

**STERLING COUNTY,
TEXAS**

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AND

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S
REPORT

SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

Roberts & McGee, CPA
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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Commissioners Court
Sterling County, Texas:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Sterling County, Texas (the County), as of and for the year ended September 30, 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Sterling County, Texas, as of September 30, 2015, and the respective changes in financial position, and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 7 to the basic financial statements, the County implemented GASB Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions – an amendment of GASB Statement No. 27*, during the year ended September 30, 2015, which requires recognition of its net pension asset and a more comprehensive measure of pension expense. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, budgetary comparison information, and pension information on pages 3–8 and 37–40 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a 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. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, 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, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of 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.


Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise Sterling County, Texas' basic financial statements. The other supplementary schedules on pages 41-46 and the schedule of expenditures of state awards on page 51 are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The other supplementary schedules and the schedule of expenditures of state awards are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such 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 other supplementary schedules are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 15, 2016, on our consideration of Sterling County, Texas' internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Sterling County, Texas' internal control over financial reporting and compliance.


Roberts & McGee, CPA

Abilene, Texas,
March 15, 2016

**STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

As management of Sterling County we offer readers of Sterling County, Texas' financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of Sterling County, Texas for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2015.

Financial Highlights

Government-Wide Financial Statements

- The assets of the governmental activities of Sterling County exceeded its liabilities at the close of the most recent fiscal year by \$9,163,171 (*net position*). Of this amount, \$3,319,363 (*unrestricted*) may be used to meet the government's ongoing obligations to citizens. \$3,490,115 of the County's equity is invested in capital assets, net of related debt; and \$2,353,693 of the County's equity is restricted for special revenue funds, debt service, and capital construction.
- The assets of the business-type activities of Sterling County exceeded its liabilities at the close of the most recent fiscal year by \$2,053,449 (*net position*). Of this amount, \$1,218,284 (*unrestricted*) may be used to meet the government's ongoing obligations. \$835,165 of the County's equity is invested in capital assets.
- The net position (*equity*) of the governmental activities of the County increased by \$1,227,436 during the 2015 fiscal year, and net position (*equity*) of the business-type activities of the County increased by \$160,003 during the 2015 fiscal year.

Fund Financial Statements

- As of the close of the current fiscal year, Sterling County's general fund reported an ending unassigned fund balance of \$3,377,740. This fund balance reflects an increase of \$76,142 over the prior year unassigned fund balance.
- In the road & bridge fund, the fund balance increased \$70,751 for the current year.
- The proprietary fund which reports on the operations of the nursing home reflects an increase in net position for the current year of \$160,003.

Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to Sterling County's basic financial statements. Sterling County's basic financial statements comprise three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements. This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The *statement of net position* presents information on all of Sterling County's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as *net position*. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of Sterling County is improving or deteriorating.

The *statement of activities* presents information showing how the government's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, *regardless of the timing of related cash flows*. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods (e.g., uncollected taxes).

The government-wide financial statements reflect functions of Sterling County that are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues (*governmental activities*). The governmental activities of Sterling County include general administration, judicial, legal, public facilities, road and bridge, public safety, health and welfare, and other supported services. The government-wide financial statements can be found on pages 9-11 of this report.

**STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

Fund Financial Statements

A *fund* is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. Sterling County, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. All of the funds of Sterling County can be divided into three categories: governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds.

Governmental funds. *Governmental funds* are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as *governmental activities* in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on *near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources*, as well as on *balances of spendable resources* available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus on governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for *governmental funds* with similar information presented for *governmental activities* in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenue, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between *governmental funds* and *governmental activities*.

Sterling County has four governmental fund types which are the general fund, special revenue funds, debt service fund, and capital projects fund. Information is presented in the governmental fund balance sheet and in the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances for the general fund, road & bridge fund, construction fund, and debt service fund, which are considered to be major funds. Data from the other non-major governmental funds is combined into the aggregated presentation. Individual fund data for each of these non-major governmental funds is provided in the form of combining statements. The governmental fund financial statements can be found on pages 12-17 of this report.

Sterling County adopts an annual appropriated budget for the general fund, the road & bridge fund, and various other special revenue funds. Budgetary comparison schedules have been provided for the general fund and the road & bridge fund to demonstrate compliance with the budgets on pages 37-38.

Proprietary funds. Sterling County maintains one proprietary fund which is the Nursing Home Fund. This fund charges for the services it provides to residents of the nursing home. Proprietary funds are reported in the same way that all activities are reported in the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities. In fact, the County's proprietary fund is the same as the business-type activities reported in the government-wide statements, but it provides more detail and additional information, such as cash flows, for the proprietary fund. The proprietary fund financial statements can be found on pages 18-20 of this report.

Fiduciary funds. Fiduciary funds are used to account for assets held by the County in a trustee capacity or as an agent for other governmental units. The County's fiduciary funds are all reported as agency funds. Agency funds are not reflected in the government-wide financial statements because the resources of those funds are not available to support the County's basic programs. The basic agency fund financial statement can be found on page 21.

**STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

Notes to the financial statements. The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements can be found on pages 22-36 of this report.

Other information. The combining statements referred to earlier in connection with the non-major governmental funds are presented immediately following the required supplementary information. These statements can be found on pages 41-44 of this report. Combining financial statements for the aggregated component units are also provided as other supplemental information and can be found on pages 45-46.

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. In the case of Sterling County, assets exceeded liabilities by \$9,163,171 in the governmental activities and \$2,053,449 in the business-type activities at the close of the most recent fiscal year.

\$4,325,280 of Sterling County's total net position (38 percent) reflects its investment in capital assets (e.g., land, buildings, machinery, and equipment), net of related debt. Sterling County uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are *not* available for future spending.

Sterling County's Net Position

		Governmental Activities	
		2015	2014
Current assets	\$	5,961,843	\$ 9,487,474
Non-current assets		6,885,497	3,116,106
Total Assets		12,847,340	12,603,580
Deferred Outflows - Pension		110,980	
Total Assets and Deferred Outflows		12,958,320	12,603,580
Current liabilities		135,149	160,132
Long-term liabilities		3,660,000	5,100,000
Total Liabilities		3,795,149	5,260,132
Net investment in capital assets		3,490,115	3,116,106
Restricted		2,353,693	1,387,983
Unrestricted		3,319,363	2,839,359
Total Net Position	\$	9,163,171	\$ 7,343,448

		Business-Type Activities	
		2015	2014
Current assets	\$	703,251	\$ 458,196
Non-current assets		1,410,930	844,716
Total Assets		2,114,181	1,302,912
Deferred Outflows - Pension		131,336	
Total Assets and Deferred Outflows		2,245,517	1,302,912
Current liabilities		192,068	113,950
Total Liabilities		192,068	113,950
Net investment in capital assets		835,165	844,716
Unrestricted		1,218,284	344,246
Total Net Position	\$	2,053,449	\$ 1,188,962

**STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

Sterling County's Changes in Net Position

		Governmental Activities	
		2015	2014
Revenues:			
Program Revenues:			
Charges for services	\$	723,114	\$ 876,505
Operating grants & contributions		69,597	207,152
Capital grants & contributions		700,667	240,114
General Revenues			
Property taxes		3,183,848	2,968,611
Investment earnings		19,054	19,494
Gain on disposal of assets			32,351
Other income		146,515	
Transfers		(468,081)	(572,153)
Total Revenues		4,374,714	3,772,074
Expenses			
General government		494,552	467,810
Road and bridge		577,902	547,697
County judge		81,073	75,149
County and district clerk		144,764	141,846
Justice of the peace		101,135	108,892
County attorney		44,567	89,846
County treasurer		66,194	64,964
County tax collector		94,029	95,226
County building operations		244,358	255,069
County sheriff		446,997	462,663
County agent		63,001	70,473
Trapper		64,800	64,800
Senior citizens		31,700	31,700
Volunteer fire department		54,654	38,566
EMS		290,438	285,782
Clinic		267,063	257,300
Interest and debt issuance costs		80,051	103,615
Total expenses		3,147,278	3,161,398
Change in Net Position		1,227,436	610,676
Beginning Net Position		7,343,448	7,447,180
Prior Period Adjustments		592,287	(714,408)
Ending Net Position	\$	9,163,171	\$ 7,343,448

		Business-Type Activities	
		2015	2014
Revenues:			
Program Revenues:			
Charges for services	\$	1,931,849	\$ 1,858,389
Operating grants & contributions		405,462	429,992
General Revenues			
Transfers		468,081	572,153
Total Revenues		2,805,392	2,860,534
Expenses			
Nursing home		2,645,389	2,528,620
Total expenses		2,645,389	2,528,620
Change in Net Position		160,003	331,914
Beginning Net Position		1,188,962	-
Prior Period Adjustments		704,484	857,048
Ending Net Position	\$	2,053,449	\$ 1,188,962

**STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE GOVERNMENTS FUNDS

As noted earlier, Sterling County uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

Governmental funds. The focus of Sterling County's *governmental funds* is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of *spendable* resources. Such information is useful in assessing Sterling County's financing requirements. In particular, *unassigned fund balance* may serve as a useful measure of a government's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

As of the end of the current fiscal year, Sterling County's governmental general fund reported an ending fund balance of \$3,603,810, which is generally unassigned and available for spending at the County's discretion. The road and bridge fund reported an ending fund balance of \$957,043 which is restricted for road and bridge operations.

