submit payment batch requests.

We recommend the County segregate the disbursement duties where possible. If this is not feasible, monitoring procedures should be established and be conducted in a timely manner.

#### Client's Response:

We will make every attempt to meet the recommendations of the State Auditor.

### 09-2 Data Processing Policies and Procedures

The County does not have written policies and procedures in place to address the following for their information technology systems: information security, operations development, termination of employees, risk assessments of the systems, and email encryption methods. All major policies and procedures related to the information technology systems should be documented so that employees are aware of the County's policies and procedures relating to security, operations development, and termination of employees. If they are not aware, there may not be consistent application of procedures by all County staff, and this could leave the County information more vulnerable to loss or destruction of data.

We recommend the County Information Systems Department establish policies and procedures relating to information technology systems specifically relating to information security, operations development, termination of employees, assessment of the systems, and email encryption methods. The County should also ensure that County staff are given the policies and procedures and are made aware that they are responsible for compliance with them.

#### Client's Response:

We will make every attempt to meet the recommendations of the State Auditor.

# ITEMS ARISING THIS YEAR

#### 10-1 Access to Accounting System

There should be adequate segregation of duties among those who are administering information technology security and those processing accounting transactions. We noted in our review of user access to the accounting system that Data Processing Department personnel have user access to the accounting system. User access to the accounting system should be limited to those whose job positions are to process accounting transactions. The current condition provides the opportunity for Data Processing Department personnel to make unauthorized entries to the accounting data files.

We recommend that user access to the accounting system be limited to those whose positions are to process accounting transactions.

#### Client's Response:

We will make every attempt to meet the recommendations of the State Auditor.

#### PREVIOUSLY REPORTED ITEMS RESOLVED

#### Audit Adjustments (06-2)

During our audit, we proposed material adjustments that resulted in significant changes to the County's financial statements.

#### Resolution

The County has continued to implement procedures over financial reporting to detect misstatements in the financial statements. No material audit adjustments were proposed for the 2010 audit.

#### **Payroll Policies (09-3)**

Payroll disbursements for individual employees did not always follow County policy. County policy states overtime hours are paid only for hours worked in excess of 40 hours per work week. Four of the 40 payroll disbursements tested included pay for vacation, sick, or holiday hours in the same week the employee was paid overtime.

#### Resolution

The County has changed its policy regarding overtime pay for Highway Department employees in June of 2011.

#### III. FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR FEDERAL AWARD PROGRAMS

#### PREVIOUSLY REPORTED ITEMS RESOLVED

# Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Grant Reporting (CFDA #93.558) (09-4)

The TANF Grant Guidelines for the Federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families block grant indicates program costs can include salary and fringe benefits for staff directly involved in program activities. The County is charging \$46 per visit to this grant that is not direct charges for salary and fringe.

#### Resolution

The County is properly charging program costs.

# IV. OTHER FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

# A. <u>MANAGEMENT PRACTICES</u>

#### PREVIOUSLY REPORTED ITEM NOT RESOLVED

#### 96-5 <u>Disaster Recovery Plan</u>

Freeborn County has not completed and approved a formal disaster recovery plan. A disaster recovery plan gives assurance the County is prepared for a disaster or major computer breakdown. The County needs to provide services to County residents after a disaster and during a major computer breakdown. Services that need to be addressed include the continuance of several important applications processed by its computer system, including the preparation of payroll, the calculation of tax assessments and settlements, and the recording of receipts and disbursements.

A disaster recovery plan should include, but not be limited to, the following:

- a list of key personnel, including the actual recovery team, who should be available during the recovery process;
- a description of the responsibilities of each member of the recovery team and of all other County employees;
- a plan as to how the County will continue operations until normal operations are re-established--this should include the use of alternative computer facilities and/or the use of manual procedures, a list of master operating schedules, and critical job schedules;
- a list of materials the County needs to continue operations and how they will be obtained;
- hardware configurations and minimum equipment requirements;
- information relative to off-site back-up storage facilities;
- a list of vendor contracts;
- identification of what space will be used; and
- a schedule for developing and periodically reviewing and updating the plan.

We recommend the County continue to work on developing, implementing, and testing a disaster recovery plan. The Board should approve the formal plan. A copy should be stored at an off-site facility and with the leader of each recovery team. We also recommend the County periodically determine if the alternative computer system is compatible with the County's system.

# Client's Response:

The County has completed a disaster plan in 2011. It will be submitted to the State Auditor's Office for review.

#### PREVIOUSLY REPORTED ITEMS RESOLVED

#### Social Services Department - Social Welfare Special Revenue Fund Disbursements (07-10)

During the review of the disbursements made in the Social Welfare Special Revenue Fund, we noted 7 of the 25 disbursements tested did not have documentation to support the checks written for individual clients.

#### Resolution

Since our review, the County had either documentation or approval for disbursements tested.

#### B. <u>OTHER ITEM FOR CONSIDERATION</u>

#### GASB Statement 54

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board's (GASB) Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions*, is effective for Freeborn County for the year ending December 31, 2011. The standard's objectives are to enhance the usefulness of fund balance information included in the financial report through clearer fund balance classifications that can be consistently applied and to clarify existing governmental fund type definitions.

# Fund Balance Reporting

Statement 54 establishes new fund balance classifications based on constraints imposed on how resources can be spent. The existing components of fund balance are reserved, unreserved-designated, and unreserved-undesignated. Statement 54 replaces these components with nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned as defined below:

- *Nonspendable* amounts that cannot be spent because they are either not in spendable form (for example, inventory or prepaid items) or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact (such as the corpus of a permanent fund).
- *Restricted* amounts that can be spent only for specific purposes stipulated by constitution, external resource providers, or through enabling legislation.
- *Committed* amounts that can be used only for specific purposes determined by a formal action of a government's highest level of decision-making authority.
- *Assigned* amounts a government intends to use for a specific purpose that do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed.
- *Unassigned* spendable amounts not contained in the other classifications.

