

STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office of the State Auditor



Rebecca Otto
State Auditor

MANAGEMENT AND COMPLIANCE REPORT
PREPARED AS A RESULT OF THE AUDIT OF THE

COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
ANOKA COUNTY, MINNESOTA

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2009

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.

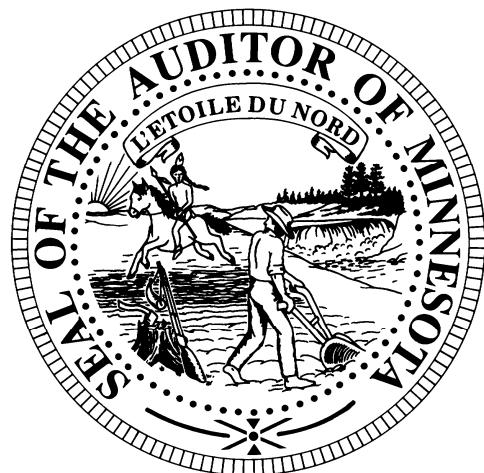
The State Auditor serves on the State Executive Council, State Board of Investment, Land Exchange Board, Public Employees Retirement Association Board, Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, and the Rural Finance Authority Board.

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**COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
ANOKA COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

For the Year Ended December 31, 2009



Management and Compliance Report

**Audit Practice Division
Office of the State Auditor
State of Minnesota**

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**COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
ANOKA COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

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**COON CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT
ANOKA COUNTY, MINNESOTA**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2009**

INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED ITEM NOT RESOLVED

01-2 Accounting for Escrow Accounts

We found differences in cash balances between the detailed records of the escrow accounts and the general ledger control account; at December 31, 2009, the difference was \$1,198. We believe this may be occurring because some of the individual accounts are not kept current. Given the large number of accounts maintained by the Coon Creek Watershed District, it is important that the accounting records are accurate and reconcilable with the general ledger control account.

We again recommend the District improve the accounting practices applied to its escrow accounts. We further recommend the District reconcile its accounts to the general ledger. This may require assistance from the Anoka County Finance Department.

Client's Response:

The District agrees and will continue to coordinate with Anoka County Finance Department.

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REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND MINNESOTA LEGAL COMPLIANCE

Board of Managers
Coon Creek Watershed District

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Coon Creek Watershed District as of and for the year ended December 31, 2009, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the Coon Creek Watershed District'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 District's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District'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 District's financial statements will not be prevented or detected and corrected on a timely basis.

Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph 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 a deficiency in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be a significant deficiency described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Recommendations as item 01-2. A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a 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.

Minnesota Legal Compliance

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Coon Creek Watershed District as of and for the year ended December 31, 2009, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements. 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 Local Government*, 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 Local Government* contains six categories of compliance to be tested: contracting and bidding, deposits and investments, conflicts of interest, public indebtedness, claims and disbursements, and miscellaneous provisions. Our study included all of the listed categories, except that we did not test for compliance in public indebtedness because the Coon Creek Watershed District has no public debt, and claims and disbursements because that section does not apply to watershed districts.

The results of our tests indicate that, for the items tested, the Coon Creek Watershed District complied with the material terms and conditions of applicable legal provisions.

The Coon Creek Watershed District's written response to the internal control finding identified in our audit has been included in the Schedule of Findings and Recommendations. We did not audit the District's response and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

This communication is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Managers, management, and others within the Coon Creek Watershed District 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
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GREG HIERLINGER, CPA
DEPUTY STATE AUDITOR

April 9, 2010