The construction fund is a temporary fund which is used to record the construction costs related to the debt issuance of \$5.1 million from May 2014. During FY 2015, \$3,597,321 was spent on the construction project, and \$231,865 was transferred to the debt service fund to pay down on the debt. This leaves a remaining fund balance of \$751,151 restricted for the construction project.

Fund Budgetary Highlights

The original and the final amended budgets for the general fund reflect a balanced budget. The actual expenditures were \$232,771 less than the final budgeted amounts, and actual revenues were \$174,937 less than was budgeted.

The original and the final amended budgets for the road and bridge fund reflect a balanced budget. The actual expenditures were \$3,430 more than the final budgeted amounts, and actual revenues were \$58,433 more than was budgeted.

CAPITAL ASSET AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

Capital Assets Sterling County's investment in capital assets for its governmental activities amounts to \$6,398,964 (net of accumulated depreciation), and the investment in capital assets for its business-type activities amounts to \$835,165 (net of accumulated depreciation) as of September 30, 2015. This investment in capital assets includes land, buildings and improvements, infrastructure, and equipment.

**Sterling County's Capital Assets
(net of depreciation)**

		Governmental Activities	
		2015	2014
Land	\$	6,238	\$ 6,238
Construction in progress		44,748	
Buildings and improvements		903,953	960,951
Infrastructure		3,671,537	312,181
Equipment		1,255,648	1,267,602
Vehicles		516,840	569,134
Total	\$	6,398,964	\$ 3,116,106

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

	Primary Government		Total	Component Units
	Governmental Activities	Business-Type Activities		
ASSETS				
Current:				
Cash and cash investments	\$ 3,682,324	\$ 19,537	\$ 3,701,861	\$ 29,488
Investments	2,120,000		2,120,000	
Property tax receivable, net	30,838		30,838	
Accounts receivable, net	57,214	542,736	599,950	
Accrued interest receivable	7,044		7,044	
Prepaid insurance	64,423	140,978	205,401	
Total current assets	<u>5,961,843</u>	<u>703,251</u>	<u>6,665,094</u>	<u>29,488</u>
Non-current:				
Capital assets				
Non-depreciable capital assets	50,986		50,986	
Depreciable capital assets, net	6,347,978	835,165	7,183,143	315,033
Net pension asset	486,533	575,765	1,062,298	
Total non-current assets	<u>6,885,497</u>	<u>1,410,930</u>	<u>8,296,427</u>	<u>315,033</u>
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES				
Deferred outflows - pension	<u>110,980</u>	<u>131,336</u>	<u>242,316</u>	
Total Assets and Deferred Outflows of Resources				
	<u>12,958,320</u>	<u>2,245,517</u>	<u>15,203,837</u>	<u>344,521</u>
LIABILITIES				
Current:				
Accounts payable	49,920	114,126	164,046	3,523
Accrued payroll expenses		64,638	64,638	
Due to other governmental entities	56,896		56,896	
Due to others		13,304	13,304	
Unearned revenue	28,333		28,333	
Long term liabilities:				
Due within one year	705,000		705,000	
Due after one year:				
Tax notes	<u>2,955,000</u>		<u>2,955,000</u>	
Total Liabilities	<u>3,795,149</u>	<u>192,068</u>	<u>3,987,217</u>	<u>3,523</u>
NET POSITION				
Net investment in capital assets	3,490,115	835,165	4,325,280	315,033
Restricted	2,353,693		2,353,693	
Unrestricted	<u>3,319,363</u>	<u>1,218,284</u>	<u>4,537,647</u>	<u>25,965</u>
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 9,163,171</u>	<u>\$ 2,053,449</u>	<u>\$ 11,216,620</u>	<u>340,998</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

Functions/Programs	Program Revenue			
	Expenses	Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions
Primary Government:				
Governmental Activities:				
General government	\$ 494,552	\$ 7,614	\$ 1,944	\$
Road and bridge	577,902	108,481	6,876	700,667
County judge	81,073	1,291	23,465	
County and district clerk	144,764	49,337		
Justice of the peace	101,135	339,472		
County attorney	44,567	1,330	5,833	
County treasurer	66,194			
County tax collector	94,029	16,361		
County building operations	244,358	12,124		
County sheriff	446,997	2,197	31,479	
County agent	63,001			
Trapper	64,800			
Senior citizens	31,700			
Volunteer fire department	54,654			
EMS	290,438	53,685		
Clinic	267,063	131,222		
Interest and debt issuance costs	80,051			
Total governmental activities	3,147,278	723,114	69,597	700,667
Business-type activities:				
Nursing home operations	2,645,389	1,931,849	405,462	
Total business-type activities	2,645,389	1,931,849	405,462	
Total Primary Government	\$ 5,792,667	\$ 2,654,963	\$ 475,059	\$ 700,667
Component Units:				
Fire Department	\$ 44,649	\$	\$ 36,309	\$
Senior Citizens	58,368	10,251	37,305	
Total component units	\$ 103,017	\$ 10,251	\$ 73,614	\$

General revenues:
Property taxes
Investment earnings
Other income
Transfers
Total general revenues
Change in net position

Net position - beginning
Prior period adjustments

Net position - ending

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

<u>Primary Government</u>		
<u>Governmental Activities</u>	<u>Business-type Activities</u>	<u>Component Units</u>
\$ (484,994)		
238,122		
(56,317)		
(95,427)		
238,337		
(37,404)		
(66,194)		
(77,668)		
(232,234)		
(413,321)		
(63,001)		
(64,800)		
(31,700)		
(54,654)		
(236,753)		
(135,841)		
(80,051)		
<u>(1,653,900)</u>		
	\$ (308,078)	
	<u>(308,078)</u>	
<u>(1,653,900)</u>	<u>(308,078)</u>	
		\$ (8,340)
		<u>(10,812)</u>
		<u>(19,152)</u>
3,183,848		
19,054		19
146,515		406
(468,081)	468,081	
<u>2,881,336</u>	<u>468,081</u>	<u>425</u>
1,227,436	160,003	(18,727)
7,343,448	1,188,962	359,725
<u>592,287</u>	<u>704,484</u>	
<u>\$ 9,163,171</u>	<u>\$ 2,053,449</u>	<u>\$ 340,998</u>

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

	General Fund	Road & Bridge Fund	Construction Fund
ASSETS			
Cash and cash investments	\$ 1,653,871	\$ 953,437	\$ 751,151
Investments	1,800,000		
Property tax receivable, net	26,830		
Accounts receivable, net	52,045	3,606	
Accrued interest receivable	6,641		
Prepaid insurance	64,423		
	<u>3,603,810</u>	<u>957,043</u>	<u>751,151</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 3,603,810</u>	<u>\$ 957,043</u>	<u>\$ 751,151</u>
 LIABILITIES			
Liabilities:			
Accounts payable	\$ 49,588	\$ 332	\$
Unearned revenue	28,333		
Due to state	56,896		
Total liabilities	<u>134,817</u>	<u>332</u>	<u></u>
 DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Deferred revenue - property tax	26,830		
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>26,830</u>	<u></u>	<u></u>
 FUND BALANCE			
Nonspendable for prepaids	64,423		
Restricted:			
Special revenue		956,711	
Debt service			
Capital construction			751,151
Unassigned	3,377,740		
Total fund balance	<u>3,442,163</u>	<u>956,711</u>	<u>751,151</u>
Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Balance	<u>\$ 3,603,810</u>	<u>\$ 957,043</u>	<u>\$ 751,151</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

Debt Service Fund	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
\$ 139,778	\$ 184,087	\$ 3,682,324
	320,000	2,120,000
4,008		30,838
	1,563	57,214
	403	7,044
		64,423
<u>143,786</u>	<u>506,053</u>	<u>5,961,843</u>

\$	\$	\$ 49,920
		28,333
		56,896
		<u>135,149</u>

<u>4,008</u>		<u>30,838</u>
<u>4,008</u>		<u>30,838</u>

64,423

	506,053	1,462,764
139,778		139,778
		751,151
		<u>3,377,740</u>
<u>139,778</u>	<u>506,053</u>	<u>5,795,856</u>

<u>143,786</u>	<u>506,053</u>	<u>5,961,843</u>
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STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

**RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET
TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

Total fund balances - governmental funds	\$	5,795,856
<p>Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:</p>		
<p>Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in governmental funds balance sheet. At the beginning of the year, the cost of these assets was \$4,658,532 and the accumulated depreciation was \$1,542,426.</p>		3,116,106
<p>Current year capital outlays are expenditures in the fund financial statements, but are shown as increases to capital assets in statement of net position.</p>		3,673,487
<p>Disposition of capital assets reduces net position; however these are not recorded in the fund financial statements.</p>		
<p>Depreciation expense decreases net position, but is not recorded in the fund financial statements.</p>		(390,629)
<p>Long term debt is not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, it is not reported in governmental funds. Long term debt is recognized in the government-wide statements which decreases net position.</p>		(3,660,000)
<p>Deferred revenue are recorded in the fund financial statements, but the revenue is recognized in the governmental-wide financial statements.</p>		30,838
<p>Included on the government-wide financial statements is the recognition of the County's proportionate share of the net pension asset of \$486,533, and a deferred outflow of resources of \$110,980. The net effect is to increase net position</p>		<u>597,513</u>
Net position of governmental activities - statement of net position	\$	<u><u>9,163,171</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN
FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

