STATE OF MINNESOTA Office of the State Auditor



Rebecca Otto State Auditor

CARLTON COUNTY CARLTON, MINNESOTA

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

Description of the Office of the State Auditor

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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For the Year Ended December 31, 2008



Audit Practice Division Office of the State Auditor State of Minnesota

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Introductory Section

ORGANIZATION AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2008

Term Expires

Elected Commissioners			
Board Member	Dick Brenner	District 1	January 2009
Board Member	Marv Bodie	District 2	January 2011
Board Member	Melvin Tan	District 3	January 2009
Board Member	Gordon Aanerud	District 4	January 2011
Chair	Ted Pihlman	District 5	January 2009
Attorney	Thomas H. Pertler		January 2011
Auditor/Treasurer	Paul Gassert		January 2011
Coroner	Richard Puumala, M.D.		January 2011
Sheriff	Kelly Lake		January 2011
Appointed			
Assessor	Marci Moreland		January 2013
Recorder	Kristine Basilici		January 2011
Registrar of Titles	Kristine Basilici		January 2011
Highway Engineer	Wayne Olson		May 2009
Veteran Services Officer	Duane Brownie		January 2010
Surveyor	William Hayden		December 2009

Financial Section



STATE OF MINNESOTA OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of County Commissioners Carlton County

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Carlton County, Minnesota, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2008, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements. These financial statements are the responsibility of Carlton County's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America 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 of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinions.

As discussed in Note 1.D.4. to the financial statements, Carlton County has not reported capital assets, including infrastructure assets, in the governmental activities and, accordingly, has not reported depreciation expense on those assets, and has not eliminated the related capital expenditures. Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that capital assets, including infrastructure assets, be capitalized and depreciated, which would increase the assets, net assets, and expenses of the governmental activities. The amount by which this departure would affect the assets, net assets, and expenses of the governmental activities is not reasonably determinable.

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Also, as discussed in Note 1.D.7. to the financial statements, Carlton County has not reported its other postemployment benefits (OPEB) liability in the governmental activities and, accordingly, has not reported the change to the net OPEB obligation. Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that OPEB obligations, which arise from an exchange of salaries and benefits for employee service and are part of the compensation that employers offer for services received, and the annual OPEB cost be accrued as liabilities and expenses as the employees earn the right to the benefits. Accruing OPEB costs would increase liabilities, reduce net assets, and change the expenses of the governmental activities. The amount by which this departure would affect the liabilities, net assets, and expenses of the governmental activities is not reasonably determinable.

In our opinion, because of the effects of the matters discussed in the two preceding paragraphs, the financial statements referred to above do not present fairly, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the governmental activities of Carlton County as of December 31, 2008, or the changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended.

In addition, in our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of Carlton County as of December 31, 2008, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

The Management's Discussion and Analysis and the required supplementary information listed in the table of contents are not a required part of the basic financial statements but are supplementary information required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audit was made for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise Carlton County's basic financial statements. The supplementary information and other schedule listed in the table of contents are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated January 14, 2010, on our consideration of Carlton County's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the

scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

/s/Rebecca Otto

/s/Greg Hierlinger

GREG HIERLINGER, CPA DEPUTY STATE AUDITOR

January 14, 2010

REBECCA OTTO

STATE AUDITOR

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS DECEMBER 31, 2008 (Unaudited)

Carlton County's Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) provides an overview of the County's financial activities for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008. Since this information is designed to focus on the current year's activities, resulting changes, and currently known facts, it should be read in conjunction with the County's financial statements.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Governmental activities' total net assets are \$16,506,260, of which \$5,346,382 is restricted to specific purposes.
- Carlton County's governmental activities' net assets increased by \$313,112 for the year ended December 31, 2008.
- The net cost of governmental activities was \$20,987,502 for the current fiscal year. The net cost was funded by general revenues and other items totaling \$21,300,614.
- Governmental funds' fund balances decreased by \$1,316,747.
- Carlton County has not established capital asset records or recorded the related depreciation as required by Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement 34. Carlton County also has not determined the net other postemployment benefits liability as required by Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement 45.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

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

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

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

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

In the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities, all activities of the County are governmental including general government, public safety, highways and streets, sanitation, human services, health, culture and recreation, conservation of natural resources, and economic development. Property taxes and state and federal grants finance most of these activities.

Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements provide detailed information about the significant funds--not the County as a whole. Some funds are required to be established by state law and by bond covenants. However, the County Board establishes some funds to help it control and manage money for a particular purpose or to show that it is meeting legal responsibilities for using certain taxes, grants, and other money.

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

Reporting the County's Fiduciary Responsibilities

The County is the trustee, or fiduciary, over assets that can be used only for the trust beneficiaries based on the trust arrangement. All of the County's fiduciary balances are reported in a separate Statement of Fiduciary Net Assets. These activities are excluded from the County's other financial statements because the County cannot use these assets to finance its operations. The County is responsible for ensuring that the assets reported in these funds are used for their intended purposes.

THE COUNTY AS A WHOLE

Our analysis below focuses on the net assets (Table 1) and changes in net assets (Table 2) of the County's governmental activities.

Table 1
Net Assets
(in thousands)

		2008		2007		
Assets	\$	28,968	\$	29,176		
Long-term debt outstanding Other liabilities	\$	9,328 3,134	\$	9,924 3,059		
Total Liabilities	_\$	12,462	\$	12,983		
Net Assets Restricted Unrestricted	\$	5,346 11,160	\$	6,750 9,443		
Total Net Assets	\$	16,506	\$	16,193		

Table 2 Changes in Net Assets (in thousands)

	 2008		2007	
Revenues				
Program revenues				
Fees, fines, charges, and other	\$ 5,834	\$	5,915	
Operating grants and contributions	10,770		10,688	
Capital grants and contributions	2,590		5,045	
General revenues				
Property taxes	16,404		15,162	
Other taxes	242		262	
Grants and contributions	3,684		4,022	
Other general revenues	 970		1,544	
Total Revenues	\$ 40,494	\$	42,638	
Expenses				
Program expenses				
General government	\$ 6,390	\$	5,753	
Public safety	6,458		5,982	
Culture and recreation	604		569	
Highways and streets	8,893		11,833	
Human services	12,325		12,123	
Health	2,415		2,282	
Sanitation	1,126		1,131	
Conservation of natural resources	1,061		889	
Economic development	620		686	
Interest	 289		318	
Total Expenses	\$ 40,181	\$	41,566	
Increase (Decrease) in Net Assets	\$ 313	\$	1,072	
Net Assets, January 1	 16,193		15,121	
Net Assets, December 31	\$ 16,506	\$	16,193	

Governmental Activities

The cost of all governmental activities this year was \$40,181,014. However, as shown in the Statement of Activities, the amount that our taxpayers ultimately financed for these activities through County taxes was only \$16,404,137, because some of the cost was paid by those who directly benefited from the programs (\$5,834,202) or by other governments and organizations that subsidized certain programs with grants and contributions (\$13,359,310).

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

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	Table Governmental (in thousa	Activities		
	Total Cost	of Services	Net Cost	of Services
	2008	2007	2008	2007
General government	\$ 6,390	\$ 5,753	\$ 4,739	\$ 4,310
Public safety	6,458	5,982	5,879	5,291
Highways and streets	8,893	11,833	3,982	4,450
Human services	12,325	12,123	4,871	4,498
Health	2,415	2,282	676	674
All others	3,700	3,593	841	695
Totals	\$ 40,181	\$ 41,566	\$ 20,988	\$ 19,918

THE COUNTY'S FUNDS

As the County completed the year, its governmental funds reported a combined fund balance of \$22,850,088, which is less than last year's total of \$24,166,835. Included in this year's total fund balance is a surplus of \$13,132,213 in the County's General Fund. The overall decrease in the governmental funds was due to a decrease for funds reserved for highways in the Road and Bridge Special Revenue Fund and in undesignated funds in the County's General Fund and Road and Bridge Special Revenue Fund.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights

The actual charges to appropriations (expenditures) for the County's General Fund exceeded the final budget by \$52,941. The largest variances were in general government and culture and recreation.

On the other hand, resources available for appropriation exceeded the final budget for the County's General Fund by \$686,522. Collections were greater than expected in intergovernmental revenues and charges for services.

Fund balance was anticipated to increase by \$227,581. Actual fund balance increased by \$920,894 due to the net excess collections.

CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

Capital Assets

At the end of 2008, the County had not completed an inventory and historical cost analysis of its capital assets, including infrastructure. It is anticipated that the analysis will be performed during the next several months, and a record-keeping system will be established.

Debt

At year-end, the County had \$6,470,000 outstanding in general obligation bonds, backed by the County, versus \$7,165,000 last year.

The County did not issue bonds during 2008. Principal and interest payments on all bonds and notes will not exceed the amount allowed by Minn. Stat. § 373.40.

Other obligations include a contract for deed, loans payable, and accrued vacation pay and sick leave payable. More detailed information about the County's long-term liabilities is presented in Note 3.C. to the financial statements.

ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET AND LEVY

The County's elected and appointed officials considered many factors when setting the fiscal year 2009 budget and tax levy:

- increased heating and vehicle fuel costs of \$226,624,
- increased Social Service State Residential Treatment costs of \$120,000,
- increased Social Service Out-of-Home Placement costs of \$388,595,
- eliminated 3.1 FTE positions from Public Health and Human Services, and
- property tax levies have increased 5.45 percent for 2009.

CONTACTING THE COUNTY'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, customers, and investors and creditors with a general overview of the County's finances and to show the County's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the County's Auditor/Treasurer, Paul G. Gassert, Carlton County Courthouse, 301 Walnut Avenue, Carlton, Minnesota 55718.

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

EXHIBIT 1

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES DECEMBER 31, 2008

Assets

Cash and pooled investments Receivables - net Inventories Prepaid items Deferred charges	\$	20,188,200 7,006,015 879,456 818,717 75,357
Total Assets	<u>\$</u>	28,967,745
Liabilities		
Accounts payable and other current liabilities Accrued interest payable Unearned revenue	\$	2,658,672 65,873 409,316
Long-term liabilities Due within one year Due in more than one year		561,313 8,766,311
Total Liabilities	<u>\$</u>	12,461,485
<u>Net Assets</u>		
Restricted for General government Public safety Highways and streets Sanitation Conservation of natural resources Economic development Unrestricted	\$	391,859 47,079 2,111,764 30,116 262,633 2,502,931 11,159,878
Total Net Assets	\$	16,506,260

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

EXHIBIT 2

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

					Proc	gram Revenue	c		I	let (Expense) Revenue and hanges in Net
		Expenses		es, Charges, es, and Other		Operating Grants and ontributions	(Capital Grants and ontributions		Assets overnmental Activities
Functions/Programs										
Governmental activities										
General government	\$	6,390,116	\$	912,429	\$	738,788	\$	-	\$	(4,738,899)
Public safety		6,457,593		252,565		324,602		1,694		(5,878,732)
Highways and streets		8,893,090		915,197		1,469,300		2,526,496		(3,982,097)
Sanitation		1,125,746		766,374		558,536		-		199,164
Human services		12,324,687		792,076		6,661,429		-		(4,871,182)
Health		2,415,409		1,178,568		560,688		-		(676,153)
Culture and recreation		603,714		11,554		288,257		-		(303,903)
Conservation of natural		,								
resources		1,061,413		800,767		65,587		-		(195,059)
Economic development		619,632		204,672		102,490		61,443		(251,027)
Interest		289,614				-		-		(289,614)
Total Governmental										
Activities	\$	40,181,014	\$	5,834,202	\$	10,769,677	\$	2,589,633	\$	(20,987,502)
	Pr M Pa Gi Ui	neral Revenue operty taxes ortgage registr syments in lieu rants and contr nrestricted inve iscellaneous	y and of tax ibution	ns not restricted	l to s	pecific program	ns		\$	16,404,137 23,011 219,037 3,683,776 711,387 259,266
	1	fotal general 1	revenu	ies					\$	21,300,614
	C	hange in net a	ssets						\$	313,112
	Net	t Assets - Begi	nning							16,193,148
	Net	t Assets - Endi	ing						\$	16,506,260

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

FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

BALANCE SHEET GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS DECEMBER 31, 2008

	General		Road and Bridge		
Assets					
Cash and pooled investments	\$	10,599,770	\$	3,159,680	
Petty cash and change funds		1,600		-	
Taxes receivable					
Delinquent		411,376		117,617	
Special assessments receivable					
Delinquent		38,424		-	
Accounts receivable		68,614		1,682	
Accrued interest receivable		283,600		-	
Due from other funds		173,221		78,566	
Due from other governments		327,114		1,970,674	
Inventories		-		879,456	
Prepaid items		818,717		-	
Loans receivable		1,622,289		-	
Deposits receivable		100,000		-	
Total Assets	\$	14,444,725	\$	6,207,675	