The County should begin the process for implementing the new fund balance classifications. A key step in successfully implementing the new fund balance requirements is to plan ahead. The County can start with the following steps:

- review the requirements of GASB Statement 54;
- review current fund balances and compare to the new classifications;
- reclassify January 1, 2011, fund balance using the new classifications;
- review/update/prepare a comprehensive fund balance policy;
- prepare appropriate Board resolutions to commit fund balance; and
- if the Board of County Commissioners intends to delegate authority to assign fund balance, prepare the resolutions delegating that authority.

# **Governmental Fund Type Definitions**

The definitions of the general fund, special revenue fund type, capital projects fund type, debt service fund type, and permanent fund type are clarified in the new standard. The new definition for a special revenue fund could have significant impact on the County's current fund classifications.

GASB Statement 54 provides a new and clearer description of when it is appropriate to account for an activity using a special revenue fund. Special revenue funds are used to report specific revenue sources restricted or committed to specified purposes other than debt service and capital projects, where the restricted or committed revenue sources comprise a substantial portion of the fund's resources, and are expected to continue to do so in the future. The standard does not define substantial portion; however, most recommendations are generally that the restricted or committed revenues should comprise at least 35 to 50 percent of total fund revenues. Under this definition, it is possible that some current special revenue funds will no longer meet the requirements for special revenue fund treatment. The County's management should review the County's special revenue funds to ensure these funds continue to warrant treatment as special revenue funds.

The County's management should perform the following steps prior to December 31, 2011:

- prepare a list of the County's special revenue funds;
- determine the sources of revenues for each of those funds;
- identify whether any of those revenues are restricted or committed;
- determine if these restricted or committed revenues represent a substantial portion of the fund's revenues and are expected to continue to be a substantial source of revenues;
  - if yes, the fund may continue to be classified as a special revenue fund;
  - if not, determine whether the County will combine that fund with the general fund or with a similar purpose special revenue fund that meets the new definition;
- code revenues in the general ledger by source constraints--restricted, committed, assigned, or unassigned; and
- determine if there needs to be a restatement of beginning fund balances.

Additional implementation steps could include: informing any component units that they also will need to meet the requirements; deciding on how fund balance will be presented in the financials, such as detailed vs. aggregate methods; and developing the potential note disclosures. Additional guidance on GASB Statement 54 can be found on the Office of the State Auditor's website at: <u>http://www.auditor.state.mn.us/other/Statements/fundbalances\_postGASB54\_101</u> 2\_statement.pdf.



# **STATE OF MINNESOTA** OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

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# 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 County Commissioners Freeborn County

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Freeborn County as of and for the year ended December 31, 2010, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated September 27, 2011. 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 Freeborn County's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures 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 over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control over financial reporting.

A deficiency in internal control over financial reporting exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting 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.

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Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be deficiencies, significant deficiencies, or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses as defined above. However, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting, described in the Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as items 07-4, 08-2, 09-1, 09-2, and 10-1 that we consider to be significant deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

# Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Freeborn 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*.

#### Minnesota Legal Compliance

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the provisions of the *Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for Political Subdivisions*, promulgated by the State Auditor pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 6.65. Accordingly, the audit included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

The *Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for Political Subdivisions* contains seven categories of compliance to be tested: contracting and bidding, deposits and investments, conflicts of interest, public indebtedness, claims and disbursements, miscellaneous provisions, and tax increment financing. Our study included all of the listed categories, except that we did not test for compliance in tax increment financing because Freeborn County did not have any.

The results of our tests indicate that for the items tested, Freeborn County complied with the material terms and conditions of applicable legal provisions.

Also included in the Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs is a management practices comment and an other item for consideration. We believe this recommendation and information to be of benefit to the County, and they are reported for that purpose.

Freeborn County's written responses to the internal control and management practices findings identified in our audit have been included in the Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs. We did not audit the County's responses and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of County Commissioners, management, others within Freeborn County, and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than those specified parties.

/s/Rebecca Otto

/s/Greg Hierlinger

REBECCA OTTO STATE AUDITOR GREG HIERLINGER, CPA DEPUTY STATE AUDITOR

September 27, 2011

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# REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS THAT COULD HAVE A DIRECT AND MATERIAL EFFECT ON EACH MAJOR PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH OMB CIRCULAR A-133

Board of County Commissioners Freeborn County

#### Compliance

We have audited Freeborn County's compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) *Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2010. Freeborn County's major federal programs are identified in the Summary of Auditor's Results section of the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs. Compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to each of its major federal programs is the responsibility of the County's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the County's compliance based on our audit.

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and OMB Circular A-133, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*. Those standards and OMB Circular A-133 require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about Freeborn County's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the County's compliance with those requirements.

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In our opinion, Freeborn County complied, in all material respects, with the requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2010.

#### Internal Control Over Compliance

Management of Freeborn County is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to federal programs. In planning and performing our audit, we considered the County's internal control over compliance with requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program to determine the auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with OMB Circular A-133, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control over compliance.

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A material weakness in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis.

Our consideration of the internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be deficiencies, significant deficiencies, or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of County Commissioners, management and others within the County, and federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than those specified parties.

/s/Rebecca Otto /s/Greg Hierlinger **REBECCA OTTO** GREG HIERLINGER. CPA DEPUTY STATE AUDITOR September 27, 2011

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