	General Fund	Road & Bridge Fund	Construction Fund
REVENUES			
Property taxes	\$ 2,124,017	\$ 246,754	\$
Licenses and permits		107,726	
Fees	97,151	755	
Fines and forfeitures	290,060		
Clinic revenue	131,222		
Investment earnings	12,688	1,267	2,961
Rental revenues	2,400		
Intergovernmental	39,398	707,543	
EMS revenue	53,685		
Miscellaneous	49,580	96,935	
Total revenues	2,800,201	1,160,980	2,961
EXPENDITURES			
Current:			
General government	410,232		
Road and bridge		382,339	8,620
County judge	81,073		
County and district clerk	144,764		
Justice of the peace	101,135		
County attorney	44,567		
County treasurer	66,194		
County tax collector	94,029		
County building operations	162,341		
County sheriff	411,904		
County agent	56,032		
Trapper	64,800		
Senior citizens	31,700		
Volunteer fire department	17,509		
Clinic	290,438		
EMS	224,601		
Capital outlay	61,148	23,638	3,588,701
Debt service			
Total expenditures	2,262,467	405,977	3,597,321
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	537,734	755,003	(3,594,360)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)			
Transfers out	(468,081)	(684,252)	(231,865)
Transfers in			
Total other financing sources (uses)	(468,081)	(684,252)	(231,865)
Net Change in Fund Balance	69,653	70,751	(3,826,225)
Fund Balance - Beginning	3,375,525	885,960	4,577,376
Prior Period Adjustments	(3,015)		
Fund Balance - Ending	\$ 3,442,163	\$ 956,711	\$ 751,151

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

Debt Service Fund	Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
\$ 775,816	\$ 25,126	\$ 3,171,713
		107,726
	40,115	138,021
		290,060
		131,222
141	1,997	19,054
		2,400
	23,323	770,264
		53,685
		146,515
<u>775,957</u>	<u>90,561</u>	<u>4,830,660</u>
	86,531	496,763
		390,959
		81,073
		144,764
		101,135
		44,567
		66,194
		94,029
		162,341
		411,904
		56,032
		64,800
		31,700
		17,509
		290,438
		224,601
		3,673,487
1,520,051		1,520,051
<u>1,520,051</u>	<u>86,531</u>	<u>7,872,347</u>
(744,094)	4,030	(3,041,687)
		(1,384,198)
916,117		916,117
<u>916,117</u>		<u>(468,081)</u>
172,023	4,030	(3,509,768)
(32,245)	502,023	9,308,639
		(3,015)
<u>\$ 139,778</u>	<u>\$ 506,053</u>	<u>\$ 5,795,856</u>

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

**RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES
IN FUND BALANCE OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

Net change in fund balance - governmental funds	\$	(3,509,768)
<p>Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities (SOA) are different because:</p>		
<p>Current year capital outlays are expenditures in the fund financial statements, but are shown as increases to capital assets in statement of net position.</p>		3,673,487
<p>Depreciation expense is not reflected in the governmental funds, but is recorded in the government-wide financial statements as an expense and an increase to accumulated depreciation. The net effect of the current year depreciation expense of \$390,629 is to decrease net position.</p>		(390,629)
<p>The current year issuance of long term debt provides current financial resources to governmental funds, while repayment of the principal of long term debt consumes the current financial resources of governmental funds. The net effect of recognizing current issuance and payments on long term debt in the government-wide financial statements is a net increase to net position of \$1,440,000.</p>		1,440,000
<p>Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and therefore, are deferred in the governmental funds. The current year adjustment to revenue recognized in the government-wide financial statements is \$8,127. This results in a decrease in net position</p>		12,135
<p>Certain expenditures for pension that are recorded to the fund financial statements must be recorded as deferred outflows of resources. Contributions made after the measurement date caused the change in net position to increase in the amount of \$63,353. The County's share of the unrecognized deferred inflows and outflows for TCDRS as of the measurement date must be amortized and the County's proportionate share of the pension expense must be recognized. These cause the change in net position to decrease in the amount of \$61,142. The net effect is an increase in net position.</p>		2,211
Net position of governmental activities - statement of net position	\$	1,227,436

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
PROPRIETARY FUND
 SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

	Nursing Home
ASSETS:	
Current Assets:	
Cash and cash investments	\$ 19,537
Accounts receivable, net	113,844
Due from other governments	428,892
Prepaid expense	140,978
Total Current Assets	703,251
Noncurrent Assets:	
Depreciable capital assets, net	835,165
Net pension asset	575,765
Total Noncurrent Assets	1,410,930
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	131,336
Deferred outflows - pension	
Total Assets and Deferred Outflows of Resources	2,245,517
LIABILITIES:	
Accounts payable	114,126
Accrued payroll expenses	64,638
Due to others	13,304
Total Liabilities	192,068
NET POSITION:	
Net investment in capital assets	835,165
Unrestricted	1,218,284
Total Net Position	\$ 2,053,449

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN
NET POSITION - PROPRIETARY FUND
 YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

	<u>Nursing Home</u>
OPERATING REVENUE:	
Resident revenue	\$ 1,919,899
State UPL payments	405,462
Other sales and charges	<u>11,950</u>
Total Operating Revenue	<u>2,337,311</u>
OPERATING EXPENSES:	
Nursing	900,799
Medical supplies	105,220
Consultants and management fees	215,119
Activities	27,382
Medical records	33,426
Dietary	255,366
Laundry	122,825
Other operating	<u>985,252</u>
Total Operating Expenses	<u>2,645,389</u>
Operating Income	<u>(308,078)</u>
NON-OPERATING REVENUE (EXPENSES)	
Transfers in	<u>468,081</u>
Total Non-operating Revenue (Expenses)	<u>468,081</u>
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	160,003
NET POSITION - BEGINNING	1,188,962
Prior period Adjustment	<u>704,484</u>
NET POSITION - ENDING	<u><u>\$ 2,053,449</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS - PROPRIETARY FUND
YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

	<u>Nursing Home</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:	
Receipts from resident services	\$ 1,929,805
Receipts from state UPL/MPA program	37,354
Payments to employees and related taxes and benefits	(1,542,851)
Payments to consultants and management company	(510,649)
Payments to suppliers	(185,724)
Payments to others	(273,625)
Net cash used by operating activities	<u>(545,690)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM NONCAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES:	
Operating transfers in	<u>468,081</u>
Net cash provided by noncapital financing activities	<u>468,081</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES:	
Acquisition and construction of capital assets	<u>(58,233)</u>
Net cash used by capital and related financing activities	<u>(58,233)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:	
Net cash provided by investing activities	<u>-</u>
NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	(135,842)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>155,379</u>
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 19,537</u>
RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING INCOME TO NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES:	
Operating income	\$ (308,078)
Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net cash used by operating activities:	
Depreciation	67,784
Increase in accounts receivable	(1,020)
Increase in due from governmental entities	(322,039)
Increase in prepaid assets	(57,838)
Increase in pension related assets	(2,617)
Increase in accounts payable	65,496
Increase in accrued payroll	13,646
Decrease in due to others	(1,024)
Net cash used by operating activities	<u>\$ (545,690)</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

BALANCE SHEET - FIDUCIARY FUNDS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

	<u>Agency Funds</u>
ASSETS	
Cash and investments	\$ <u>32,456</u>
Total Assets	\$ <u><u>32,456</u></u>
 LIABILITIES	
Due to Others	\$ <u>32,456</u>
Total Liabilities	\$ <u><u>32,456</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements.

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

NOTE 1: REPORTING ENTITY

Primary Government

Sterling County, Texas (the County) is a public corporation and political subdivision of the State of Texas. The Commissioners Court, which is made up of four commissioners and the County judge, is the general governing body of the County in accordance with Article 5, Paragraph 18 of the Texas Constitution. The County provides the following services as authorized by the statutes of the State of Texas: general government, road and bridge, County judge, County and District clerk, Justice of the Peace, County attorney, County treasurer, County tax collector, County building operations, nursing home operations, County sheriff, County agent, and trapper.

The accompanying basic financial statements present the government and its discretely presented component units defined according to criteria in GASB Statement No. 14, *The Financial Reporting Entity*.

Discretely Presented Component Units

The Senior Citizens center is a non-profit entity which is subsidized by the County with operational funds and is utilizing county owned buildings to conduct services to the County. The Center is governed by a separate board which is not appointed by the County Commissioners, but reports monthly to the commissioners.

The Sterling Volunteer Fire Department was organized in 1963 and is governed by a nine-person Board of Directors. The Fire Department is subsidized annually by the County. The principal functions of the Fire Department are to save lives and to protect property endangered by fire or other disasters in Sterling County, Texas.