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

EXHIBIT 3

Human Services		Fo	rfeited Tax	ebt Service major Fund	Gove	Total rnmental Funds
\$	5,295,985 3,950	\$	238,864	\$ 888,351	\$	20,182,650 5,550
	189,476		-	36,117		754,586
	-		-	-		38,424
	149,628		479,916	-		699,840
	-		-	-		283,600
	-		-	-		251,787
	1,209,488		-	-		3,507,276
	-		-	-		879,456
	-		-	-		818,717
	-		-	-		1,622,289
	-		-	 -		100,000
\$	6,848,527	\$	718,780	\$ 924,468	\$	29,144,175

BALANCE SHEET GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS DECEMBER 31, 2008

	General		Road and Bridge		
Liabilities and Fund Balances					
Liabilities					
Accounts payable	\$	136,373	\$	47,034	
Salaries payable		519,440		196,088	
Contracts payable		7,013		266,046	
Due to other funds		30,758		-	
Due to other governments		69,685		-	
Deferred revenue - unavailable		507,803		1,759,795	
Deferred revenue - unearned		41,440		278,250	
Total Liabilities	\$	1,312,512	\$	2,547,213	
Fund Balances					
Reserved for					
Inventories	\$	-	\$	879,456	
Economic development		810,758		-	
Election equipment		34,606		-	
Loans receivable		1,622,289		-	
Prepaid items		818,717		-	
Missing heirs		31,012		-	
Law library		34,887		-	
Recorder's equipment		237,528		-	
Sheriff's contingency		3,453		-	
Sheriff's gun permit fee		30,470		-	
Sheriff's forfeited property		13,156		-	
Attorney's forfeited property		53,826		-	
Highways		-		968,303	
Timber development		262,633		-	
Deposits receivable		100,000		-	
Town roads		-		108,790	
Unreserved					
Designated for petty cash funds		1,600		-	
Undesignated		9,077,278		1,703,913	
Unreserved, reported in nonmajor					
Debt service fund				-	
Total Fund Balances	\$	13,132,213	\$	3,660,462	
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	\$	14,444,725	\$	6,207,675	

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.
EXHIBIT 3 (Continued)

Human Services		Forfeited Tax		bt Service major Fund	Total Governmental Funds		
\$	496,173 511,044	\$	2,066 9,683	\$ - -	\$	681,646 1,236,255 273,059	
	72 346,842 288,144 89,626		220,957 51,185 386,198	 32,372		251,787 467,712 2,974,312 409,316	
\$	1,731,901	\$	670,089	\$ 32,372	\$	6,294,087	
\$	-	\$	-	\$ -		879,456	
	-		-	-		810,758	
	-		-	-		34,606	
	-		-	-		1,622,289	
	-		-	-		818,717	
	-		-	-		31,012	
	-		-	-		34,887	
	-		-	-		237,528	
	-		-	-		3,453	
	-		-	-		30,470	
	-		-	-		13,156	
	-		-	-		53,826	
	-		-	-		968,303	
	-		-	-		262,633	
	-		-	-		100,000	
	-		-	-		108,790	
	-		-	-		1,600	
	5,116,626		48,691	-		15,946,508	
	-			 892,096		892,096	
\$	5,116,626	\$	48,691	\$ 892,096	\$	22,850,088	
\$	6,848,527	\$	718,780	\$ 924,468	\$	29,144,175	

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EXHIBIT 4

RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET TO THE GOVERNMENT-WIDE STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS--GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES DECEMBER 31, 2008

Fund balances - total governmental funds (Exhibit 3)		\$ 22,850,088
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net assets are different because:		
Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current period expenditures and, therefore, are deferred in the governmental funds.		2,974,312
Long-term liabilities, including bonds payable, are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.		
General obligation bonds	\$ (6,449,525)	
Contract for deed	(225,000)	
Loans payable	(144,295)	
Accrued interest payable	(65,873)	
Compensated absences	(2,508,804)	
Deferred debt issuance charges	 75,357	 (9,318,140)
Net Assets of Governmental Activities (Exhibit 1)		\$ 16,506,260

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

	 General	Road and Bridge		
Revenues				
Taxes	\$ 9,026,050	\$	2,507,184	
Special assessments	453,145		-	
Licenses and permits	97,207		-	
Intergovernmental	3,801,707		3,843,985	
Charges for services	2,028,509		391,152	
Fines and forfeits	45,440		-	
Gifts and contributions	32,303		-	
Investment income	650,487		60,900	
Miscellaneous	 444,549		600,771	
Total Revenues	\$ 16,579,397	\$	7,403,992	
Expenditures				
Current				
General government	\$ 6,272,563	\$	-	
Public safety	6,412,434		-	
Highways and streets	-		9,010,448	
Sanitation	1,125,746		-	
Human services	-		-	
Health	-		-	
Culture and recreation	603,714		-	
Conservation of natural resources	591,583		-	
Economic development	619,632		-	
Capital outlay	-		-	
Debt service				
Principal	131,313		-	
Interest	16,250		-	
Administrative charge	 		-	
Total Expenditures	\$ 15,773,235	\$	9,010,448	
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	\$ 806,162	\$	(1,606,456)	
Other Financing Sources (Uses)				
Transfers in	\$ 131,290	\$	-	
Transfers out	 (16,558)			
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	\$ 114,732	\$	-	
Net Change in Fund Balance	\$ 920,894	\$	(1,606,456)	
Fund Balance - January 1	12,211,319		5,121,175	
Increase (decrease) in reserved for inventories	 -		145,743	
Fund Balance - December 31	\$ 13,132,213	\$	3,660,462	

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

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EXHIBIT 5

Human Services		Fo	Forfeited Tax		ebt Service nmajor Fund	Total Governmental Funds		
\$	4,063,881	\$	20,351	\$	646,393	\$	16,263,859	
	-		-		-		453,145	
	-		-		-		97,207	
	8,258,088		555		73,378		15,977,713	
	192,491		-		-		2,612,152	
	-		-		-		45,440	
	1,670		-		-		33,973	
	-		-		-		711,387	
	1,778,153		486,493				3,309,966	
\$	14,294,283	<u>\$</u>	507,399	<u>\$</u>	719,771	\$	39,504,842	
\$	-	\$	51,068	\$	_	\$	6,323,631	
	-		-		-		6,412,434	
	-		-		-		9,010,448	
	-		-		-		1,125,746	
	12,112,571		-		-		12,112,571	
	2,415,409		-		-		2,415,409	
	-		-		-		603,714	
	-		472,105		-		1,063,688	
	-		-		-		619,632	
	121,590		-		-		121,590	
	-		-		695,000		826,313	
	-		-		313,993		330,243	
	-		-		1,913		1,913	
\$	14,649,570	\$	523,173	\$	1,010,906	\$	40,967,332	
\$	(355,287)	\$	(15,774)	\$	(291,135)	\$	(1,462,490)	
\$	16,558	\$	-	\$	-	\$	147,848	
	-		(131,290)		-		(147,848)	
\$	16,558	\$	(131,290)	\$		\$	<u> </u>	
\$	(338,729)	\$	(147,064)	\$	(291,135)	\$	(1,462,490)	
	5,455,355 -		195,755		1,183,231		24,166,835 145,743	
\$	5,116,626	\$	48,691	\$	892,096	\$	22,850,088	
							Page 19	

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EXHIBIT 6

RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE GOVERNMENT-WIDE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES--GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

Net change in fund balances - total governmental funds (Exhibit 5)		\$ (1,462,490)
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:		
In the funds, under the modified accrual basis, receivables not available for expenditure are deferred. In the statement of activities, those revenues are recognized when earned. The adjustment to revenue between the fund statements and the statement of activities is the increase or decrease in revenue deferred as unavailable.		
Deferred revenue - December 31	\$ 2,974,312	
Deferred revenue - January 1	 (1,985,028)	989,284
Repayment of debt principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net assets.		
Principal repayments		
General obligation bonds	\$ 695,000	
Contract for deed	100,000	
Loans payable	 31,313	826,313
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of		
current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.		
Change in accrued interest payable	\$ 49,886	
Change in compensated absences	(228,280)	
Amortization of deferred issuance charges	(5,652)	
Amortization of bond discounts	(1,692)	
Change in inventories	 145,743	 (39,995)
Change in Net Assets of Governmental Activities (Exhibit 2)		\$ 313,112

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

FIDUCIARY FUNDS

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EXHIBIT 7

STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET ASSETS FIDUCIARY FUNDS DECEMBER 31, 2008

	 Agency
Assets	
Cash and pooled investments	\$ 1,278,370
Liabilities	
Accounts payable	\$ 114,740
Salaries payable	7,417
Due to other governments	 1,156,213
Total Liabilities	\$ 1,278,370

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

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

The County's financial statements are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2008. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is responsible for establishing GAAP for state and local governments through its pronouncements (statements and interpretations). The more significant accounting policies established in GAAP and used by the County are discussed below.

Carlton County has not included capital assets or infrastructure, such as roads and bridges, in the government-wide financial statements as required by GASB Statement 34. Also, the County has not determined what its other postemployment benefits (OPEB) liability might be in order to include the liability in the government-wide financial statements as required by GASB Statement 45. These departures from GAAP are discussed in Notes 1.D.4. and 1.D.7. to the financial statements.

A. <u>Financial Reporting Entity</u>

Carlton County was established May 23, 1857, and is an organized county having the powers, duties, and privileges granted counties by Minn. Stat. ch. 373. As required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, these financial statements present Carlton County (primary government) and any component units for which the County is financially accountable. The County has no component units. The County is governed by a five-member Board of Commissioners elected from districts within the County. The Board is organized with a chair and vice chair elected at the annual meeting in January of each year. The County Auditor/Treasurer, who is elected on a County-wide basis, serves as the clerk of the Board but has no vote.

Joint Ventures

The County participates in several joint ventures described in Note 6.D.

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

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

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

The government-wide financial statements (the statement of net assets and the statement of activities) display information about the primary government.

These statements include the financial activities of the overall County government, except for fiduciary activities. Eliminations have been made to minimize the double counting of internal activities. Governmental activities, which normally are supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from business-type activities, which rely to a significant extent on fees and charges to external parties for support. Carlton County has no business-type activities.

In the government-wide statement of net assets, the governmental activities are presented on a consolidated basis by column and are reported on a full accrual, economic resource basis, which recognizes all long-term assets and receivables as well as long-term debt and obligations, except that Carlton County does not report capital assets and OPEB liability, as discussed in Notes 1.D.4. and 1.D.7.

The County's net assets are reported in two parts: (1) restricted net assets and (2) unrestricted net assets. The County first utilizes restricted resources to finance qualifying activities.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of each function of the County's governmental activities are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those clearly identifiable with a specific function or activity. Program revenues include: (1) fees, fines, and charges paid by the recipients of goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or activity; and (2) grants and contributions restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or activity. Revenues not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, are presented as general revenues. The County has not recorded depreciation expense or eliminated the related capital expenditures or recognized any change in net OPEB obligations in the statement of activities as required by generally accepted accounting principles, as discussed in Notes 1.D.4. and 1.D.7.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

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

2. Fund Financial Statements

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

The County reports the following major governmental funds:

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

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

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

The <u>Forfeited Tax Special Revenue Fund</u> is used to account for proceeds from the sale or rental of lands forfeited to the State of Minnesota pursuant to Minn. Stat. ch. 282. The distribution of the net proceeds, after deducting the expenses of the County for managing the tax-forfeited lands, is governed by Minn. Stat. § 282.08. Title to the tax-forfeited lands remains with the state until sold by the County.

The County reports the following nonmajor governmental fund:

The <u>Debt Service Fund</u> is used to account for the accumulation of resources for and the payment of principal, interest, and related costs of general long-term debt.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

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

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

Additionally, the County reports the following fiduciary fund type:

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

C. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

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

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Carlton County considers all revenues as available if collected within 90 days after the end of the current period, except for taxes, which have a 60-day accrual period. Property and other taxes, licenses, and interest are all considered susceptible to accrual. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on general long-term debt, compensated absences, and claims and judgments, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent that they have matured. Proceeds of general long-term debt and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources.

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

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

D. Assets, Liabilities, and Net Assets or Equity

1. Deposits and Investments

The cash balances of substantially all funds are pooled and invested by the County Auditor/Treasurer for the purpose of increasing earnings through investment activities. Pooled and fund investments are reported at their fair value at December 31, 2008, based on market prices. Pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 385.07, investment earnings on cash and pooled investments are credited to the General Fund. Other funds received investment earnings based on other state statutes, grant agreements, contracts, and bond covenants. Pooled investment earnings for 2008 were \$711,387.

Carlton County invests in an external investment pool, the Minnesota Association of Governments Investing for Counties (MAGIC) Fund, which is created under a joint powers agreement pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 471.59. The MAGIC Fund is not registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), but does operate in a manner consistent with Rule 2a-7 prescribed by the SEC pursuant to the Investment Company Act of 1940 (17 C.F.R. § 270.2a-7). Therefore, the fair value of the County's position in the pool is the same as the value of the pool shares.

