

STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office of the State Auditor



Rebecca Otto
State Auditor

MANAGEMENT AND COMPLIANCE REPORT

PINE COUNTY
PINE CITY, MINNESOTA

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

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 150 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 700 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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**PINE COUNTY
PINE CITY, MINNESOTA**

For the Year Ended December 31, 2014



Management and Compliance Report

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

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**PINE COUNTY
PINE CITY, MINNESOTA**

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**PINE COUNTY
PINE CITY, MINNESOTA**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014**

I. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

Financial Statements

Type of auditor's report issued: **Unmodified**

Internal control over financial reporting:

- Material weaknesses identified? **Yes**
- Significant deficiencies identified? **No**

Noncompliance material to the financial statements noted? **No**

Federal Awards

Internal control over major programs:

- Material weaknesses identified? **No**
- Significant deficiencies identified? **No**

Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major programs: **Unmodified**

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with Section 510(a) of OMB Circular A-133? **No**

The major program is:

Hazard Mitigation Grant

CFDA #97.039

The threshold for distinguishing between Types A and B programs was \$300,000.

Pine County qualified as a low-risk auditee? **Yes**

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

INTERNAL CONTROL

ITEM ARISING THIS YEAR

Finding 2014-001

Audit Adjustment

Criteria: 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 of the financial statements on a timely basis. Auditing standards define a material weakness as a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis.

Condition: During our audit, we identified a material adjustment that resulted in significant changes to the County's financial statements.

Context: The inability to detect significant misstatements in the financial statements increases the likelihood that the financial statements would not be fairly presented.

Effect: An audit adjustment was necessary in the Road and Bridge Special Revenue Fund to increase deferred inflows - advanced allotments and decrease intergovernmental revenue by \$1,362,940 to record an advance of highway allotments from the state. An adjustment was also necessary in the governmental activities to increase deferred inflows - advanced allotments and decrease highways and streets capital grants and contributions for this amount.

Cause: The County did not properly record the advance of highway allotments from the state.

Recommendation: We recommend that the County review its policies and procedures to ensure that transactions are recorded in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Client's Response:

The Auditor-Treasurer will review the SAAS Status Report and ensure proper recording for financial report presentation of advance allotments from the state.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED ITEM RESOLVED

Departmental Internal Accounting Controls (1996-004)

The accounts payable process in the Auditor's Office lacked segregation of duties. One staff person was responsible for setting up new vendors, entering the vouchers into the accounting system, reconciling the vouchers entered to the check run, and printing and stamping the signatures on the checks.

Resolution

The duties in the accounts payable process were redistributed among several staff.

III. FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR FEDERAL AWARD PROGRAMS

None.

IV. OTHER ITEM FOR CONSIDERATION

GASB Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions*

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the independent organization that establishes standards of accounting and financial reporting for state and local governments. Effective for your calendar year 2015 financial statements, the GASB changed those standards as they apply to employers that provide pension benefits.

GASB Statement 68 significantly changes pension accounting and financial reporting for governmental employers that prepare financial statements on the accrual basis by separating pension accounting methodology from pension funding methodology. Statement 68 requires employers to include a portion of the Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA) total employers' unfunded liability, called the "net pension liability" on the face of the County's government-wide statement of financial position. The County's financial position will be immediately impacted by its unfunded share of the pension liability.

Statement 68 changes the amount employers report as pension expense and defers some allocations of expenses to future years--deferred outflows or inflows of resources. It requires pension costs to be calculated by an actuary; whereas, in the past pension costs were equal to the amount of employer contributions sent to PERA during the year. Additional footnote disclosures and required supplementary information schedules are also required by Statement 68.

The net pension liability that will be reported in Pine County's financial statements is an accounting estimate of the proportionate share of PERA's unfunded liability at a specific point in time. That number will change from year to year, and is based on assumptions about the probability of the occurrence of events far into the future. Those assumptions include how long people will live, how long they will continue to work, projected salary increases, and how well pension trust investments will do. PERA has been proactive in taking steps toward implementation and will be providing most of the information needed by employers to report the net pension liability and deferred outflows/inflows of resources.



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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*

Independent Auditor's Report

Board of County Commissioners
Pine County
Pine City, Minnesota

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Pine County as of and for the year ended December 31, 2014, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated August 19, 2015.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Pine County's internal control over financial reporting to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control over financial reporting.

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 material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and, therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. However, as described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs, we identified a deficiency in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be a material weakness.

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. We consider the deficiency described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as item 2014-001 to be a material weakness.

Compliance and Other Matters

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

Minnesota Legal Compliance

The *Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for Political Subdivisions*, promulgated by the State Auditor pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 6.65, contains seven categories of compliance to be tested in connection with the audit of the County's financial statements: contracting and bidding, deposits and investments, conflicts of interest, public indebtedness, claims and disbursements, miscellaneous provisions, and tax increment financing. Our audit considered all of the listed categories, except that we did not test for compliance with the provisions for tax increment financing because that provision did not apply.

In connection with our audit, nothing came to our attention that caused us to believe that Pine County failed to comply with the provisions of the *Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for Political Subdivisions*. However, our audit was not directed primarily toward obtaining knowledge of such noncompliance. Accordingly, had we performed additional procedures, other matters may have come to our attention regarding the County's noncompliance with the above referenced provisions.

Other Matters

Also included in the Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs is an other item for consideration. We believe this information to be of benefit to the County, and we are reporting it for that purpose.