NOTE 2: GOVERNMENT WIDE AND FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net position and the statement of activities) report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the primary government. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment are offset by the program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program revenues include 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services or privileges provided by a given function or segment and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenue.

Separate financial statements are provided for proprietary and governmental funds. Major individual governmental funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.

NOTE 3: MEASUREMENT FOCUS, BASIS OF ACCOUNTING, AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT PRESENTATION

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the *economic resources measurement focus* and the *accrual basis of accounting*, as are the proprietary fund financial statements. 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 by the provider have been met.

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

NOTE 3: MEASUREMENT FOCUS, BASIS OF ACCOUNTING, AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT PRESENTATION - continued

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. Revenues are considered to be *available* when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the government considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting.

Property taxes, sales taxes, franchise taxes, and interest associated with the current fiscal period are all considered to be susceptible to accrual and so have been recognized as revenues of the current fiscal period. Only the portion of special assessments receivable due within the current fiscal period is considered to be susceptible to accrual as revenue of the current period. Miscellaneous revenues are recorded as revenue when received in cash because they are generally not measurable until actually received. Investment earnings are recorded as earned, since they are both measurable and available. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on general long-term debt, claims and judgments, and compensated absences, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent they have matured. General capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Proceeds of general long-term debt and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the government.

The County reports the following major governmental funds:

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

Road & Bridge Fund - The Road & Bridge Fund accounts for financial resources restricted for the purpose of repairing roads and bridges and related expenditures.

Project Construction Fund - The Project Construction Fund is used to record the debt proceeds and the expenditures related to the major construction project of the County.

Debt Service Fund - The Debt Service Fund is used to collect the property taxes to fund the County's debt payments and the expenditures related to debt service.

The County reports the following major proprietary fund:

Nursing Home Fund - This fund is used to account for the activities of the County's Nursing Home which is operated in a manner similar to a private business enterprise. The Nursing Home is supported by resident charges, state revenues, and subsidies from the County when needed to cover operational expenses.

Private-sector standards of accounting and financial reporting issued prior to December 1, 1989, generally are followed in both the government-wide and proprietary fund financial statements to the extent that those standards do not conflict with or contradict guidance of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. Governments also have the *option* of following subsequent private-sector guidance for their business-type activities and enterprise funds, subject to this same limitation. The government has elected not to follow subsequent private-sector guidance.

As a general rule the effect of interfund activity has been eliminated from the government-wide financial statements.

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

NOTE 3: MEASUREMENT FOCUS, BASIS OF ACCOUNTING, AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT PRESENTATION - continued

Amounts reported as *program revenues* include 1) charges to customers or applicants for goods, services, or privileges provided, 2) operating grants and contributions, and 3) capital grants and contributions, including special assessments. Internally dedicated resources are reported as *general revenues* rather than as program revenue. Likewise, general revenues include all taxes.

When the County incurs an expenditure or expense for which both restricted and unrestricted resources may be used, it is the County's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources.

Agency Funds are used to account for assets held by the County as an agent for individuals, private organizations, other governments, and/or other funds. Agency funds are custodial in nature (assets equal liabilities) and do not involve measurement or results of operations. Formal budgetary accounting is not required for fiduciary funds. Since by definition, these assets are being held for the benefit of a third party and cannot be used to address activities or obligations of the government, these funds are not incorporated in the government-wide statements.

Property Taxes

Property tax revenues are considered available when collected within the current period. The County levies property taxes prior to September 30 and become due on October 1 in conformity with Subtitle E, Texas Property Tax Code. Taxes are due upon receipt of the tax bill and are past due and subject to interest if not paid by January 31 of the year following the October 1 levy date. On January 31 of each year, a tax lien attaches to the property to secure the payment of all taxes, penalties, and interest ultimately imposed.

Law of the State to levy taxes up to \$1.20 per \$100 of appraised valuation for general services, permanent improvements, lateral road, and jury fund purposes other than the payment of principal established by the Attorney General of the State of Texas. The tax rate for the year ended September 30, 2015 was \$.36757 per \$100 valuation.

Allowance for uncollectible tax receivables within the General Fund and Debt Service Fund is based upon historical experience in collecting property taxes. Uncollectible personal property taxes are periodically reviewed and written off, but the County is prohibited from writing off real property taxes without specific statutory authority from the Texas Legislature.

Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include land, buildings and improvements, equipment, and infrastructure assets (e.g., roads and bridges) are reported in the government-wide financial statements. Purchased or constructed capital assets are reported at cost or estimated historical cost. Donated fixed assets are recorded at their estimated fair value at the date of the donation. The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets' lives are not capitalized. The County capitalizes all capital outlay expenditures over \$5,000.

Pre-existing infrastructure older than 20 years is fully depreciated, and therefore, not recorded in the County's financial statements. Only new infrastructure is recorded as of September 30, 2004.

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

NOTE 3: MEASUREMENT FOCUS, BASIS OF ACCOUNTING, AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT PRESENTATION - continued

Capital assets are being depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Estimated Useful Lives</u>
Buildings and improvements	50
Furniture and equipment	5-15
Infrastructure	20

Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

In addition to assets, the statement of net position will report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred outflows of resources, represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. The County has deferred outflows of resources for the differences between projected and actual earnings for its pension plan and contributions made to the pension plan after the measurement date, but before the end of the fiscal year.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of net position will report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred inflows of resources, represents an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. The County had no deferred inflows of resources for the year ended September 30, 2015.

Long-Term Debt

In the government-wide financial statements, long-term debt is reported as a liability in the governmental activities. The long-term debt of the County includes bonds payable.

Interfund Activity

Interfund activity results from loans, services provided, reimbursements or transfers between funds. Loans are reported as interfund receivables and payables as appropriate and are subject to elimination upon consolidation. Transfers to component units are treated as revenues and expenditures or expenses. Reimbursements occur when one fund incurs a cost, charges the appropriate benefiting fund and reduces its related cost as a reimbursement. All other interfund transactions are treated as transfers. Transfers In and Transfers Out are netted and presented as a single "Transfers" line on the government-wide statement of activities. Similarly, interfund receivables and payables are netted and presented as a single "Internal Balances" line of the government-wide statement of net position.

Statement of Cash Flows

For purposes of the statement of cash flows, all cash and cash investments with a maturity of three months or less are considered to be cash equivalents.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with general accepted accounting principles 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 revenue and expenditures during the reported period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

NOTE 3: MEASUREMENT FOCUS, BASIS OF ACCOUNTING, AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT PRESENTATION - continued

Fund Balance Classification

The governmental fund financial statements present fund balances based on classifications that comprise a hierarchy that is based primarily on the extent to which the County is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in the respective governmental funds can be spent. The classifications used in the governmental fund financial statements are as follows:

Nonspendable – This classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are either (a) not in spendable form or (b) are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The County had \$64,423 classified as nonspendable at September 30, 2015.

Restricted – This classification includes amounts for which constraints have been placed on the use of the resources either (a) externally imposed by creditors (such as through a debt covenant), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments, or (b) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. Federal or state funds are restricted for use only for a specific use.

The County had \$1,707,862 restricted for road and bridge repairs, \$506,053 for special revenue projects, and \$139,778 for future debt service requirements.

Committed – This classification includes amounts that can be used only for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the Board of Trustees. These amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the Board removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action (ordinance or resolution) that was employed when the funds were initially committed. This classification also includes contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements.

Assigned – This classification includes amounts that are constrained by the County Commissioners' intent to be used for a specific purpose but are neither restricted nor committed. This intent can be expressed by the Commissioners or through the Commissioners delegating this responsibility to management through the budgetary process. The County has no funds classified as assigned at September 30, 2015.

Unassigned – This classification includes the residual fund balance for the General Fund. The unassigned also includes negative residual fund balance of any other governmental fund that cannot be eliminated by offsetting of Assigned fund balance amounts.

The County would typically use restricted fund balances first, followed by committed resources, and then assigned resources, as appropriate opportunities arise, but reserves the right to selectively spend unassigned resources first to defer the use of these other classified funds.

Pensions

The fiduciary net position of the Texas County & District Retirement System (TCDRS) has been determined using the flow of economic resources measurement focus and full accrual basis of accounting. This includes for purposes of measuring the net pension asset, deferred outflows of resources, and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, pension expense, and information about assets, liabilities and additions to/deductions from TCERS's fiduciary net position. Benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

NOTE 4: DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

The County's funds are required to be deposited and invested under the terms of a depository contract. The depository bank deposits for safekeeping and trust with the County's agent bank approved pledged securities in an amount sufficient to protect County funds on a day-to-day basis during the period of the contract. The pledge of approved securities is waived only to the extent of the depository bank's dollar amount of Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) insurance.

Cash Deposits

Primary Government - At September 30, 2015, the carrying amount of the County's deposits and certificates of deposit was \$5,821,861. The bank balance at September 30, 2016, was \$6,667,665. The County's cash deposits and certificates of deposit at September 30, 2015, were entirely covered by FDIC insurance and by pledged collateral held by the County's agent bank in the County's name.