2. <u>Receivables and Payables</u>

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

All other outstanding balances between funds are reported as "due to/from other funds."

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

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

D. Assets, Liabilities, and Net Assets or Equity

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

Loans receivable consist of the outstanding balances of economic development loans to private enterprises and septic system repair loans to individuals. The funds used for the economic development loans are from the County's allocation of taconite production tax monies received through the Iron Range Resources Board. The funds used for the septic system repair loans came from the Minnesota Department of Agriculture and the County.

3. <u>Inventories and Prepaid Items</u>

Road and Bridge Special Revenue Fund inventory consists of expendable supplies held for consumption and is valued at cost using the weighted-average cost method. Inventories in governmental funds are recorded as expenditures when purchased rather than when consumed. Inventories at the government-wide level are recorded as expenses when consumed.

Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in both government-wide and fund financial statements.

4. <u>Capital Assets</u>

GAAP require capital assets, which include property, plant, equipment, and infrastructure assets (for example, roads, bridges, sidewalks, and similar items), to be reported in the governmental activities column in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets that meet certain threshold criteria defined by the County are to be recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are to be recorded at the estimated fair value at the date of donation. The assets are to be depreciated at the government-wide financial statement level.

Carlton County has not reported its capital assets, including infrastructure, on the government-wide statement of net assets. Also, no depreciation has been reported on capital assets in the government-wide statement of activities, and capital expenditures have not been removed from the statement of activities. These are departures from generally accepted accounting principles.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

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

5. <u>Compensated Absences</u>

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

6. Deferred Revenue

Governmental funds report deferred revenue in connection with receivables for revenues not considered to be available to liquidate liabilities of the current period. Governmental funds also defer revenue recognition in connection with resources that have been received, but not yet earned.

7. Long-Term Obligations

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

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

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

D. Assets, Liabilities, and Net Assets or Equity

7. <u>Long-Term Obligations</u> (Continued)

The County has not calculated its OPEB obligation in order to report the liability on the government-wide statement of net assets. The change in the net OPEB obligation has not been reported in the government-wide statement of activities. These are departures from generally accepted accounting principles.

8. <u>Fund Equity</u>

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

9. <u>Use of Estimates</u>

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

2. <u>Stewardship, Compliance, and Accountability</u>

Excess of Expenditures Over Budget

The following funds had expenditures in excess of budget for the year ended December 31, 2008:

	Budget		Expenditures		 Excess
General Fund	\$	15,720,294	\$	15,773,235	\$ 52,941
Road and Bridge Special Revenue Fund		7,941,504		9,010,448	1,068,944
Human Services Special Revenue Fund		14,437,936		14,649,570	211,634
Forfeited Tax Special Revenue Fund		259,313		523,173	263,860
Debt Service Fund		719,386		1,010,906	291,520

3. Detailed Notes on All Funds

A. Assets

1. Deposits and Investments

Reconciliation of the County's total cash and investments to the basic financial statements follows:

Government-wide statement of net assets Governmental activities	
Cash and pooled investments	\$ 20,188,200
Statement of fiduciary net assets Cash and pooled investments	1,278,370
	 1,270,070
Total Cash and Investments	\$ 21,466,570

a. Deposits

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

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

Custodial Credit Risk

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a financial institution failure, the County's deposits may not be returned to it. The County's policy is to maintain adequate collateral for all deposits. As of December 31, 2008, the County's deposits were not exposed to custodial credit risk.

3. Detailed Notes on All Funds

A. Assets

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

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

- (1) securities which are direct obligations or are guaranteed or insured issues of the United States, its agencies, its instrumentalities, or organizations created by an act of Congress, except mortgage-backed securities defined as "high risk" by Minn. Stat. § 118A.04, subd. 6;
- (2) mutual funds through shares of registered investment companies provided the mutual fund receives certain ratings depending on its investments;
- (3) general obligations of the State of Minnesota and its municipalities, and in certain state agency and local obligations of Minnesota and other states provided such obligations have certain specified bond ratings by a national bond rating service;
- (4) bankers' acceptances of United States banks;
- (5) commercial paper issued by United States corporations or their Canadian subsidiaries that is rated in the highest quality category by two nationally recognized rating agencies and matures in 270 days or less; and
- (6) with certain restrictions, in repurchase agreements, securities lending agreements, joint powers investment trusts, and guaranteed investment contracts.

3. Detailed Notes on All Funds

A. Assets

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

Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in the market interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. It is the County's policy to not incur unreasonable risk in order to gain investment income. The County's investment policy states that it is the County's goal to maximize income, to preserve principal, and to maintain liquidity to meet the County's need for cash and timely payment of bills.

Credit Risk

Generally, credit risk is the risk that an issuer of an investment will not fulfill its obligation to the holder of the investment. This is measured by the assignment of a rating by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization. It is the County's policy to invest only in instruments authorized by Minnesota statutes.

Custodial Credit Risk

The custodial credit risk for investments is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty to a transaction, a government will not be able to recover the value of investment or collateral securities in the possession of an outside party. The County does not have a policy on custodial credit risk for investments. Of the County's investments at December 31, 2008, \$6,182,772 was held by the counterparty, or by its trust department or agent, but not in the County's name.

Concentration of Credit Risk

The concentration of credit risk is the risk of loss that may be caused by the County's investment in a single issuer. The County's policy is to make investments which create diversification and avoid risk.

3. Detailed Notes on All Funds

A. Assets

1. Deposits and Investments (Continued)

This table represents the County's deposit and investment balances at December 31, 2008, and information relating to potential investment risks:

	Credit Risk		Concentration Risk	Interest Rate Risk	Carrying	
Investment Type	Credit Rating	Rating Agency	Over 5 Percent of Portfolio	Maturity Date		(Fair) Value
U.S. government agency securities						
Federal National Mortgage Association	AAA	S&P	<5%	10/01/2025	\$	7,237
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Note	AAA	Moody's/S&P		10/28/2011	\$	125,290
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Note	AAA	Moody's/S&P		02/06/2014		300,978
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation Note	AAA	S&P		02/01/2028		7,511
Total Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation						
Notes			<5%		\$	433,779
Negotiable certificates of deposit						
Central Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	01/02/2009	\$	95,016
Washington Trust Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	01/02/2009		95,108
First United Bank & Trust	N/A	N/A	<5%	01/05/2009		95,029
Northeast Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	01/05/2009		95,021
Apple Bank for Savings	N/A	N/A	<5%	01/08/2009		95,031
Comerica Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	01/08/2009		95,032
Goldman Sacks Bank USA	N/A	N/A	<5%	01/08/2009		95,031
North American Savings Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	01/08/2009		95,031
Bank United	N/A	N/A	<5%	01/12/2009		95,071
Provident Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	01/16/2009		95,116
First Bank Beverly Hills	N/A	N/A	<5%	01/22/2009		95,160
Pacific Commercial Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	01/23/2009		95,127
Bank Carolinas	N/A	N/A	<5%	01/30/2009		95,162
Fidelity Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	01/30/2009		95,162
New Dominion Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	01/30/2009		95,162
Signature Bank of Arkansas	N/A	N/A	<5%	01/30/2009		95,160
First Citrus Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	02/02/2009		95,175
1st Palmetto Savings	N/A	N/A	<5%	02/03/2009		240,278
Greystone Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	02/03/2009		240,300
Community SO Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	02/05/2009		240,326
MBank	N/A	N/A	<5%	02/06/2009		240,320
Bank North	N/A	N/A	<5%	02/20/2009		96,268
Cenlar FSB	N/A	N/A	<5%	02/20/2009		96,264
Sovereign Bank FSB	N/A	N/A	<5%	02/20/2009		96,261
Cresent Bank & Trust	N/A	N/A	<5%	02/25/2009		95,289
Haven Trust Bank	N/A	N/A N/A	<5%	02/27/2009		95,209
Golf Savings Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	03/02/2009		96,336
Bancorp Bank	N/A	N/A N/A	<5%	03/02/2009		240,607
Charter Bank	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	<5%	03/05/2009		240,007 96,348
Trustatlantic Bank	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	<5%	03/05/2009		240.631
	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	<5% <5%	03/06/2009		240,631 96,000
Amboy Bank			<5% <5%			,
Enterprise Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	03/06/2009		96,000

3. Detailed Notes on All Funds

A. Assets

1. Deposits and Investments (Continued)

			Concentration	Interest	
		dit Risk	Risk	Rate Risk	Carrying
	Credit	Rating	Over 5 Percent	Maturity	(Fair)
Investment Type	Rating	Agency	of Portfolio	Date	Value
Equity Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	03/09/2009	245,284
SCB Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	03/12/2009	245,703
Commercial Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	03/16/2009	245,715
Wright Express Financial	N/A	N/A	<5%	03/18/2009	96,416
New South Federal Savings Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	03/19/2009	96,410
GMAC Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	03/20/2009	96,444
Atlantic Southern Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	03/30/2009	96,407
East West Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	03/30/2009	240,804
Capmark Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	04/02/2009	96,447
Fidelity Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	04/09/2009	96,434
Huntington National Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	04/09/2009	96,443
Sturdy Savings Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	04/09/2009	96,434
National City Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	04/16/2009	96,468
Sallie Mae Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	04/16/2009	96,000
United Commercial Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	04/16/2009	96,450
Alpine Bank Colorado	N/A	N/A	<5%	04/17/2009	95,476
Franklin Temple Bank & Trust	N/A	N/A	<5%	04/17/2009	95,471
Community Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	04/23/2009	96,465
Capital One Bank USA	N/A	N/A	<5%	04/23/2009	95,469
Capital One Bank NA	N/A	N/A	<5%	04/23/2009	95,469
Columbus Bank & Trust	N/A	N/A	<5%	04/23/2009	95,460
Flagship Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	04/23/2009	95,460
Reliance Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	04/23/2009	95,460
Reliance Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	04/23/2009	95,460
Byron Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	04/24/2009	95,472
First Banking Center	N/A	N/A	<5%	04/28/2009	96,473
Bank Oklahoma NA	N/A	N/A	<5%	04/30/2009	96,000
First National Bank Omaha	N/A	N/A	<5%	04/30/2009	95,483
Banner Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	05/07/2009	96,499
Cole Taylor Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	05/07/2009	96,499
Shorebank	N/A	N/A	<5%	05/07/2009	96,499
Infibank NA	N/A	N/A	<5%	05/14/2009	96.522
FirstMerit Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	05/22/2009	96,000
Carolina First Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	05/28/2009	96.494
Hanmi Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	06/04/2009	96,513
Bank Baroda	N/A	N/A	<5%	06/18/2009	96,531
Preferred Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	06/18/2009	96,531
Wachovia MTG FSB	N/A	N/A	<5%	06/18/2009	96,548
Marlin Business Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	06/23/2009	96,540
Beacon Federal	N/A	N/A	<5%	06/24/2009	96,000
State Bank Long Island	N/A	N/A	<5%	06/30/2009	96,000
Frontier Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	07/02/2009	97,693
Riverside National Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	07/09/2009	96,608
Reliant Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	07/14/2009	241,322
Lehman Commercial Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	07/23/2009	96,788
Discover Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	07/29/2009	241,430
Eastside Commercial Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	07/30/2009	241,632
First Southern National States Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	07/30/2009	241,577
					, ,

3. Detailed Notes on All Funds

A. Assets

1. Deposits and Investments (Continued)

	Сте	dit Risk	Concentration Risk	Interest Rate Risk	Carrying
	Credit	Rating	Over 5 Percent	Maturity	(Fair)
Investment Type	Rating	Agency	of Portfolio	Date	Value
First Southern National States Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	07/30/2009	241,57
Temecula VY Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	07/31/2009	241,71
BankGreenville	N/A	N/A	<5%	08/05/2009	241,76
Providence Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	08/05/2009	241,76
Anchor Bank FSB	N/A	N/A	<5%	08/06/2009	96,76
First Regional Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	08/31/2009	96,66
Wachovia Bank NA	N/A	N/A	<5%	09/08/2009	96,81
State Bank of India	N/A	N/A	<5%	09/11/2009	96,00
American Express Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	11/25/2009	96,00
Center Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	12/10/2009	96,29
GE Money Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	12/11/2009	96,00
Superior Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	12/17/2009	98,31
Nexity Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	02/08/2010	96,94
Advanta Bank Corp.	N/A	N/A	<5%	02/22/2010	96,65
Hanmi Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	03/10/2010	96,44
CIT Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	04/29/2009	96,86
Hinsdale Bank & Trust	N/A	N/A	<5%	05/07/2010	96,85
Homestreet Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	05/27/2010	96,82
M&I Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	07/16/2010	96,68
Southwest Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	07/16/2010	96,68
People's Bank & Trust Company	N/A	N/A	<5%	08/13/2010	96,90
Great Southern Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	08/16/2010	96,68
BMW Bank of North America	N/A	N/A	<5%	09/17/2010	96,59
Morgan Stanley Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	10/08/2010	96,68
American Express Bank	N/A	N/A	<5%	11/12/2010	96,68
Integra Bank National Association	N/A	N/A N/A	<5%	11/15/2010	97,28
Capital One Bank USA NA	N/A	N/A	<5%	11/26/2010	96,67
Capital One NA	N/A	N/A N/A	<5%	11/26/2010	96,68
Sovereign Bank FSB	N/A	N/A	<5%	11/26/2010	96,67
Pacific Capital Bank	N/A N/A	N/A N/A	<5%	03/01/2011	96,22
Shinhan Bank America	N/A	N/A	<5%	04/25/2011	90,22
Total negotiable certificates of deposit					\$ 13,052,00
Investment pools/mutual funds					
MAGIC Fund	N/R	N/A	23.4%	N/A	\$ 4,127,55
Total investments					\$ 17,620,57
Deposits Petty cash					3,840,44
Total Cash and Investments					\$ 21,466,57