Pine County's Response to Finding

Pine County's response to the internal control finding identified in our audit has been included in the Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs. The County's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting, compliance, and the provisions of the *Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for Political Subdivisions* and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the County's internal control over financial reporting and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

/s/Rebecca Otto

REBECCA OTTO
STATE AUDITOR

/s/Greg Hierlinger

GREG HIERLINGER, CPA
DEPUTY STATE AUDITOR

August 19, 2015

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REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM; REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE; AND REPORT ON SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS REQUIRED BY OMB CIRCULAR A-133

Independent Auditor's Report

Board of County Commissioners
Pine County
Pine City, Minnesota

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

We have audited Pine 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 the County's major federal program for the year ended December 31, 2014. Pine County's major federal program is identified in the Summary of Auditor's Results section of the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs.

Management's Responsibility

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to each of its federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on compliance for Pine County's major federal program based on our audit of the types of compliance requirements referred to above. 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 Pine 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 on compliance for the major federal program. However, our audit does not provide a legal determination of the County's compliance with those requirements.

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

In our opinion, Pine County complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on its major federal program for the year ended December 31, 2014.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

Management of Pine County is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above. In planning and performing our audit of compliance, we considered the County's internal control over compliance with the types of requirements that could have a direct and material effect on the major federal program to determine the auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing an opinion on compliance for the major federal program 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. A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit the attention of those charged with governance.

Our consideration of 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 material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

Report on Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards Required by OMB Circular A-133

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Pine County as of and for the year ended December 31, 2014, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements. We have issued our report thereon dated August 19, 2015, which contained unmodified opinions on those financial statements. Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the basic financial statements. The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA) is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by OMB Circular A-133 and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the SEFA is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of OMB Circular A-133. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

/s/Rebecca Otto

REBECCA OTTO
STATE AUDITOR

August 19, 2015

/s/Greg Hierlinger

GREG HIERLINGER, CPA
DEPUTY STATE AUDITOR

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**PINE COUNTY
PINE CITY, MINNESOTA**

**SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014**

Federal Grantor Pass-Through Agency Grant Program Title	Federal CFDA Number	Expenditures
U.S. Department of Agriculture		
Passed Through Kanabec Pine Community Health Services Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children	10.557	\$ 141,218
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Human Services State Administrative Matching Grants for the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program	10.561	<u>271,638</u>
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture		<u>\$ 412,856</u>
U.S. Department of the Interior		
Direct Payments in Lieu of Taxes	15.226	<u>\$ 5,294</u>
U.S. Department of Transportation		
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Transportation Highway Planning and Construction	20.205	<u>\$ 1,636,993</u>
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services		
Passed Through Kanabec Pine Community Health Services Public Health Emergency Preparedness	93.069	\$ 17,362
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - Investigations and Technical Assistance	93.283	65,294
Affordable Care Act (ACA) Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program	93.505	111,692
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	93.558	44,984
(Total Temporary Assistance for Needy Families 93.558 \$439,719)		
Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant to the States	93.994	34,177

**PINE COUNTY
PINE CITY, MINNESOTA**

**SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014
(Continued)**

Federal Grantor Pass-Through Agency Grant Program Title	Federal CFDA Number	Expenditures
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Continued)		
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Human Services		
Promoting Safe and Stable Families	93.556	8,362
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families	93.558	394,735
(Total Temporary Assistance for Needy Families 93.558 \$439,719)		
Child Support Enforcement	93.563	598,341
Refugee and Entrant Assistance - State-Administered Programs	93.566	1,064
Child Care and Development Block Grant	93.575	9,368
Stephanie Tubbs Jones Child Welfare Services Program	93.645	5,512
Foster Care - Title IV-E	93.658	120,591
Social Services Block Grant	93.667	174,342
Chafee Foster Care Independence Program	93.674	962
Children's Health Insurance Program	93.767	103
Medical Assistance Program	93.778	638,797
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Total U.S. Department of Health and Human Services		\$ 2,225,686
U.S. Department of Homeland Security		
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Public Safety		
Hazard Mitigation Grant	97.039	\$ 3,066,684
Emergency Management Performance Grants	97.042	23,128
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Total U.S. Department of Homeland Security		\$ 3,089,812
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Total Federal Awards		\$ 7,370,641
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**PINE COUNTY
PINE CITY, MINNESOTA**

**NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014**

1. Reporting Entity

The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards presents the activities of federal award programs expended by Pine 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 Pine County under programs of the federal government for the year ended December 31, 2014. 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 Pine County, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position or changes in net position of Pine County.

3. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

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 entity identifying numbers are presented where available.

4. Subrecipients

Of the expenditures presented in the schedule, Pine County did not provide any federal awards to subrecipients.

**PINE COUNTY
PINE CITY, MINNESOTA**

5. Reconciliation to the Schedule of Intergovernmental Revenue

Federal grant revenue per Schedule of Intergovernmental Revenue	\$ 7,745,774
Unavailable revenue in 2013, recognized as revenue in 2014	
Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (CFDA #10.557)	(36,781)
State Administrative Matching Grants for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (CFDA #10.561)	(47,249)
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (CFDA #93.558)	(87,259)
Child Support Enforcement (CFDA #93.563)	(90,785)
Child Care and Development Block Grant (CFDA #93.575)	(965)
Foster Care - Title IV-E (CFDA #93.658)	(3,284)
Medical Assistance Program (CFDA #93.778)	(79,748)
Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant to the States (CFDA #93.994)	(4,322)
Program income and insurance reimbursement for Hazard Mitigation Grant (CFDA #97.039)	<u>(24,740)</u>
Expenditures per Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards	<u>\$ 7,370,641</u>