Investments

The County is required by Government Code Chapter 2256, The Public Funds Investment Act, to adopt, implement, and publicize an investment policy. That policy must be written; primarily emphasize safety of principal and liquidity; address investment diversification, yield, and maturity and the quality and capability of investment management; and include a list of the types of authorized investments in which the investing entity's funds may be invested; and the maximum allowable stated maturity of any individual investment owed by the entity.

Statutes authorize the County to invest in 1) obligations of the U.S. Treasury or the State of Texas, 2) certificates of deposit, 3) certain municipal securities, 4) money market savings accounts, 5) repurchase agreements, 6) bankers acceptances, 7) mutual funds, 8) investment pools, 9) guaranteed investment contracts, and 10) common trust funds. The County is required by Governmental Code Chapter 2256, Public Funds Investment Act (PFIA), to adopt, implement, and publicize an investment policy. That policy must address the following areas: 1) safety or principal and liquidity, 2) portfolio diversification, 3) allowable investments, 4) acceptable risk levels, 5) expected rates of return, 6) maximum allowable stated maturity of portfolio investments, 7) maximum average dollar weighted maturity allowed based on the stated maturity date for the portfolio, 8) investment staff quality and capabilities, and 9) bid solicitation preferences for certificates of deposit.

The County's investments at September 30, 2014 are as follows:

	Cost Basis	Fair Value
Governmental Activities:		
Certificates of deposit	\$ 2,100,000	\$ 2,100,000
	2,100,000	2,100,000
Special Revenue Funds		
Certificates of deposit	20,000	20,000
	20,000	20,000
Total investments	\$ 2,120,000	\$ 2,120,000

Analysis of Specific Deposit and Investment Risk

Interest rate risk: In accordance with its investment policy, the county manages its exposure to declines in fair values by limiting the weighted average maturity portfolio to 180 days. The maximum allowable stated maturity of any individual investment owned by the county shall not exceed three years from the time of purchase. The commissioners may specifically authorize a longer maturity for a given investment within legal limits.

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

NOTE 4: DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS - continued

Credit risk: State law and County policy limit investments in public funds investment pools to those rated no lower than AAA or AAAM or an equivalent rating by at least one nationally recognized rating service. As of September 30, 2015, the County had \$2,120,000 in investments.

Concentration of credit risk: The County's investment policy does not limit investments in any one issuer except that the investment portfolio shall be diversified in terms of investment instruments, maturity scheduling, and financial institutions to reduce risk of loss resulting from over-concentration of assets in a specific class of investments, specific maturity, or specific issuer.

Custodial Credit Risk: Custodial credit risk is the risk that deposits are exposed to if they are not covered by depository insurance and the deposits are uncollateralized, collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution, or collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution's trust department or agent but not in the County's name. At September 30, 2015, the County was not exposed to custodial credit risk.

NOTE 5: CAPITAL ASSETS

A summary of changes in capital assets are as follows:

PRIMARY GOVERNMENT	<u>Beginning</u>			<u>Ending</u>
<u>Governmental Activities:</u>	<u>Balance</u>	<u>Increases</u>	<u>Decreases</u>	<u>Balance</u>
Capital assets not being depreciated				
Land	\$ 6,238	\$	\$	\$ 6,238
Construction in progress		44,748		44,748
Total capital assets not being depreciated	<u>6,238</u>	<u>44,748</u>		<u>50,986</u>
Capital assets being depreciated				
Buildings and improvements	1,503,985			1,503,985
Furniture and equipment	1,763,040	141,500		1,904,540
Vehicles	912,188	61,149		973,337
Infrastructure	473,081	3,426,090		3,899,171
Total capital assets being depreciated	<u>4,652,294</u>	<u>3,628,739</u>		<u>8,281,033</u>
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Buildings and improvements	(543,034)	(56,998)		(600,032)
Furniture and equipment	(495,438)	(153,454)		(648,892)
Vehicles	(343,055)	(113,442)		(456,497)
Infrastructure	(160,900)	(66,734)		(227,634)
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>(1,542,427)</u>	<u>(390,628)</u>		<u>(1,933,055)</u>
Governmental activities capital assets, net	<u>\$ 3,116,105</u>	<u>\$ 3,282,859</u>	<u>\$</u>	<u>\$ 6,398,964</u>

Depreciation was charged to functions as follows:

Road and bridge	\$ 186,943
County agent	6,969
County sheriff	35,093
General government	
Volunteer fire department	37,145
EMS	42,461
County building operations	82,017
Total depreciation expense - governmental activities	<u>\$ 390,628</u>

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

NOTE 5: CAPITAL ASSETS – continued

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>		<u>Increases</u>		<u>Decreases</u>		<u>Ending Balance</u>
<u>Business Type Activities</u>							
Capital assets being depreciated							
Buildings and improvements	\$ 1,653,914	\$	9,729	\$	(12,995)	\$	1,650,648
Furniture and equipment	<u>350,760</u>		<u>55,499</u>				<u>406,259</u>
Total capital assets being depreciated	<u>2,004,674</u>		<u>65,228</u>		<u>(12,995)</u>		<u>2,056,907</u>
Less accumulated depreciation for:							
Buildings and improvements	(905,523)		(37,841)				(943,364)
Furniture and equipment	<u>(254,435)</u>		<u>(23,943)</u>				<u>(278,378)</u>
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>(1,159,958)</u>		<u>(61,784)</u>				<u>(1,221,742)</u>
Business type activities capital assets, net	<u>\$ 844,716</u>	\$	<u>3,444</u>	\$	<u>(12,995)</u>	\$	<u>835,165</u>

**DISCRETELY PRESENTED COMPONENT
UNITS**

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>		<u>Increases</u>		<u>Decreases</u>		<u>Ending Balance</u>
Capital assets being depreciated							
Buildings and improvements	\$ 391,619	\$		\$		\$	391,619
Equipment and vehicles	<u>173,849</u>		<u>19,897</u>				<u>193,746</u>
Total capital assets being depreciated	565,468		19,897				585,365
Less accumulated depreciation for:							
Buildings and improvements	(141,767)		(10,164)				(151,931)
Equipment and vehicles	<u>(101,495)</u>		<u>(16,906)</u>				<u>(118,401)</u>
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>(243,262)</u>		<u>(27,070)</u>				<u>(270,332)</u>
Capital assets, net	<u>\$ 322,206</u>	\$	<u>(7,173)</u>	\$		\$	<u>315,033</u>

Depreciation was charged to functions as follows:

Sterling County Senior Center	\$ 11,223
Sterling Volunteer Fire Department	<u>15,847</u>
	<u>\$ 27,070</u>

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

NOTE 6: LONG TERM DEBT

A summary of changes in long term debt are as follows:

	Balance October 1, 2014	Additions	Deletions	Balance September 30, 2015
Tax Notes				
Series 2014	\$ 5,100,000	\$	\$ 1,440,000	\$ 3,660,000
Total Long Term Debt	5,100,000	-	1,440,000	3,660,000

Current Maturities of Long Term Debt are as follows:

Fiscal Year	Principal	Interest	Total
2016	705,000	62,512	767,512
2017	720,000	49,046	769,046
2018	730,000	35,343	765,343
2019	745,000	21,404	766,404
2020	760,000	7,182	767,182
	\$ 3,660,000	175,487	3,835,487

Long term debt at September 30, 2015 is comprised of one note issue of \$5.1 million dated May 14, 2014. These note funds will be used for road construction. This note is due in annual installments beginning February 15, 2015. Interest is 1.89% and is paid semi-annually on February 15th and August 15th of each year.

NOTE 7: RETIREMENT PLAN

Plan Description

The County provides retirement, disability and death benefits for all of its full-time employees through a nontraditional defined benefit pension plan in the statewide Texas County and District Retirement System (the TCDRS). The Commissioners are responsible for the administration of the statewide agent multi-employer public employee retirement system consisting of 677 nontraditional defined benefit pension plans. TCDRS in the aggregate issues a comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR) on a calendar year basis. The CAFR is available upon written request from the TCDRS Board of Trustees at P.O. Box 2034, Austin, Texas 78768-2034.

Benefits Provided

The plan provisions are adopted by the governing body of the employer, within the options available in the state statutes governing the TCDRS (TCDRS Act). Members employed by Sterling County can retire at age 60 and above with eight or more years of service, with 30 years of service, regardless of age, or when the sum of their age and years of service equals 75 or more. Members are vested after eight years of employment but must leave their accumulated contributions in the plan to receive any employer-financed benefits.

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

NOTE 7: RETIREMENT PLAN - continued

Benefit amounts are determined by the sum of the employee's contributions to the plan, with interest, and employer-financed monetary credits. The level of these monetary credits is adopted by the County within the actuarial constraints imposed by the TCDRS Act so that the resulting benefits can be expected to be adequately financed by the employer's commitment to contribute. At retirement, death, or disability, the benefit is calculated by converting the sum of the employee's accumulated contributions and the employer-financed monetary credits to a monthly annuity using annuity purchase rates prescribed by the TCDRS Act. There are no automatic post-employment benefit changes; including automatic COLA's. Ad hoc post-employment benefit changes, including ad hoc COLA's, can be granted by the County Commissioners within certain guidelines.