N/A - Not Applicable

N/R - Not Rated

S&P - Standard & Poor's

 ${<}5\%$ - Concentration is less than 5% of investments

3. Detailed Notes on All Funds

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

2. <u>Receivables</u>

Receivables as of December 31, 2008, for the County's governmental activities are as follows:

	R6	Total eceivables	Amounts Not Scheduled for Collection During the Subsequent Year		
Governmental Activities					
Taxes	\$	754,586	\$	-	
Special assessments		38,424		-	
Due from other governments		3,507,276		-	
Accounts		699,840		-	
Interest		283,600		-	
Loans receivable		1,622,289		1,474,153	
Deposits receivable		100,000		100,000	
Total Governmental Activities	\$	7,006,015	\$	1,574,153	

B. Interfund Receivables, Payables, and Transfers

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

The composition of interfund balances as of December 31, 2008, is as follows:

Receivable Fund	Payable Fund	Amount		Purpose
General	Forfeited Tax	\$	173,221	Forfeited tax apportionment and payment of fees
Road and Bridge	General Human Services Forfeited Tax	\$	30,758 72 47,736	Reimburse supplies and services Reimburse supplies and services Reimburse Soo Line Trail expenditures
Total due to Road and Bridge Fund		\$	78,566	
Total Due To/From Other Funds		\$	251,787	

3. Detailed Notes on All Funds

B. Interfund Receivables, Payables, and Transfers (Continued)

2. Interfund Transfers

Interfund transfers for the year ended December 31, 2008, consisted of the following:

Transfers to General Fund from Forfeited Tax Fund	\$ 131,290	Distribute net proceeds
Transfers to Human Services Fund from General Fund	 16,558	Repay IV-D
Total Interfund Transfers	\$ 147,848	

C. Liabilities

1. Payables

Payables at December 31, 2008, were as follows:

	Governmental Activities				
Accounts	\$	681,646			
Salaries		1,236,255			
Contracts		273,059			
Due to other governments		467,712			
Total Payables	\$	2,658,672			

2. Other Postemployment Benefits - Retirees

The County provides post-retirement health care benefits for retired permanent full-time employees from age 55 to age 65 and their authorized dependents. The authority to provide this benefit is established in Minn. Stat. § 471.61, subd. 2a. The percentage of the premium paid varies depending on the years of service.

3. Detailed Notes on All Funds

C. Liabilities

2. <u>Other Postemployment Benefits - Retirees</u> (Continued)

As of year-end, the County has 44 eligible participants. The County finances the plan on a pay-as-you-go basis. Premiums are charged to the departments from which the employee retired. During 2008, the County expended \$385,323 for these benefits.

3. Long-Term Debt

Bonds Payable

Bond payments are typically made from the Debt Service Fund. Information on individual bonds payable follows:

Type of Indebtedness	Final Maturity	Installment Amounts	Interest Rate (%)	Original Issue Amount	utstanding Balance cember 31, 2008
General obligation bonds G.O. Capital Improvement		\$195,000 -	3.70 -		
Bonds	2013	\$205,000	4.60	\$ 650,000	\$ 295,000
		\$195,000 -	1.60 -		
2002 G.O. Refunding Bonds	2011	\$205,000	3.45	1,510,000	405,000
2003 G.O. Capital		\$60,000 -	1.50 -		
Improvement Bonds	2023	\$290,000	4.35	3,900,000	3,355,000
2006 G.O. Capital		\$130,000 -	3.45 -		
Improvement Bonds	2021	\$305,000	4.00	 3,000,000	 2,415,000
Total General Obligation					
Bonds				\$ 9,060,000	\$ 6,470,000

3. Detailed Notes on All Funds

C. Liabilities

3. Long-Term Debt (Continued)

Loans Payable

In 2003, the County entered into a loan agreement with the State of Minnesota to finance tee hangars at the Cloquet and Moose Lake airports. Payments will be made from the General Fund. The loans are interest-free.

Type of Indebtedness	Final Maturity			Original Issue Amount		Balance December 31, 2008	
2003 tee hangar loan - Cloquet	2013	\$1,834/month	0.00	\$	220,082	\$	100,872
2003 tee hangar loan - Moose Lake	2013	\$775/month	0.00		93,050		43,423
Total Loans Payable				\$	313,132	\$	144,295

Contract for Deed

In 2005, the County entered into a contract for deed with a private party for financing of a land purchase. Payments will be made from the General Fund.

Type of Indebtedness	Final Maturity	Installment Amounts	Interest Rate (%)	Original Issue Amount	Outstanding Balance December 31, 2008
2005 Contract for Deed	2011	\$25,000 - \$100,000	5.00	\$ 525,000	\$ 225,000

Outstanding

3. Detailed Notes on All Funds

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

4. Debt Service Requirements

Debt service requirements at December 31, 2008, were as follows:

Governmental Activities

2010

2011

Total

Year Ending	General Obligation Bonds			Loans				
December 31		Principal		Interest	F	Principal		nterest
2009 2010	\$	430,000 455,000	\$	248,858 233,789	\$	31,313 31,313 21,212	\$	-
2011 2012 2013		265,000 400,000 345,000		216,861 204,034 188,174		31,313 31,313 19,043		-
2014 - 2018 2019 - 2023		2,350,000 2,225,000		695,712 202,765		-		-
Total	\$	6,470,000	\$	1,990,193	\$	144,295	\$	-
Year Ending December 31					P	Contract rincipal		ed nterest
2009					\$	100,000	\$	11,250

6,250

1,250

18,750

\$

100,000

25,000

\$ 225,000

3. Detailed Notes on All Funds

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

5. Changes in Long-Term Liabilities

Long-term liability activity for the year ended December 31, 2008, was as follows:

]	Beginning Balance	Additions		Additions Reductions		Ending Balance December 31, 2008		Due Within One Year	
Bonds payable General obligation bonds Bond discount Loans payable Contract for deed Compensated absences	\$	7,165,000 (22,167) 175,608 325,000 2,280,524	\$	228,280	\$	695,000 (1,692) 31,313 100,000	\$	6,470,000 (20,475) 144,295 225,000 2,508,804	\$	430,000 31,313 100,000
Governmental Activity Long-Term Liabilities	\$	9,923,965	\$	228,280	\$	824,621	\$	9,327,624	\$	561,313

4. <u>Pension Plans</u>

A. Defined Benefit Plans

Plan Description

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

Public Employees Retirement Fund members belong to either the Coordinated Plan or the Basic Plan. Coordinated Plan members are covered by Social Security, and Basic Plan members are not. All new members must participate in the Coordinated Plan. All police officers, firefighters, and peace officers who qualify for membership by statute are covered by the Public Employees Police and Fire Fund. Members who are employed in a county correctional institution as a correctional guard or officer, a joint

4. <u>Pension Plans</u>

A. Defined Benefit Plans

Plan Description (Continued)

jailer/dispatcher, or as a supervisor of correctional guards or officers or of joint jailer/dispatchers and are directly responsible for the direct security, custody, and control of the county correctional institution and its inmates, are covered by the Public Employees Correctional Fund.

PERA provides retirement benefits as well as disability benefits to members and benefits to survivors upon death of eligible members. Benefits are established by state statute and vest after three years of credited service. The defined retirement benefits are based on a member's highest average salary for any five successive years of allowable service, age, and years of credit at termination of service.

Two methods are used to compute benefits for Coordinated and Basic Plan members. The retiring member receives the higher of a step-rate benefit accrual formula (Method 1) or a level accrual formula (Method 2). Under Method 1, the annuity accrual rate for a Basic Plan member is 2.2 percent of average salary for each of the first ten years of service and 2.7 percent for each year thereafter. For a Coordinated Plan member, the annuity accrual rate is 1.2 percent of average salary for each of the first ten years and 1.7 percent for each successive year. Under Method 2, the annuity accrual rate is 2.7 percent of average salary for each of the first ten years is 2.7 percent of average salary for Basic Plan members and 1.7 percent for Coordinated Plan members for each year of service. For Public Employees Police and Fire Fund members, the annuity accrual rate is 3.0 percent of average salary for each year of service. For Public Employees Correctional Fund members, the annuity accrual rate is 1.9 percent of average salary for each year of service.

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

4. <u>Pension Plans</u>

A. Defined Benefit Plans

Plan Description (Continued)

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

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

Funding Policy

Pension benefits are funded from member and employer contributions and income from the investment of fund assets. Rates for employer and employee contributions are set by Minn. Stat. ch. 353. The County makes annual contributions to the pension plans equal to the amount required by state statutes. Public Employees Retirement Fund Basic Plan members and Coordinated Plan members are required to contribute 9.1 and 6.0 percent, respectively, of their annual covered salary. Public Employees Police and Fire Fund members were required to contribute 8.6 percent of their annual covered salary in 2008. That rate increased to 9.4 percent in 2009. Public Employees Correctional Fund members are required to contribute 5.83 percent of their annual covered salary.

The County is required to contribute the following percentages of annual covered payroll in 2008 and 2009:

	2008	2009
Public Employees Retirement Fund		
Basic Plan members	11.78%	11.78%
Coordinated Plan members	6.50	6.75
Public Employees Police and Fire Fund	12.90	14.10
Public Employees Correctional Fund	8.75	8.75

4. <u>Pension Plans</u>

A. Defined Benefit Plans

Funding Policy (Continued)

The County's contributions for the years ending December 31, 2008, 2007, and 2006, for the Public Employees Retirement Fund, the Public Employees Police and Fire Fund, and the Public Employees Correctional Fund were:

	2008		2007		 2006
Public Employees Retirement Fund	\$	791,717	\$	738,918	\$ 677,971
Public Employees Police and Fire Fund		175,464		150,658	133,127
Public Employees Correctional Fund		61,596		58,654	56,587

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

B. <u>Defined Contribution Plan</u>

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

Plan benefits depend solely on amounts contributed to the plan plus investment earnings, less administrative expenses. For those qualified personnel who elect to participate, Minn. Stat. § 353D.03 specifies plan provisions, including the employee and employer contribution rates. An eligible elected official who decides to participate contributes 5.00 percent of salary, which is matched by the employer. Employees may elect to make member contributions in an amount not to exceed the employer share. Employee and employer contributions are combined and used to purchase shares in one or more of the seven accounts of the Minnesota Supplemental Investment Fund. For administering the plan, PERA receives 2.00 percent of employer contributions and 0.25 percent of the assets in each member account annually.

4. <u>Pension Plans</u>

B. <u>Defined Contribution Plan</u> (Continued)

Total contributions by dollar amount and percentage of covered payroll made by the County during the year ended December 31, 2008, were:

	En	nployee	Employer		
Contribution amount	\$	1,253	\$	1,253	
Percentage of covered payroll	5%			5%	

Required contribution rates were 5.00 percent.

5. <u>Postemployment Health Care</u>

A. <u>MSRS Health Care Savings Plan</u>

Carlton County employees participate in a Health Care Savings Plan (HCSP) administered by the Minnesota State Retirement System (MSRS). The plan is authorized under Minn. Stat. § 352.98, and through an Internal Revenue Service (IRS) private letter ruling establishing the HCSP as a tax-exempt benefit as of July 29, 2002. The plan is open to any active public employees in Minnesota if they are covered under certain public service retirement plans.

Under the terms of the HCSP, employees are allowed to save money, tax-free, to use upon termination of employment to pay for eligible health care expenses. The IRS private letter ruling requires mandatory participation of all employees in each bargaining unit in order to gain tax-free benefits. Allowable amounts deposited into individual accounts must be negotiated by each individual bargaining unit and the employer. The plan must be written into the collective bargaining agreement or a Memo of Understanding. For those employees not covered by a bargaining unit, amounts to be deposited into individual accounts must be agreed to by the employer and included in a written personnel policy.

Under Carlton County's plan, both unionized and non-represented employees are required to contribute, at retirement, 50 or 100 percent of their eligible unused sick time into their HCSP account, depending on the employee's bargaining agreement.