Contributions

The County has elected the annually determined contribution rate (Variable-Rate) plan provisions of the TCDRS Act. The plan is funded by monthly contributions from both employee members and the County based on the covered payroll of employee members. Under the TCDRS Act, the contribution rate of the county is actuarially determined annually. The employee contribution rate and the employer contribution rate may be changed by the governing body of the County within the options available in the TCDRS Act.

The rate the County contributed for the months of the accounting year in 2014 and 2015 were 8.20% and 7.58% respectively. The deposit rate payable by the employee members for the calendar year 2014 and 2015 is the rate of 7.00% as adopted by the governing body of the County. The total retirement contributions made by the County for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2015 were \$171,311.

Actuarial Assumptions

The total pension asset at December 31, 2014 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions:

Valuation Date	December 31, 2014
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal
Amortization Method	Level percentage of payroll, open
Remaining Amortization Period	30 Years
Asset Valuation Method	5 year smoothed value
Discount Rate	8.10%
Long-term expected Investment	
Rate of Return	8.10%
Salary increases	3.5%

The actuarial assumptions that determined the total pension liability as of December 31, 2014 were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2012. The assumptions and methods are the same as used in the prior valuation.

Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension asset was 8.10%. There was no change in the discount rate since the previous year.

In order to determine the discount rate to be used, we have used an alternative method to determine the sufficiency of the fiduciary net position in all future years. This alternative method reflects the funding requirements under our funding policy and the legal requirements under the TCDRS Act:

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

NOTE 7: RETIREMENT PLAN - continued

- 1) TCDRS has a funding policy where the Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (UAAL) shall be amortized as a level percent of pay over 20 – year closed layered periods.
- 2) Under the TCRDS Act, the employer is legally required to make the contribution specified in the funding policy
- 3) The employer’s assets are projected to exceed its accrued liabilities in 20 years or less. When this point is reached, the employer is still required to contribute at least the normal cost.
- 4) Any increased cost due to the adoption of a cost-of-living adjustment is required to be funded over a period of 15 years, if applicable.

Based on the above, the projected fiduciary net position is determined to be sufficient compared to projected benefit payments. Based on the expected level of cash flows and investment returns to the system, the fiduciary net position as a percentage of total pension liability is projected to increase from its current level in future years.

Since the projected fiduciary net position is projected to be sufficient to pay projected benefit payments in all future year, the discount rate for purposes of calculating the total pension liability and net pension liability is equal to the long-term assumed rate of return on investments. This long-term assumed rate of return should be net of investment expenses, but gross of administrative expenses. Therefore, we have used a discount rate of 9.10%. This rate reflects the long-term assumed rate of return on assets for funding purposes of 8.0%, net of all expenses, increased by .10% to be gross of administrative expenses.

The long-term expected rate of return on TCDRS assets is determined by adding expected inflation to expected long-term real returns, and reflecting expected volatility and correlation. The capital market assumptions and information shown below are provided by TCDRS’s investment consultant, Cliffwater LLC. The numbers shown are based on January 2015 information for a 7-10 year time horizon.

Note that the valuation assumptions for long-term expected return is re-assessed at a minimum of every four years, and is based on a 30-year time horizon; the most recent analysis was performed in 2013 based on the period January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2013. Best estimates of geometric real rates of return for each major asset class included in the target asset allocation are summarized below:

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

NOTE 7: RETIREMENT PLAN - continued

Asset Class	Benchmark	Target Allocation	Geometric Real Rate of Return (Expected minus inflation)
US Equities	Dow Jones US Total Stock Market Index	16.50%	5.35%
Private Equity	Cambridge Associates Global Private Equity & Venture Capital Index	12.00%	8.35%
Global Equities	MSCI World (net) Index	1.50%	5.65%
International Equities – Developed	50% MSCI Work Ex USA (net) + 50% MSCI World ex USA 100% Hedged to USD (net) index	11.00%	5.35%
International Equities – Emerging	50% MSCI EM Standard (net) index + 50% MSCI EM 100% Hedged to USD (net) index	9.00%	6.35%
Investment Grade Bonds	Barclays Capital Aggregate Bond Index	3.00%	0.55%
High-Yield Bonds	Citigroup High-Yield Cash-Pay Capped Index	3.00%	3.75%
Opportunistic Credit	Citigroup High-Yield Cash-Pay Capped Index	5.00%	5.54%
Direct Lending	Citigroup High-Yield Cash-Pay Capped Index	2.00%	5.80%
Distressed Debt	Citigroup High-Yield Cash-Pay Capped Index	3.00%	6.75%
REIT Equities	67% FTSE NAREIT Equity REIT's Index + 33% FRSE EPRA/NAREIT Global Rate Estate Index	2.00%	4.00%
Commodities	Bloomberg Commodities Index	2.00%	-0.20%
Master Limited Partnerships (MLP's)	Alerian MLP Index	2.00%	5.30%
Private Real Estate Partnerships	Cambridge Associates Real Estate Index	3.00%	7.20%
Hedge Funds	Hedge Fund Research, Inc. (HFRI) Fund of Funds Composite Index	25.00%	5.15%

Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources, and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

At September 30, 2015, the County reported a net pension asset of \$1,062,298 for its proportionate share of the TCDRS's net pension liability measured at December 31, 2014. For the year ended September 30, 2015, the County recognized pension expense of \$177,242.

There were no changes of assumptions or other inputs that affected measurement of the total pension liability during the measurement period.

There were no changes of benefit terms that affected measurement of the total pension liability during the measurement period.

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

NOTE 7: RETIREMENT PLAN - continued

Changes in the net pension asset for the measurement year ended December 31, 2014 are as follows:

Changes in Net Pension Liability/(Asset)	Increase (Decrease)		
	Total Pension Liability (a)	Fiduciary Net Position (b)	Net Pension Liability/(Asset) (a) – (b)
Balance at December 31, 2013	7,226,779	8,377,866	(1,151,087)
Changes for the year:			
Service Cost	355,211		355,211
Interest on total pension liability	583,273		583,273
Effect of plan changes	0		0
Effect of economic/demographic gains or losses	20,568		20,568
Effect of assumptions changes or inputs	0		0
Refund of contributions	(30,477)	(30,477)	0
Benefit payments	(377,524)	(377,524)	0
Administrative expenses		(6,635)	6,635
Member contributions		164,281	(164,281)
Net investment income		568,189	(568,189)
Employer contributions		192,443	(192,443)
Other		(48,015)	48,015
Balances as of December 31, 2014	\$ 7,777,830	\$ 8,840,128	\$ (1,062,298)

Discount Rate Sensitivity Analysis

The following presents the net pension liability/(asset) of the County, calculated using the discount rate of 8.10%, as well as what the County's net pension asset would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower (7.10%) or 1 percentage point higher (9.10%) than the current rate.

	1% Decrease in Discount Rate (7.10%)	Discount Rate (8.10%)	1% Increase in Discount Rate (9.100%)
Total Pension Liability	\$ 8,565,392	\$ 7,777,830	\$ 7,113,396
Fiduciary Net Position	8,840,128	8,840,128	8,840,128
Net Pension Liability/(Asset)	\$ (274,736)	\$ (1,062,298)	\$ (1,726,732)

At December 31, 2014 the County reported its share of the TCDRS's deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual economic experience	\$ 13,712	
Changes in actuarial assumptions		
Difference between projected and actual investment earnings	90,278	
Contributions subsequent to the measurement date	138,326	
Total	\$ 242,316	

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

NOTE 7: RETIREMENT PLAN - continued

\$138,326 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability for the year ended September 30, 2016. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year Ended September 30:	
2016	\$ 29,426
2017	29,426
2018	22,569
2019	22,569
2020	
Thereafter	

NOTE 8: RISK MANAGEMENT

The County is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft, damage or destruction of assets, errors and omissions, injuries to employees, and natural disasters. During fiscal year 2015, the County purchased commercial insurance to cover general liabilities. There were no significant reductions in coverage in the past fiscal year and there were no settlements exceeding insurance coverage for each of the past three years.

NOTE 9: FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The County has estimated that the fair value of all financial instruments (none of which is held for trading purposes) at September 30, 2015, does not differ materially from their aggregate carrying values recorded in the accompanying statement of financial position. The estimate is based on the assumption that fair value approximates carrying values due to short initial maturities. Financial instruments consist of cash, accounts receivables, prepaid expenses, accounts payable, and payroll liabilities.

NOTE 10: UNFAVORABLE BUDGET VARIANCES

During the year ended September 30, 2015, the County had unfavorable budget variances in a few lines in the General Fund and Road & Bridge Fund. The overall expenditures did not exceed the budget in the General Fund, therefore funds were available in other line items to cover these overages. The total expenses for the Road & Bridge Fund were over budget as well as the revenue items. Funds were available to cover the overages.

NOTE 11: DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES

In June 2011, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) issued Statement No. 63, *Financial Reporting of Deferred Outflows of Resources, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position*, which changes how governments organize their statements of financial position (such as the current government-wide statements of net position and the governmental funds balance sheet). Under these standards, financial statements include deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources (“deferrals”), in addition to assets and liabilities, and report *net position* instead of net assets. GASB Statement No. 63 was effective for financial statements for periods beginning after December 15, 2011.

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

NOTE 11: DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES - continued

In addition to liabilities, the balance sheet reports a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred inflows of resources, represents an acquisition of fund balance that applies to a future period and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. Deferred inflows of resources reported in the governmental funds of unavailable revenues are as follows:

Net tax revenue \$ 30,838

NOTE 12: PRIOR PERIOD ADJUSTMENTS

Prior period adjustments were made to beginning fund balance in both the government wide and the fund financial statements. The adjustments were due to re-classifications of net assets, accrued interest on investments, and capitalization of certain assets. The following schedule details the changes in the net position of the entity in the government wide financial statements.

	Governmental Activities	Business- Type Activities
Correct prior year accounts payable	\$ (8,349)	\$
Record prior year pension asset balance	595,302	704,484
Record beginning balance of library cash	5,334	
Total changes in net position	\$ 592,287	\$ 704,484

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

**SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE -
BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance
	Original	Final		Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenues				
Property taxes	\$ 2,126,919	\$ 2,126,919	\$ 2,124,017	\$ (2,902)
Fees	208,400	208,400	97,151	(111,249)
Fines and forfeitures	250,000	250,000	290,060	40,060
Clinic revenue	175,000	175,000	131,222	(43,778)
Investment earnings	15,000	15,000	12,688	(2,312)
Rental revenues	2,400	2,400	2,400	
Intergovernmental	57,734	57,734	39,398	(18,336)
EMS revenue	62,000	62,000	53,685	(8,315)
Miscellaneous	77,685	77,685	49,580	(28,105)
Total Revenues	<u>2,975,138</u>	<u>2,975,138</u>	<u>2,800,201</u>	<u>(174,937)</u>
Expenditures				
Current:				
General government	563,154	542,592	410,232	132,360
County judge	77,981	81,405	81,073	332
County and district clerk	146,315	148,290	144,764	3,526
Justice of the peace	106,422	106,422	101,135	5,287
County attorney	89,457	87,308	44,567	42,741
County treasurer	68,080	68,080	66,194	1,886
County tax collector	99,573	99,573	94,029	5,544
County building operations	191,784	191,784	162,341	29,443
County sheriff	439,052	450,483	411,904	38,579
County agent	66,877	66,877	56,032	10,845
Trapper	64,800	64,800	64,800	
Senior citizens	31,700	31,700	31,700	
Volunteer fire department	50,000	48,864	17,509	31,355
Clinic	277,000	284,017	290,438	(6,421)
EMS	223,043	223,043	224,601	(1,558)
Capital outlay			61,148	(61,148)
Total Expenditures	<u>2,495,238</u>	<u>2,495,238</u>	<u>2,262,467</u>	<u>232,771</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	<u>479,900</u>	<u>479,900</u>	<u>537,734</u>	<u>57,834</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers out	(479,900)	(479,900)	(468,081)	11,819
Proceeds from sale of assets				
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(479,900)</u>	<u>(479,900)</u>	<u>(468,081)</u>	<u>11,819</u>
Net Change in Fund Balance			69,653	69,653
Fund Balance - Beginning	3,375,525	3,375,525	3,375,525	
Prior Period Adjustments	(3,015)	(3,015)	(3,015)	
Fund Balance - Ending	<u>\$ 3,372,510</u>	<u>\$ 3,372,510</u>	<u>\$ 3,442,163</u>	<u>\$ 69,653</u>

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

**SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE -
BUDGET (GAAP BASIS) AND ACTUAL - ROAD & BRIDGE FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance
	Original	Final		Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenues				
Property taxes	\$ 247,647	\$ 247,647	\$ 246,754	\$ (893)
Licenses and permits	127,200	127,200	107,726	(19,474)
Fees			755	755
Investment earnings	600	600	1,267	667
Intergovernmental	707,100	707,100	707,543	443
Miscellaneous	20,000	20,000	96,935	76,935
Total Revenues	<u>1,102,547</u>	<u>1,102,547</u>	<u>1,160,980</u>	<u>58,433</u>
Expenditures				
Commissioner's salary	82,320	82,320	82,320	
Road foreman salary	42,700	42,700	42,700	
Landfill salary	3,890	3,890	3,553	337
Cell phone allowance	1,800	1,800	1,800	
Road salary	68,382	68,382	68,382	
Social security	15,232	15,232	15,205	27
Group hospital insurance	70,000	70,000	62,722	7,278
Retirement	15,411	15,411	15,373	38
Permit and landfill fees	3,425	3,425	4,774	(1,349)
Fuel and oil	27,000	27,000	27,997	(997)
Supplies	800	800	798	2
County barn maintenance	524	524		524
Telephone	750	750	725	25
Travel expenses	5,000	5,000	4,823	177
Utilities	2,350	2,350	2,476	(126)
Machine parts and repairs	30,000	30,000	22,110	7,890
Road materials and repairs	8,983	8,983	7,580	1,403
Lateral road funds	6,880	6,880	6,880	
Miscellaneous expense	2,100	2,100	605	1,495
Professional fees	15,000	15,000	11,516	3,484
Capital outlay			23,638	(23,638)
Total Expenditures	<u>402,547</u>	<u>402,547</u>	<u>405,977</u>	<u>(3,430)</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	<u>700,000</u>	<u>700,000</u>	<u>755,003</u>	<u>55,003</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
Transfers out	(700,000)	(700,000)	(684,252)	15,748
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(700,000)</u>	<u>(700,000)</u>	<u>(684,252)</u>	<u>15,748</u>
Net Change in Fund Balance			70,751	70,751
Fund Balance - Beginning	885,960	885,960	885,960	
Prior Period Adjustments				
Fund Balance - Ending	<u>\$ 885,960</u>	<u>\$ 885,960</u>	<u>\$ 956,711</u>	<u>\$ 70,751</u>

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS
SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN NET PENSION LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS
Last 10 Years (will ultimately be displayed)
YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31

	2014
Total Pension Liability	
Service cost	\$ 355,211
Interest (on the Total Pension Liability)	583,273
Changes of benefit terms	-
Difference between expected and actual experience	20,568
Change of Assumptions	-
Benefit payments, including refunds of employee contributions	(408,001)
Net Change in Total Pension Liability	551,051
Total Pension Liability - Beginning	7,226,779
Total Pension Liability - Ending (a)	\$ 7,777,830
 Plan Fiduciary Net Position	
Contributions - Employer	\$ 192,443
Contributions - Employee	164,281
Net Investment Income	568,189
Benefit payments, including refunds of employee contributions	(408,001)
Administrative Expense	(6,635)
Other	(48,015)
Net Change in Plan Fiduciary Net Position	462,262
Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Beginning	8,377,866
Plan Fiduciary Net Position - Ending (b)	\$ 8,840,128
Net Pension Liability - Ending (a)-(b)	\$ (1,062,298)
 Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of Total Pension Liability	 113.66%
 Covered Employee Payroll	 \$ 2,346,870
 Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Employee Payroll	 -45.26%

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS
Schedule of Employer Contributions
Texas County & District Retirement System
For Fiscal Year 2015

Year Ending December 31,	Actuarially Determined Contribution	Actual Employer Contribution	Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	Pensionalbe Covered Payroll	Actual Contribution as a Percentage of Covered Payroll
2005	\$ Not Available	\$ Not Available	\$ Not Available	\$ Not Available	\$ Not Available
2006	149,252	149,252	-	1,231,456	12.1%
2007	190,520	190,520	-	1,526,603	12.5%
2008	206,915	406,915	200,000	1,717,137	23.7%
2009	216,844	716,844	500,000	1,816,118	39.5%
2010	216,211	216,211	-	1,930,456	11.2%
2011	161,830	177,057	15,227	1,770,565	10.0%
2012	162,293	182,969	20,676	1,829,690	10.0%
2013	165,898	171,022	5,124	1,998,768	8.6%
2014	192,443	192,443	-	2,346,870	8.2%

OTHER SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

COMBINING BALANCE SHEET - NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

	Jury Fund	Records Management	Courthouse Security	Technology Fund
ASSETS				
Cash and cash investments	\$ 78,837	\$ 15,155	\$ 34,715	\$ 21,760
Investments	300,000		20,000	
Accrued interest receivable	339		64	
Intergovernmental receivable	1,563			
Total Assets	\$ 380,739	\$ 15,155	\$ 54,779	\$ 21,760
LIABILITIES				
Accrued interest payable	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES				
Deferred Revenue	_____	_____	_____	_____
Total Liabilities and deferred inflows of resources	_____	_____	_____	_____
FUND BALANCE				
Restricted	380,739	15,155	54,779	21,760
Unassigned	_____	_____	_____	_____
Total Fund Balance	380,739	15,155	54,779	21,760
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	\$ 380,739	\$ 15,155	\$ 54,779	\$ 21,760