5. <u>Postemployment Health Care</u> (Continued)

B. Northland VEBA Trust Plan

In 2005, the Carlton County Board of Commissioners approved a Voluntary Employees' Beneficiary Association (VEBA) plan for funding employee health benefits as authorized under Sections 501 (c) (9) and 213(d) of the IRS code. The VEBA plan is a health reimbursement plan providing for individual employer-funded accounts that can be used to help pay eligible medical expenses incurred by participating employees. The plan is used in combination with a high-deductible health plan. Funding is provided through pre-tax contributions from Carlton County based on employee health care elections. The VEBA plan is administered by Compensation Consultants, Ltd.

The current maximum County contribution for active employees consists of 100 percent of the employee deductible amount for all employees enrolled in County health care coverage and 80 percent of the dependent deductible. Any balance remaining in an employee's account at year-end rolls over into the subsequent year.

Eligibility requirements include:

- be an active employee or retiree of a public entity;
- active employees must have a high deductible health plan; and
- be a member of a bargaining unit that has approved the VEBA plan.

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

A. Risk Management

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

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

A. <u>Risk Management</u> (Continued)

The Workers' Compensation Division of MCIT is self-sustaining based on the contributions charged, so that total contributions plus compounded earnings on these contributions will equal the amount needed to satisfy claims liabilities and other expenses. MCIT participates in the Workers' Compensation Reinsurance Association with coverage at \$410,000 per claim in 2008 and \$430,000 per claim in 2009. Should the MCIT Workers' Compensation Division liabilities exceed assets, MCIT may assess the County in a method and amount to be determined by MCIT.

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

The County belongs to NESC, a joint powers entity which sponsors a plan to provide group employee health benefits to its participating members. All members pool premiums and losses; however, a particular member may receive increases or decreases depending on a good or bad year of claims experience. Premiums are determined annually by the NESC and are based partially on the experience of the County and partially on the experience of the group. The NESC solicits proposals from carriers and negotiates the contracts.

B. Contingent Liabilities

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

The County is a defendant in various lawsuits. Although the outcome of these lawsuits is not presently determinable, in the opinion of the County Attorney, the resolution of these matters will not have a material adverse effect on the financial condition of the government.
6. <u>Summary of Significant Contingencies and Other Items</u> (Continued)

C. Conduit Debt

In 2005, the County entered into a joint powers agreement with the City of Cloquet to jointly issue \$9,930,000 in revenue bonds to provide financial assistance to Housing Alternatives Development Company (HADC), a nonprofit corporation, for the construction of a senior assisted living facility. The bonds are secured by the property financed and are payable solely from the revenues of HADC. Neither the County, the state, nor any political subdivision thereof is obligated in any manner for repayment of the bonds. Accordingly, the bonds are not reported as liabilities in the accompanying financial statements. As of December 31, 2008, the outstanding principal balance was \$9,630,000.

D. Joint Ventures

Arrowhead Regional Corrections

The County, in a joint powers agreement pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 471.59, participates with Cook, Koochiching, Lake, and St. Louis Counties in the Arrowhead Regional Corrections Board, which was established pursuant to the Community Corrections Act, Minn. Stat. § 401.01-.16.

The Arrowhead Regional Corrections Board comprises three major divisions: juvenile institutional services, adult institutional services, and court and field services. These divisions are composed of the five participating counties' probation departments, the Arrowhead Juvenile Detention Center, and the Northeast Regional Corrections Center.

Arrowhead Regional Corrections is governed by an eight-member Board, composed of one member appointed from each of the participating counties' Boards of Commissioners, except for St. Louis County, which has three members from its Board. In addition, the right to have an additional member is annually rotated among Carlton, Cook, Koochiching, and Lake Counties.

6. Summary of Significant Contingencies and Other Items

D. Joint Ventures

Arrowhead Regional Corrections (Continued)

Arrowhead Regional Corrections is financed through state grants and contributions from the participating counties. During 2007 (the most recent information available), County contributions were in the following proportion:

Carlton County	9.53%
Cook County	1.52
Koochiching County	2.75
Lake County	2.28
St. Louis County	83.92
Total	100.00%

Below is a summary of the financial information from Arrowhead Regional Corrections' government-wide financial statements as of December 31, 2007 (the most recent audited figures available):

Total Assets	\$ 12,819,588
Total Liabilities	5,417,642
Total Net Assets	7,401,946
Total Revenues	21,415,725
Total Expenses	20,476,511
Change in Net Assets	939,214

Carlton County provided \$1,339,223 in funding during 2008. Separate financial information can be obtained from:

Arrowhead Regional Corrections 320 West 2nd Street Suite 113 Duluth, Minnesota 55802

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

D. Joint Ventures (Continued)

Carlton County Children and Family Service Collaborative

The Carlton County Children and Family Service Collaborative was established pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 124D.23. The Collaborative includes Carlton County; the Independent School Districts of Barnum, Carlton, Cloquet, Cromwell, Esko, Moose Lake, and Wrenshall; the Lakes and Pines Community Action Agency; the Cloquet Area Special Education Cooperative; Fond Du Lac Reservation Tribal Council; Arrowhead Regional Corrections; and the Human Development Center.

The purpose of the Collaborative is to create a community environment and service network that promotes family health, stability, and self-sufficiency through an easily accessible integrated human service delivery system.

Control of the Collaborative is vested in a Board of Directors. Carlton County has two members on the Board. Financing is provided by state and local grants, appropriations from Collaborative members, and miscellaneous revenues. Carlton County is the fiscal agent for the Collaborative and handles all of the financial transactions for this organization. Financial information for the Collaborative for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008, is accounted for in an agency fund of Carlton County.

Community Health Board

Carlton, Cook, Lake, and St. Louis Counties entered into a joint powers agreement, creating and operating the Carlton, Cook, Lake, and St. Louis Community Health Board. This agreement was entered into January 1, 1977, and is established pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 471.59.

The Community Health Board is composed of nine members. The Carlton, Cook, and Lake County Boards of Commissioners each appoint two members; the St. Louis County Board of Commissioners appoints three members. Financing is obtained through federal and state grants. Carlton County provided no funding to this organization in 2008.

6. Summary of Significant Contingencies and Other Items

D. Joint Ventures

Community Health Board (Continued)

At December 31, 2008, the Community Health Board's summary of financial information was:

Total Assets Total Liabilities	\$ 975,422 850.067
Total Net Assets	125,355
Total Revenues Total Expenses	3,818,828 3,850,486
Change in Net Assets	(31,658)

Separate financial information can be obtained from:

Carlton, Cook, Lake, and St. Louis Counties Community Health Board 404 West Superior Street, Suite 220 Duluth, Minnesota 55802

Northeast Minnesota Office of Job Training

Aitkin, Carlton, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, and St. Louis Counties (excluding the City of Duluth) entered into a joint powers agreement, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 471.59, for the purpose of developing and implementing a private and public job training program. The United States Congress, through the Job Training Partnership Act of 1982, authorized states to establish "service delivery areas" to provide programs to achieve full employment through the use of grants. The counties identified above are defined as such a service delivery area, and the Northeast Minnesota Office of Job Training is designated as the grant recipient and administrator for such service delivery area. Carlton County is not a funding mechanism for this organization.

The governing body is composed of seven members, one member from the Board of Commissioners of each of the participating counties.

6. Summary of Significant Contingencies and Other Items

D. Joint Ventures

Northeast Minnesota Office of Job Training (Continued)

A summary of the financial information of the Northeast Minnesota Office of Job Training's government-wide statements for June 30, 2008, was:

Total Assets	\$ 2,697,187
Total Liabilities	1,317,583
Total Net Assets	1,379,604
Total Revenues	5,034,686
Total Expenses	5,160,410
Change in Net Assets	(125,724)

Separate financial information can be obtained from:

Northeast Minnesota Office of Job Training 820 North Ninth Street Suite 210 Virginia, Minnesota 55792

Minnesota Counties Information Systems

The Counties of Aitkin, Carlton, Cass, Chippewa, Cook, Crow Wing, Dodge, Itasca, Koochiching, Lac qui Parle, Lake, Sherburne, and St. Louis entered into a joint powers agreement, pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 471.59, creating and operating Minnesota Counties Information Systems (MCIS). MCIS operates and maintains data processing facilities and management information systems for the benefit of members of this agreement.

MCIS is governed by a 13-member Board. Each participating county appoints a member. Financing is obtained through user charges to the members. Cass County is the fiscal agent for MCIS.

Each county's share of the assets and liabilities cannot be accurately determined since it will depend on the number of counties that are members when the agreement is dissolved.

6. Summary of Significant Contingencies and Other Items

D. Joint Ventures

Minnesota Counties Information Systems (Continued)

A summary of the financial information of MCIS at December 31, 2006 (the most recent information available), was:

Total Assets Total Liabilities	\$ 785,330 202,814
Total Net Assets	202,814 582,516
Total Revenues	2,387,269
Total Expenses	2,195,143
Change in Net Assets	192,126

Separate financial information can be obtained from:

Minnesota Counties Information Systems 413 Southeast 7th Avenue Grand Rapids, Minnesota 55744

Minnesota Community Capital Fund

The County is a Class A member of the Minnesota Community Capital Fund (MCCF). The MCCF was established to address unmet development financing needs of communities and economic development organizations throughout greater Minnesota by pooling local revolving loan fund resources and providing professional management services to support local efforts. The MCCF is designed to provide its members with greater lending flexibility and the capacity to originate multiple loans that are much larger than would be possible with limited local resources.

Arrowhead Health Alliance

Carlton, Cook, Koochiching, and Lake Counties entered into a joint powers agreement pursuant to Minn. Stat. §§ 471.59 and 256B.692 for the purpose of organizing, governing, planning, and administering a county-based purchasing entity to participate in prepaid health care programs through the Minnesota Department of Human Services and the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

6. Summary of Significant Contingencies and Other Items

D. Joint Ventures

Arrowhead Health Alliance (Continued)

Control of the Arrowhead Health Alliance is vested in a Board of Directors composed of one representative from each of the member counties. Carlton County is the fiscal agent for the Arrowhead Health Alliance. The Arrowhead Health Alliance is accounted for in an agency fund of Carlton County.

Carlton County contributed \$252,397 in start-up funds to the Arrowhead Health Alliance in 2007. Carlton County provided no funding to this organization in 2008.

E. <u>Tax-Forfeited Land</u>

The County manages approximately 72,300 acres of state-owned, tax-forfeited land. This land generates revenues primarily from recreational land leases and land and timber sales. Land management costs, including forestry costs such as site preparation, seedlings, tree planting, and logging roads, are accounted for as current operating expenditures. Revenues in excess of expenditures are distributed to the County and cities, towns, and school districts within the County according to state statute.

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REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

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<u>Schedule 1</u>

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE GENERAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

		Budgeted .		mounts		Actual	Variance with		
	Original			Final		Amounts	Final Budget		
Revenues									
Taxes	\$	9,024,792	\$	9,024,792	\$	9,026,050	\$	1,258	
Special assessments		445,000		445,000		453,145		8,145	
Licenses and permits		103,475		103,475		97,207		(6,268)	
Intergovernmental		3,506,482		3,506,482		3,801,707		295,225	
Charges for services		1,863,700		1,863,700		2,028,509		164,809	
Fines and forfeits		30,500		30,500		45,440		14,940	
Gifts and contributions		4,500		4,500		32,303		27,803	
Investment income		600,000		600,000		650,487		50,487	
Miscellaneous		314,426		314,426		444,549		130,123	
Total Revenues	\$	15,892,875	\$	15,892,875	\$	16,579,397	\$	686,522	
Expenditures									
Current									
General government									
Commissioners	\$	273,953	\$	273,953	\$	338,488	\$	(64,535)	
Courts		152,301		152,301		132,715		19,586	
Law library		31,585		31,585		25,722		5,863	
County auditor		867,350		867,350		855,679		11,671	
License bureau		272,513		272,513		273,676		(1,163)	
County assessor		759,029		759,029		770,543		(11,514)	
Data processing		829,052		829,052		804,908		24,144	
Personnel		156,394		156,394		150,977		5,417	
Attorney		860,609		860,609		932,253		(71,644)	
Recorder		509,270		509,270		606,981		(97,711)	
Surveyor		15,000		15,000		15,000		-	
Planning and zoning		361,784		361,784		352,108		9,676	
Maintenance		717,302		717,302		725,947		(8,645)	
Veterans service officer		261,432		261,432		287,566		(26,134)	
Total general government	\$	6,067,574	\$	6,067,574	\$	6,272,563	\$	(204,989)	

The notes to the required supplementary information are an integral part of this schedule.

<u>Schedule 1</u> (Continued)

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE GENERAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

	Budgeted Am			ints		Actual	Variance with		
		Original Final				Amounts	Final Budget		
Expenditures									
Current (Continued)									
Public safety									
Sheriff	\$	2,570,065	\$	2,570,065	\$	2,521,590	\$	48,47	
Snowmobile safety		5,000		5,000		6,073		(1,07)	
Boat and water safety		10,000		10,000		11,528		(1,52	
Ambulance		74,427		74,427		74,427		-	
Animal control		6,180		6,180		6,180		-	
Coroner		45,180		45,180		50,327		(5,14	
E-911		759,841		759,841		728,844		30,99	
County jail		1,782,208		1,782,208		1,634,430		147,77	
Community corrections		1,339,223		1,339,223		1,339,223		-	
Court services		-		-		5,292		(5,29	
Civil defense		39,519		39,519		34,520		4,99	
Total public safety	\$	6,631,643	\$	6,631,643	\$	6,412,434	\$	219,20	
Sanitation									
Solid waste	\$	1,047,397	\$	1,047,397	\$	959,661	\$	87,73	
Recycling	ψ	177,022	Ψ	177,022	Ψ	166,085	Ψ	10,93	
Recycling		177,022		177,022		100,005		10,95	
Total sanitation	\$	1,224,419	\$	1,224,419	\$	1,125,746	\$	98,67	
Culture and recreation									
Historical society	\$	41,200	\$	41,200	\$	41,200	\$	-	
County fair		36,750		36,750		34,156		2,59	
Parks		79,335		79,335		74,224		5,11	
Regional library		165,877		165,877		165,877		-	
Trails		-		-		288,257		(288,25	
Total culture and recreation	\$	323,162	\$	323,162	\$	603,714	\$	(280,55	
Conservation of natural resources									
County extension	\$	431,121	\$	431,121	\$	403,880	\$	27,24	
Soil and water conservation		99,910		99,910		107,410		(7,50	
Weed inspector		6,653		6,653		5,540		1,11	
Forestry assistance		9,000		9,000		-		9,00	
Timber development		10,000		10,000		592		9,40	
Resource development		41,000		41,000		16,434		24,56	
Water planning		82,107		82,107		57,727		24,38	
Total conservation of natural									

The notes to the required supplementary information are an integral part of this schedule.

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<u>Schedule 1</u> (Continued)

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE GENERAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

	Budgeted Amounts					Actual	Variance with		
	(Final		Amounts	Final Budget		
Expenditures									
Current (Continued)									
Economic development									
Airport commission	\$	775,134	\$	775,134	\$	290,933	\$	484,201	
Rail authority	Ψ	10,000	Ψ	10,000	Ψ	3,137	Ψ	6,863	
Small cities grant		-		-		54,119		(54,119)	
Iron Range Resources and						,		(* ',>)	
Rehabilitation		8,571		8,571		271,443		(262,872)	
Total economic development	\$	793,705	\$	793,705	\$	619,632	\$	174,073	
Debt service									
Principal	\$	-	\$	-	\$	131,313	\$	(131,313)	
Interest		-		-		16,250		(16,250)	
						, <u>,</u>			
Total debt service	\$	-	\$	-	\$	147,563	\$	(147,563)	
Total Expenditures	\$	15,720,294	\$	15,720,294	\$	15,773,235	\$	(52,941)	
Excess of Revenues Over (Under)									
Expenditures	\$	172,581	\$	172,581	\$	806,162	\$	633,581	
Other Financing Sources (Uses)									
Transfers in	\$	55,000	\$	55,000	\$	131,290	\$	76,290	
Transfers out		-		-		(16,558)		(16,558)	
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)	¢	55,000	¢	55,000	¢	114,732	¢	50 732	
(Uses)	\$	55,000	\$	55,000	\$	114,752	\$	59,732	
Net Change in Fund Balance	\$	227,581	\$	227,581	\$	920,894	\$	693,313	
Fund Balance - January 1		12,211,319		12,211,319		12,211,319			
Fund Balance - December 31	\$	12,438,900	\$	12,438,900	\$	13,132,213	\$	693,313	

The notes to the required supplementary information are an integral part of this schedule.

Schedule 2

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE ROAD AND BRIDGE SPECIAL REVENUE FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

	Budgeted Amounts					Actual	Variance with		
		Original		Final		Amounts	Final Budget		
Revenues									
Taxes	\$	2,497,257	\$	2,497,257	\$	2,507,184	\$	9,927	
Intergovernmental		3,098,577		3,098,577		3,843,985		745,408	
Charges for services		471,500		471,500		391,152		(80,348)	
Investment income		-		-		60,900		60,900	
Miscellaneous		439,170		439,170		600,771		161,601	
Total Revenues	\$	6,506,504	\$	6,506,504	\$	7,403,992	\$	897,488	
Expenditures									
Current									
Highways and streets									
Administration	\$	467,321	\$	467,321	\$	596,198	\$	(128,877)	
Maintenance		2,406,818		2,406,818		2,719,868		(313,050)	
Construction		3,635,728		3,635,728		4,403,130		(767,402)	
Equipment maintenance and shop		1,431,637		1,431,637		1,291,252		140,385	
Total Expenditures	\$	7,941,504	\$	7,941,504	\$	9,010,448	\$	(1,068,944)	
Excess of Revenues Over (Under)									
Expenditures	\$	(1,435,000)	\$	(1,435,000)	\$	(1,606,456)	\$	(171,456)	
Fund Balance - January 1 Increase (decrease) in reserved for		5,121,175		5,121,175		5,121,175		-	
inventories				-		145,743		145,743	
Fund Balance - December 31	\$	3,686,175	\$	3,686,175	\$	3,660,462	\$	(25,713)	

Schedule 3

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE HUMAN SERVICES SPECIAL REVENUE FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

	Budgeted Amounts			unts	Actual	Variance with		
		Original		Final	 Amounts	Final Budget		
Revenues								
Taxes	\$	4,108,331	\$	4,108,331	\$ 4,063,881	\$	(44,450)	
Intergovernmental		8,149,182		8,149,182	8,258,088		108,906	
Charges for services		115,102		115,102	192,491		77,389	
Gifts and contributions		522		522	1,670		1,148	
Miscellaneous		2,047,799		2,047,799	 1,778,153		(269,646)	
Total Revenues	\$	14,420,936	\$	14,420,936	\$ 14,294,283	\$	(126,653)	
Expenditures								
Current								
Human services								
Income maintenance	\$	3,335,024	\$	3,335,024	\$ 3,374,172	\$	(39,148)	
Social services		8,710,536		8,710,536	 8,738,399		(27,863)	
Total human services	\$	12,045,560	\$	12,045,560	\$ 12,112,571	\$	(67,011)	
Health								
Home care	\$	2,392,376	\$	2,392,376	\$ 1,512,583	\$	879,793	
Family health		-		-	809,225		(809,225)	
Disease control and prevention		-		-	 93,601		(93,601)	
Total health	\$	2,392,376	\$	2,392,376	\$ 2,415,409	\$	(23,033)	
Capital outlay	\$		\$		\$ 121,590	\$	(121,590)	
Total Expenditures	\$	14,437,936	\$	14,437,936	\$ 14,649,570	\$	(211,634)	
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	\$	(17,000)	\$	(17,000)	\$ (355,287)	\$	(338,287)	
Other Financing Sources (Uses) Transfers in		17,000		17,000	 16,558		(442)	
Net Change in Fund Balance	\$	-	\$	-	\$ (338,729)	\$	(338,729)	
Fund Balance - January 1		5,455,355		5,455,355	 5,455,355			
Fund Balance - December 31	\$	5,455,355	\$	5,455,355	\$ 5,116,626	\$	(338,729)	

The notes to the required supplementary information are an integral part of this schedule.

Schedule 4

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE FORFEITED TAX SPECIAL REVENUE FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

	Budgeted Amounts					Actual	Variance with	
		Original	Final		Amounts		Final Budget	
Revenues								
Taxes	\$	259,313	\$	259,313	\$	20,351	\$	(238,962)
Intergovernmental		-		-		555		555
Miscellaneous		-		-		486,493		486,493
Total Revenues	\$	259,313	\$	259,313	\$	507,399	\$	248,086
Expenditures								
Current								
General government								
County auditor/treasurer	\$	-	\$	-	\$	51,068	\$	(51,068)
Conservation of natural resources Land use		259,313		259,313		472,105		(212,702)
Land use	-	239,515		239,515	-	472,103		(212,792)
Total Expenditures	\$	259,313	\$	259,313	\$	523,173	\$	(263,860)
Excess of Revenues Over (Under)								
Expenditures	\$	-	\$	-	\$	(15,774)	\$	(15,774)
Other Financing Sources (Uses)								
Transfers out		-		-		(131,290)		(131,290)
Net Change in Fund Balance	\$	-	\$	-	\$	(147,064)	\$	(147,064)
Fund Balance - January 1		195,755		195,755		195,755		-
Fund Balance - December 31	\$	195,755	\$	195,755	\$	48,691	\$	(147,064)

The notes to the required supplementary information are an integral part of this schedule.

NOTES TO THE REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

1. Budgetary Information

Annual budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles for all governmental funds. All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year-end.

In July of each year, all departments and agencies submit requests for appropriations to the County Auditor/Treasurer so that a budget can be prepared. Before September 15, the proposed budget is presented to the County Board for review. A final budget is adopted by the Board and certified to the Auditor/Treasurer by December 28.

The appropriated budget is prepared by fund, function, and department. The County's department head may make transfers of appropriations within a department with County Board approval. Transfers of appropriations between departments also require approval of the County Board. The legal level of budgetary control (that is, the level at which expenditures may not legally exceed appropriations) is the fund level.

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

2. Excess of Expenditures Over Appropriations

For the year ended December 31, 2008, expenditures exceeded appropriations in the following funds:

	Unbudgeted trail expenditures and higher than
\$ 52,941	anticipated general government expenditures
1,068,944	Higher than anticipated construction expenditures
	Unbudgeted capital outlay expenditures for new
211,634	human services building
	Higher than budgeted capital outlay expenditures
263,860	and higher forfeited tax apportionment
\$	1,068,944 211,634

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

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<u>Schedule 5</u>

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE DEBT SERVICE FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

	Budgeted Amounts			Actual		Variance with		
		Original		Final		Amounts	Fi	nal Budget
Revenues								
Taxes	\$	646,008	\$	646,008	\$	646,393	\$	385
Intergovernmental		73,378		73,378		73,378		-
Total Revenues	\$	719,386	\$	719,386	\$	719,771	\$	385
Expenditures								
Debt service								
Principal	\$	522,836	\$	522,836	\$	695,000	\$	(172,164)
Interest		196,550		196,550		313,993		(117,443)
Administrative (fiscal) charges		-		-		1,913		(1,913)
Total Expenditures	\$	719,386	\$	719,386	\$	1,010,906	\$	(291,520)
Excess of Revenues Over (Under) Expenditures	\$	-	\$	-	\$	(291,135)	\$	(291,135)
Fund Balance - January 1		1,183,231		1,183,231		1,183,231		
Fund Balance - December 31	\$	1,183,231	\$	1,183,231	\$	892,096	\$	(291,135)

Statement 1

COMBINING STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ALL AGENCY FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

	Balance January 1	Additions	Deductions	Balance December 31
MOTOR VEHICLE REGISTRATION				
Assets				
Cash and pooled investments	<u>\$</u>	\$ 4,072,060	\$ 4,072,060	<u>\$</u>
Liabilities				
Accounts payable	\$ -	\$ 4,072,060	\$ 4,072,060	<u>\$</u>
EMPLOYEE FLEXIBLE BENEFITS				
Assets				
Cash and pooled investments	\$ 87,025	\$ 118,902	\$ 126,676	\$ 79,251
Liabilities				
Accounts payable	\$ 87,025	\$ 118,902	\$ 126,676	\$ 79,251
<u>STATE</u>				
Assets				
Cash and pooled investments	\$ 103,185	\$ 3,594,881	\$ 3,629,523	\$ 68,543
<u>Liabilities</u>				
Due to other governments	\$ 103,185	\$ 3,594,881	\$ 3,629,523	\$ 68,543

<u>Statement 1</u> (Continued)

COMBINING STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ALL AGENCY FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

	Balance January 1	Additions	Deductions	Balance December 31
SCHOOL DISTRICTS				
Assets				
Cash and pooled investments	\$ 106,405	\$ 7,675,173	\$ 7,638,260	\$ 143,318
Liabilities				
Due to other governments	\$ 106,405	\$ 7,675,173	\$ 7,638,260	\$ 143,318
TOWNS AND CITIES				
Assets				
Cash and pooled investments	\$ 92,065	\$ 7,543,143	\$ 7,529,489	\$ 105,719
Liabilities				
Due to other governments	\$ 92,065	\$ 7,543,143	\$ 7,529,489	\$ 105,719
TAXES AND PENALTIES				
Assets				
Cash and pooled investments	<u>\$</u>	\$ 34,970,482	\$ 34,970,482	\$
<u>Liabilities</u>				
Due to other governments	\$-	\$ 34,970,482	\$ 34,970,482	\$-