Court Technology	District Records Archive	Sheriff Special Revenue Fund	Clerk Records Archive	Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds
\$ 2,455	\$ 876	\$ 10,959	\$ 19,330	\$ 184,087 320,000 403 1,563
<u>\$ 2,455</u>	<u>\$ 876</u>	<u>\$ 10,959</u>	<u>\$ 19,330</u>	<u>\$ 506,053</u>
\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____	\$ _____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
2,455	876	10,959	19,330	506,053
<u>2,455</u>	<u>876</u>	<u>10,959</u>	<u>19,330</u>	<u>506,053</u>
<u>\$ 2,455</u>	<u>\$ 876</u>	<u>\$ 10,959</u>	<u>\$ 19,330</u>	<u>\$ 506,053</u>

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE -
NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
 FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

	Jury Fund	Records Management	Courthouse Security	Technology Fund
REVENUES:				
Property taxes	\$ 25,126	\$	\$	\$
Fees	2,792	7,300	12,124	11,455
Intergovernmental	6,341			
Investment earnings	1,793	14	144	23
Total Revenues	36,052	7,314	12,268	11,478
EXPENDITURES:				
Current:				
Salaries and benefits	3,101		211	
Other operating	22,649	5,946	17,928	17,965
Debt service:				
Principal payments				
Interest expense				
Total Expenditures	25,750	5,946	18,139	17,965
EXCESS (DEFICIT) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	10,302	1,368	(5,871)	(6,487)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES:				
Transfers from other funds				
Total Other Financing Sources				
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	10,302	1,368	(5,871)	(6,487)
FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING	370,437	13,787	60,650	28,247
Prior Period Adjustment				
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	\$ 380,739	\$ 15,155	\$ 54,779	\$ 21,760

Court Technology	District Records Archive	Sheriff Special Revenue Fund	Clerk Records Archive	Total Nonmajor Governmental Funds
\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
589	310		5,545	25,126
		16,982		40,115
2			21	23,323
				1,997
<u>591</u>	<u>310</u>	<u>16,982</u>	<u>5,566</u>	<u>90,561</u>
				3,312
		12,011	6,720	83,219
		12,011	6,720	86,531
591	310	4,971	(1,154)	4,030
591	310	4,971	(1,154)	4,030
1,864	566	5,988	20,484	502,023
<u>\$ 2,455</u>	<u>\$ 876</u>	<u>\$ 10,959</u>	<u>\$ 19,330</u>	<u>\$ 506,053</u>

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

**COMBINING STATEMENT OF NET POSITION - COMPONENT UNITS
SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

	<u>Sterling Volunteer Fire Department</u>	<u>Sterling County Senior Citizens</u>	<u>Total Component Units</u>
ASSETS			
Current:			
Cash and investments	\$ 21,533	\$ 7,955	\$ 29,488
Total current assets	<u>21,533</u>	<u>7,955</u>	<u>29,488</u>
Noncurrent assets:			
Property and equipment, net	<u>88,901</u>	<u>226,132</u>	<u>315,033</u>
Total noncurrent assets	<u>88,901</u>	<u>226,132</u>	<u>315,033</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>110,434</u>	<u>234,087</u>	<u>344,521</u>
LIABILITIES			
Accounts Payable	<u>3,523</u>	<u></u>	<u>3,523</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>3,523</u>	<u></u>	<u>3,523</u>
NET POSITION			
Net investment in capital assets	88,901	226,132	315,033
Unrestricted	<u>18,010</u>	<u>7,955</u>	<u>25,965</u>
TOTAL NET POSITION	<u>\$ 106,911</u>	<u>\$ 234,087</u>	<u>\$ 340,998</u>

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

**COMBINING STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES - COMPONENT UNITS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2015**

	<u>Sterling Volunteer Fire Department</u>	<u>Sterling County Senior Citizens</u>	<u>Total Component Units</u>
REVENUES:			
Fees and charges for services	\$	\$ 10,251	\$ 10,251
Donations	18,800	5,055	23,855
Intergovernmental	17,509	32,250	49,759
Investment earnings	19		19
Miscellaneous	248	158	406
Total Revenues	<u>36,576</u>	<u>47,714</u>	<u>84,290</u>
EXPENDITURES:			
Current:			
Salaries and benefits		24,775	24,775
Occupancy costs	5,523	8,165	13,688
Repairs and supplies	12,261	2,412	14,673
Depreciation	15,847	11,223	27,070
Other operating	11,018	11,793	22,811
Total Expenditures	<u>44,649</u>	<u>58,368</u>	<u>103,017</u>
EXCESS (DEFICIT) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	(8,073)	(10,654)	(18,727)
NET POSITION - BEGINNING OF YEAR	114,984	244,741	359,725
Prior period adjustment			
NET POSITION - END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 106,911</u>	<u>\$ 234,087</u>	<u>\$ 340,998</u>

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

To the Commissioner's Court
Sterling County, Texas

We have audited, in accordance with the 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, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Sterling County, Texas, as of and for the year ended September 30, 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Sterling County, Texas' basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated March 15, 2016.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Sterling County, Texas' internal control over financial reporting (internal control) 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 Sterling County, Texas' internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Sterling County, Texas' internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Sterling County, Texas' 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*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Roberts + McGee, CPA
Roberts & McGee, CPA

Abilene, Texas,
March 15, 2016

STATE SINGLE AUDIT SECTION

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY THE STATE OF TEXAS SINGLE AUDIT CIRCULAR

To the Commissioner's Court
Sterling County, Texas:

Report on Compliance for Each Major State Program

We have audited the Sterling County, Texas' compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the State of Texas Single Audit Circular that could have a direct and material effect on each of the Sterling County, Texas' major state programs for the year ended September 30, 2015. The Sterling County, Texas' major state programs are 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 its state programs.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on compliance for each of the Sterling County, Texas' major state programs 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 the State of Texas Single Audit Circular. Those standards and the State Circular 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 state program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the Sterling County, Texas' 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 each major state program. However, our audit does not provide a legal determination of the Sterling County, Texas' compliance.

Opinion on Each Major State Program

In our opinion, Sterling County, Texas, complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major state programs for the year ended September 30, 2015.

Report on Internal Control over Compliance

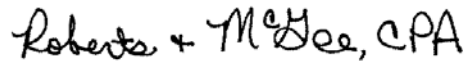
Management of the Sterling County, Texas, is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above. In planning and performing our audit of compliance, we considered the Sterling County, Texas' internal control over compliance with the types of requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each major state program to determine the auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing an opinion on compliance for each major state program and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the State Circular, 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 Sterling County, Texas' 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 state 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 state 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 a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a state program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by 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.

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 the State Circular. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.


Roberts & McGee, CPA

Abilene, Texas
March 15, 2016

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF STATE AWARDS
YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2015

<u>State Grantor/Pass-through Grantor/Program Title</u>	<u>Grant\Project Number</u>	<u>Grant Award</u>	<u>State Expenditures</u>
STATE AWARDS:			
<u>Texas Department of Transportation</u>			
County Transportation Infrastructure Grant	CTIF 01-216	\$ <u>712,107</u>	\$ <u>700,667</u>
Total State Awards		\$ <u><u>712,107</u></u>	\$ <u><u>700,667</u></u>

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

Notes to Schedule of Expenditures of State Awards For the Year Ended September 30, 2015

NOTE A: GENERAL

The Schedule of Expenditures of State Awards presents the activity of all applicable State awards of Sterling County, Texas. Sterling County, Texas' reporting entity is defined in Note 1 of the financial statements. State awards received directly from State agencies as well as State awards passed through other governmental agencies are included on the Schedule of Expenditures of State Awards.

NOTE B: BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The Schedule of Expenditures of State Awards is prepared on the accrual basis of accounting. The accrual basis of accounting is described in Note 3 of the financial statements. Cost reimbursement State grants are considered to be earned to the extent of expenditures made under the provision of the grant and, accordingly, when such funds are received they are recorded as deferred revenue until earned.

The format for the Schedule of Expenditures of State Awards has been prescribed by the State of Texas Single Audit Circular. Such format includes revenue recognized in Sterling County, Texas' financial statements.

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs For the Year Ended September 30, 2015

Summary of Auditor's Results

1. The auditor's report expressed an unmodified opinion on the financial statements.
2. No material weaknesses and no significant deficiencies were disclosed in the audit of the financial statements.
3. No instances of noncompliance material to the financial statements were disclosed during the audit.
4. No material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over major state award programs were disclosed during the audit.
5. The auditor's report on compliance for the major state award programs expressed an unmodified opinion on all major state programs.
6. Audit findings that are required to be reported in accordance with the State of Texas Single Audit Circular are reported in this schedule.
7. The program tested as a major program is:
 - County Transportation Infrastructure Grant
 - TxDOT Contract No: CTIF 01-216
 - State Grantor: Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT)
8. The threshold for distinguishing Type A and Type B state programs was \$300,000.
9. The auditee was not determined to be a low-risk auditee.

Findings - Financial Statement Audit

None

Findings and Questioned Costs - Major State Award Programs Audit

None

STERLING COUNTY, TEXAS

Summary Schedule of Prior Year Findings and Questioned Costs
For the Year Ended September 30, 2015

No Findings or Questioned Costs in Prior Year.