<u>Statement 1</u> (Continued)

COMBINING STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ALL AGENCY FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

		Balance anuary 1	A	dditions	<u> </u>	Deductions	Balance cember 31
NORTHEASTERN WASTE ADVISOR COUNCIL	Y						
Assets							
Cash and pooled investments	\$	1,192	\$		\$	<u> </u>	\$ 1,192
<u>Liabilities</u>							
Due to other governments	\$	1,192	\$		\$	<u> </u>	\$ 1,192
<u>REFUNDING</u>							
Assets							
Cash and pooled investments	\$	45,365	\$	394,617	\$	413,483	\$ 26,499
Liabilities							
Accounts payable Due to other governments	\$	23,194 22,171	\$	372,114 22,503	\$	391,312 22,171	\$ 3,996 22,503
Total Liabilities	\$	45,365	\$	394,617	\$	413,483	\$ 26,499
<u>COLLABORATIVE</u>							
Assets							
Cash and pooled investments	\$	997,198	\$	677,367	\$	1,161,121	\$ 513,444
Liabilities							
Accounts payable	\$	2,569	\$	30,145	\$	2,569	\$ 30,145
Salaries payable Due to other governments		2,900 991,729		7,417 639,805		2,900 1,155,652	 7,417 475,882
Total Liabilities	\$	997,198	\$	677,367	\$	1,161,121	\$ 513,444

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<u>Statement 1</u> (Continued)

COMBINING STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ALL AGENCY FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

	Balance anuary 1	 Additions]	Deductions	D	Balance ecember 31
ARROWHEAD HEALTH ALLIANCE						
Assets						
Cash and pooled investments	\$ 387,465	\$ 65,733	\$	112,794	\$	340,404
Liabilities						
Accounts payable Due to other governments	\$ 9,681 377,784	\$ - 65,733	\$	8,333 104,461	\$	1,348 339,056
Total Liabilities	\$ 387,465	\$ 65,733	\$	112,794	\$	340,404
TOTAL ALL AGENCY FUNDS						
Assets						
Cash and pooled investments	\$ 1,819,900	\$ 59,112,358	\$	59,653,888	\$	1,278,370
<u>Liabilities</u>						
Accounts payable Salaries payable Due to other governments	\$ 122,469 2,900 1,694,531	\$ 4,593,221 7,417 54,511,720	\$	4,600,950 2,900 55,050,038	\$	114,740 7,417 1,156,213
Total Liabilities	\$ 1,819,900	\$ 59,112,358	\$	59,653,888	\$	1,278,370

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OTHER SCHEDULE

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<u>Schedule 6</u>

SCHEDULE OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUE FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

Shared Revenue		
State	*	2 070 020
Highway users tax	\$	3,070,938
County program aid		1,470,322
PERA rate reimbursement		54,851
Disparity reduction aid		368,219
Police aid		130,379
E-911		112,304
Market value credit		1,477,654
Casino revenue aid		23,092
Total Shared Revenue	\$	6,707,759
Reimbursement for Services		
State		
Minnesota Department of Human Services	<u>\$</u>	939,928
Payments		
Local		
Carlton County Collaborative	\$	27,500
Household hazardous waste		14,132
Other local contributions		296,138
State		
Payments in lieu of taxes		219,037
Total Payments	<u>\$</u>	556,807
Grants		
State		
Minnesota Department/Board of		
Public Safety	\$	43,862
Transportation		48,371
Health		242,223
Natural Resources		223,444
Human Services		2,493,498
Water and Soil Resources		115,380
Veterans Affairs		78,882
Office of Environmental Assistance		84,287
Peace Officer Standards and Training Board		10,013
Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board		284,172
Total State	\$	3,624,132

<u>Schedule 6</u> (Continued)

SCHEDULE OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUE FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

Grants (Continued)		
Federal		
Department of		
Agriculture	\$	391,161
Commerce		89,100
Housing and Urban Development		54,119
Justice		10,627
Transportation		396,760
Homeland Security		18,298
Health and Human Services		3,185,435
Environmental Protection Agency		3,587
Total Federal	<u></u>	4,149,087
Total State and Federal Grants	\$	7,773,219
Total Intergovernmental Revenue	\$	15,977,713

Management and Compliance Section This page was left blank intentionally.

<u>Schedule 7</u>

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

I. SUMMARY OF AUDITOR'S RESULTS

- A. Our report expresses an adverse opinion on the government-wide financial statements of Carlton County. The opinion is adverse because the County has not reported and depreciated capital assets in the government-wide financial statements and eliminated capital outlay expenditures. The County also has not reported a liability and related expense for other postemployment benefits in the government-wide financial statements. The opinions on the financial statements of each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information are unqualified.
- B. Significant deficiencies in internal control were disclosed by the audit of financial statements of Carlton County and are reported in the "Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards.*" Three of the significant deficiencies are material weaknesses. The significant deficiencies relating to capital assets, other postemployment benefits, and audit adjustments are considered to be material weaknesses.
- C. No instances of noncompliance material to the financial statements of Carlton County were disclosed during the audit.
- D. No matters involving internal control over compliance relating to the audit of the major federal award programs were reported in the "Report on Compliance with Requirements Applicable to Each Major Program and Internal Control Over Compliance in Accordance with OMB Circular A-133."
- E. The Auditor's Report on Compliance for the major federal award programs for Carlton County expresses an unqualified opinion.
- F. No findings were disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with Section 510(a) of OMB Circular A-133.

<u>Schedule 7</u> (Continued)

G. The major programs are:

Child Support Enforcement	CFDA #93.563
Foster Care - Title IV-E	CFDA #93.658
Medical Assistance Program	CFDA #93.778

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

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

INTERNAL CONTROL

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED ITEMS NOT RESOLVED

96-11 Capital Assets

Current generally accepted accounting principles require capital assets be valued at historical cost or, if historical cost data are not available, estimated cost. The County does not maintain capital asset records, which show cost or estimated historical cost, and has received an adverse opinion on its government-wide financial statements.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 34 requires governments to include capital assets on the statement of net assets and to report depreciation expense for those assets on the statement of activities. In addition, capital outlay expenditures in a governmental fund's statement of revenues and expenditures are eliminated in the statement of activities.

To comply with GASB Statement 34, the County must establish accounting policies for capital assets, including capitalization thresholds, useful lives, and the designation of specific general ledger accounting codes to record the purchases and construction costs of capital assets. Capital assets, as defined by GASB Statement 34, include: land, improvements to land, easements, buildings, building improvements, vehicles, machinery, equipment, works of art and historical treasures, infrastructure, and all other tangible and intangible assets used in operations and that have initial useful lives extending beyond a reporting period. The County must establish a capital asset accounting system capable of providing the information needed to comply with the

reporting requirements of GASB Statement 34. Information needed for reporting includes capital assets by major asset category, capital outlay expenditures by department and major expenditure function, and depreciation expense by department and major expenditure function.

We recommend, in order to improve control over capital assets, eliminate the adverse opinion, and comply with the requirements of GASB Statement 34, a record-keeping system be established for capital assets. Below is an outline for developing and maintaining a capital asset inventory system.

- 1. Adopt a capitalization policy that sets a minimum dollar value for an asset to be accounted for on the capital asset system. Determine the useful lives for various classes of assets to be used for depreciation purposes and the general ledger account codes to be used to record capital asset transactions.
- 2. Identify the information that will need to be captured by a capital asset accounting system and establish a system that will provide the information needed to comply with the reporting requirements of GASB Statement 34.
- 3. Inventory all capital assets, including infrastructure assets, owned by the County and assign responsibility for each asset to a particular department head or official.
- 4. Assign actual or estimated historical cost to each item. Enter the information into the capital asset system.
- 5. Maintain the capital asset accounting system on a current basis. Procedures will need to be established on how disposals of capital assets will be identified by department heads and how the information will be transmitted to the person responsible for maintaining the capital asset system.
- 6. Periodically verify departmental inventory by physical inspection.

We recommend the County Board take steps to establish formal policies and procedures for implementing a capital asset system.

Client's Response:

The County has contracted with the Government Management Group who will provide assistance to Carlton County in the determination and valuation of the County's capital assets. GMG will also assist the County in the establishment of policies and procedures for the implementation and maintenance of a capital asset management system. Although this project has yet to be undertaken, it is the intention of the Carlton County Board of Commissioners that this task be accomplished during the year 2010.

96-12 Segregation of Duties

Due to the limited number of office personnel within the County, segregation of the accounting functions necessary to ensure adequate internal accounting control is not possible. This is not unusual in operations the size of Carlton County; however, the County's management should constantly be aware of this condition and realize that the concentration of duties and responsibilities in a limited number of individuals is not desirable from an accounting point of view.

Several of the County's departments that collect fees have segregation of duties weaknesses. These departments generally have one staff person who is responsible for billing, collecting, depositing, and recording receipts as well as reconciling bank accounts.

We recommend that the County's elected officials and department heads be aware of the lack of segregation of the accounting functions and, if possible, implement oversight procedures to ensure that the internal control policies and procedures are being implemented by staff.

Client's Response:

The Carlton County Board of Commissioners is aware of the existing conditions with regard to the segregation of duties. We do and will continue to review the duties and responsibilities of County Staff and to make appropriate changes where necessary and feasible.
96-18 Jail Canteen Account

The County Sheriff operates a canteen fund to purchase and sell items used by the prisoners in the jail. Revenues received from the sale of items and all purchases of goods for resale are handled through a separate checking account. Profits from the canteen operation are turned over to the County and recorded on the County's general ledger system, but the remainder of the activity is not accounted for in the County's general ledger system.

The canteen fund has been in operation for many years, and it is unknown how the original start-up inventory was funded. However, it is our belief that canteen funds meet the criteria of County funds and should be accounted for in the County's general ledger system. The funds are both collected and administered by on-duty public employees acting on behalf of the County, using County facilities, and fulfilling their responsibilities to care for County prisoners. The recording of these funds on the County's general ledger system would not preclude the County Board from using the profits of the canteen fund for the benefit of the inmates.

We recommend the full operations of the jail canteen fund be recorded on the County's general ledger system. This would include depositing all money received from sales and making all purchases with County warrants. If the County Board consents, these funds may be dedicated and used for the benefit of inmates.

Client's Response:

The County Auditor will work with the County Board and County Sheriff to include the jail canteen accounts within the general ledger system while maintaining the dedication of the funds for the benefit of the inmates.

06-1 Preparation of Financial Statements

The County is required to prepare financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The preparation of the financial statements is the responsibility of the County's management. Financial statement preparation in accordance with GAAP requires internal controls over both: (1) recording, processing, and summarizing accounting data (maintaining internal books and records); and (2) preparing and reporting appropriate government-wide and fund financial statements, including the related notes to the financial statements.

<u>Schedule 7</u> (Continued)

As is the case with many small and medium-sized entities, the County has relied on its independent external auditors to assist in the preparation of the basic financial statements, including notes to the financial statements, as part of its external financial reporting process. Accordingly, the County's ability to prepare financial statements in accordance with GAAP is based, at least in part, on its reliance on its external auditors, who cannot by definition be considered part of the government's internal control. This condition was caused by the County's decision that it is more cost effective to have its auditors prepare its annual basic financial statements than to incur the time and expense of obtaining the necessary training and expertise required to prepare the financial statements internally. As a result of this condition, the government lacks internal controls over the preparation of financial statements in accordance with GAAP.

We recommend the County accounting staff obtain the training and expertise to internally prepare its annual financial statements in accordance with GAAP. If the County still intends to have staff from the Office of the State Auditor assist in preparation then, at a minimum, it must identify and train individuals to obtain the expertise that can sufficiently review, understand, and approve the County's financial statements, including notes.

Client's Response:

The County is aware of the need to internally prepare its annual financial statements in accordance with GAAP, and as such the County must work towards the ability to prepare our statements without the assistance of our external auditors. That being said, financial constraints will very likely dictate our ability to internally prepare our financial statements without external assistance.

06-2 Audit Adjustments

A control deficiency 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 misstatements of the financial statements on a timely basis. Statement on Auditing Standards 112 states that one control deficiency that shall be regarded as at least a significant deficiency is identification by the auditor of a material misstatement in the financial statements not initially identified by the entity's internal controls, even if management subsequently corrects the misstatement.

During our audit, we identified material adjustments that resulted in significant changes to the County's financial statements. The County provides cash basis financial statements and prepares some of the modified accrual information necessary to adjust the cash basis financial statements to the modified accrual basis. However, County staff have not had the time to prepare all of the information necessary to provide accurate financial statements. Therefore, audit adjustments were necessary to record additional receivables and payables found during the audit, record the fair value adjustment for cash and pooled investments, record trail grant revenues and expenditures, close out the capital projects fund, adjust reserves, adjust state-aid highway allotments, adjust loans receivable balances, and make reclassification entries as necessary. Audit adjustments were also necessary to adjust modified accrual financial statements to the accrual basis for the government-wide financial statements.

We recommend that County staff review the trial balances and journal entries in detail to ensure they have an understanding of all audit adjustments made so that, in future audits, this information can be prepared by the County.

Client's Response:

The Carlton County Auditor/Treasurer will work to review the trial balances and journal entries in detail so as to ensure that there is an understanding of all audit adjustments made so that in future audits, this information can be prepared by County Staff.

06-3 Journal Entries

Carlton County limits access to the journal entry function on the Integrated Financial System (IFS) to select County employees. The journal entries made by the employees are not reviewed or approved by anyone else.

The ability to make journal entries on the IFS general ledger system is a powerful function. It allows those employees with access to the journal entry function to make changes to the general ledger system. To prevent abuse of this function, it should be limited to those employees who have a logical need for this access. Also needed is a procedure for review and approval of the journal entries made.

We recommend the County Auditor/Treasurer review the access to the journal entry function to determine if there is a logical need for that access for all employees who have access. We also recommend a procedure be established to require review and approval of journal entries by someone other than the person making the journal entries. This person should obtain an understanding of the journal entry and its purpose before approval. The

<u>Schedule 7</u> (Continued)

approval could be documented by signature on a journal entry form or a printed copy of the journal entry made. Supporting documentation or sufficient explanation should be attached to or included on the journal entry to explain why the journal entry is being made and who is making the journal entry. Journal entries should be filed in a manner that allows for their review should questions arise. A report should be generated from the IFS that lists all journal entries made. The person charged with review and approval of journal entries should periodically review this report. Review of this report would be to ensure that no journal entries have been made which have not been submitted for review and approval.

Client's Response:

The County Auditor's Office staff will review the access to journal entry functions so as to determine the need for access by selected employees. It is further the intent of the Auditor's Office to establish review and approval procedures for all journal entries.

06-4 Accounting Policies and Procedures Manual

The County does not have a current and comprehensive accounting policies and procedures manual. All governments should document their accounting policies and procedures. Although other methods might suffice, this documentation is traditionally in the form of an accounting policies and procedures manual. This manual should document the accounting policies and procedures which make up the County's internal control system.

An accounting policies and procedures manual will enhance employees' understanding of their role and function in the internal control system, establish responsibilities, provide guidance for employees, improve efficiency and consistency of transaction processing, and improve compliance with established policies. It can also help to prevent deterioration of key elements in the County's internal control system and can help to avoid circumvention of County policies.

We recommend the County Auditor/Treasurer establish an accounting policies and procedures manual. The accounting policies and procedures manual should be prepared by appropriate levels of management and be approved by the County Board to emphasize its importance and authority. The documentation should describe procedures as they are intended to be performed, indicate which employees are to perform which procedures, and explain the design and purpose of control-related procedures to increase employee understanding and support for controls.

Client's Response:

Carlton County will work with the State Auditor's Office staff (and other governmental entities) to establish an accounting policies and procedures manual.

06-5 Computer Risk Management

The County has internal controls in place for its computer system. However, the County has not developed a formal plan to identify and manage risks associated with its computer system.

Risk management begins with a risk assessment of the County's computer system to identify those risks that could negatively influence computer operations. Internal controls should be implemented to reduce the identified risks. Internal controls implemented should be documented in a well-maintained policies and procedures manual, which should be communicated to the County's staff. Staff adherence to these policies and procedures should be monitored. Because computer systems are ever changing, the County should include in its plan periodic reassessment of risk to ensure existing internal controls are still effective.

We recommend the County Board develop a plan to ensure that internal controls are in place to reduce the risk associated with the County's computer systems.

Client's Response:

The County Board, in conjunction with the IT staff, will develop a plan to ensure internal controls are in place so as to reduce the risk associated with the County's computer systems.

07-1 Approval of Time Sheets

During our audit, we noted that department heads and certain supervisors who do not have immediate supervisors are approving their own time sheets. Approval of time sheets is an important internal control which helps to ensure that the time worked is reported accurately and reliably.

We recommend that each time sheet contain two attestations of the hours worked. One attestation should be by the employee and the other should be by the employee's supervisor or other appropriate person.

Client's Response:

The Carlton County Auditor/Treasurer, in conjunction with the County Personnel Director, will review this matter and make a recommendation to the County Board for action.

ITEM ARISING THIS YEAR

08-1 Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

GASB issued Statement No. 45, *Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions*, which provides the accounting and reporting standards for other postemployment benefits offered to retirees. GASB Statement 45 was applicable to Carlton County for the year ended December 31, 2008.

Under the new GASB standard, the County should have determined its net OPEB liability and annual OPEB cost in accordance with GASB Statement 45. Carlton County has not determined this liability or cost. The County has received an adverse opinion on the government-wide financial statements.

We recommend the County Board determine the County's net OPEB liability and annual OPEB cost in accordance with the requirements of GASB Statement 45. This will require the County Board to hire an actuary to determine this liability.

Client's Response:

Carlton County will work to determine the County's net OPEB liability so as to be GASB Statement 45 compliant.

III. FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR FEDERAL AWARD PROGRAMS.

None.

IV. OTHER FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A. <u>MINNESOTA LEGAL COMPLIANCE</u>

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED ITEMS NOT RESOLVED

96-3 <u>Electronic Funds Transfers</u>

The County Auditor/Treasurer uses electronic funds transfers to purchase and sell investments and to move money between accounts. The County Board is required by Minn. Stat. § 385.071 to establish policies and procedures for investment and expenditure transactions via electronic funds transfers. The County Board has not established written policies and procedures regarding the use of electronic funds transfers.

We recommend the County Board establish written policies and procedures for electronic funds transfers as required by Minn. Stat. § 385.071.

Client's Response:

The County has obtained copies of other counties' policies and drafted a policy to fit the needs of Carlton County. This draft policy will be presented to the County Board for their consideration and/or approval.

96-4 <u>Unclaimed Funds</u>

The Minnesota Unclaimed Property Law requires that uncashed vendor or refund checks be reported to the state after three years. The reporting requirements for unclaimed property and its payment to the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Commerce are detailed in Minn. Stat. §§ 345.41-.43. The County Auditor/Treasurer has established a system for keeping track of checks to be reported to the Commissioner. However, the County Auditor/Treasurer has not filed any unclaimed property reports with the state or turned over any money to the state. Any person who willfully refuses to pay or deliver abandoned property to the Commissioner under the above-mentioned statute shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor [Minn. Stat. § 345.55]. Our review of the County's documentation of unclaimed checks reveals the amount of unclaimed checks that have not been turned over to the state to be approximately \$40,775 as of December 31, 2008.

We recommend the County Auditor/Treasurer file the required unclaimed property reports with the Commissioner of the Minnesota Department of Commerce and turn over any funds which are required to be remitted to the state.

Client's Response:

The County has established a system of tracking checks to be reported to the Department of Commerce/Unclaimed Property Division. The County will investigate turning these monies over to the state.

96-25 <u>Travel Policy</u>

The County Board does not have a formal written travel policy. The County has set meal and mileage allowances by various Board resolutions; however, no detailed guidance is available on travel expenses. Travel claims are submitted on the County's regular voucher form as there is no separate travel claim form. Department heads approve their own travel claims.

Minnesota law requires each county to "have on record a policy that controls travel outside of the state of Minnesota for elected officials." Minn. Stat. § 471.661. The policy must be approved by a recorded vote and specify when travel outside of the state is appropriate, applicable expense limits, and procedures for approved travel. *Id*.

A formal travel policy should clarify the County Board's position regarding travel expenses and would result in uniform treatment of travel claims. The policy could include the following items:

- which expenses are reimbursable,
- which expenses are prohibited,
- who is authorized to approve travel expenses, and
- what type of documentation is required to support expenses.

A separate travel claim form would help the County Board implement its policy by specifying on the face of the claim form the type of expense, governmental purpose, documentation requirements, and appropriate approvals. We recommend the County Board comply with Minn. Stat. § 471.661 and establish a formal travel policy incorporating the above items. Travel claims should be approved by someone other than the person submitting the claim.

Client's Response:

The County Board will be considering a formal travel policy. At this time, they have chosen not to take any formal action on a travel policy. The Auditor/Treasurer will again present a draft policy for their review and action.

04-1 <u>Publication of Financial Statements</u>

The County is required by Minn. Stat. § 375.17 to annually publish its financial statements. The County Auditor/Treasurer has not published the financial statements for the years 2003-2007.

We recommend the County Auditor/Treasurer publish the County's financial statements annually as required by Minn. Stat. § 375.17.

Client's Response:

It is the goal of Carlton County to ensure the timely completion and publication of the County financial statements as required.

ITEMS ARISING THIS YEAR

08-2 <u>Collateral Assignments</u>

Carlton County has deposits with Wells Fargo Bank. To secure these deposits, Wells Fargo has pledged collateral to Carlton County. Collateral assignments are required to be in writing by Minn. Stat. § 118A.03, subd. 4.

The collateral pledge agreement that Carlton County has with Wells Fargo Bank is not current. The most current pledge agreement on file is dated 2003. The Wells Fargo pledge agreement does not contain the language required by Minn. Stat. § 118A.03, subd. 4, that "upon default, the financial institution shall release to the government entity, on demand, free of exchange or other charges, the collateral pledged."

Current collateral assignments are necessary to determine that proper statutory language is included in the collateral assignments so that the County's interests are properly protected. The collateral assignments should also be approved by the Bank's board of directors or loan committee in order to perfect the collateral.

We recommend that the County Auditor/Treasurer obtain a new collateral assignment from Wells Fargo Bank. The new assignment should be reviewed to make sure it includes the statutory language required by Minn. Stat. § 118A.03, subd. 4, and is approved by the Bank's board of directors or loan committee.

Client's Response:

Carlton County will secure a new collateral agreement with Wells Fargo; in November, 2009, Carlton County released the then-existing collateral pledged by Wells Fargo as at that time, there was not a need for the collateralization. If/when the need arises for collateralization from Wells Fargo, Carlton County will secure the appropriate collateral agreement.

08-3 Broker Certifications

The County is required by Minn. Stat. § 118A.04, subd. 9, to annually obtain a certification from each broker with which the County invests in which the broker acknowledges it has received the County's investment restrictions and agrees to handle the County's account in accordance with the restrictions.

For 2008, Carlton County did not obtain a broker certification from Wells Fargo Brokerage.

We recommend the County obtain broker certifications annually in accordance with Minn. Stat. § 118A.04, subd. 9.

Client's Response:

With the takeover of Wachovia Securities by Wells Fargo, it is the understanding of Carlton County that this issue will be resolved by Wells Fargo.

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED ITEM RESOLVED

Safekeeping of Investments (07-2)

In the prior audit, Carlton County held investments totaling \$5,088,438, with Wachovia Securities. This firm was not a primary reporting dealer nor had its principal executive offices in Minnesota; therefore, it was not a legal safekeeper under Minn. Stat. § 118A.06.

Resolution

In 2008, Wachovia Securities was acquired by Wells Fargo Brokerage, which is headquartered in Minnesota and, therefore, is eligible to safekeep investments under Minn. Stat. § 118A.06.

B. <u>MANAGEMENT PRACTICES</u>

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED ITEMS NOT RESOLVED

96-24 <u>Budgets</u>

The County Board does not have a formal written budget policy. A budget policy has been drafted; however, it has not been formally approved by the County Board. Under past practice, it has been the informal policy of the Board to approve all line-item budget changes and all budget amendments.

We recommend the Board establish a written budget policy that indicates the following:

- the level of budgetary control at which Board approval is required for any budget transfers or amendments,
- any exceptions to the general policy which would not require Board approval, and
- the budgetary basis on which the budget is adopted.

All budget transfers or amendments that require Board approval by the written policy should be approved by the Board. Approval should be documented in a manner that allows the original Board-approved budget to be reconciled to the final amended budget used for reporting purposes. The minutes should include the amounts of any transfers or budget changes in addition to the explanation for the change. All Board-approved budget amendments should be input in the general ledger system.

A standard budget change form could be adopted as part of the budget policy. This form would standardize the process of obtaining a budget amendment and would ensure that all budget changes included the accounts affected by the change and the amount of the change. The budget should be amended for any significant changes in revenue sources or spending patterns that occur during the year.

Client's Response:

A draft of the policy has been established, and this draft shall be presented to the County Board for consideration and/or approval. The County Board has appointed a committee to oversee the budget process, including budget changes made during the year. The draft of the policy will formalize the actions currently taken by this committee.

96-26 Disaster Recovery Plan

The County has a disaster recovery plan in the event of a disaster involving its computer system. However, the plan has not been updated since 1993. Since the plan was written, new computer systems and software have been implemented that make the disaster recovery plan outdated.

With the increased importance of, and reliance on, data processing in the day-to-day operations of the County, an incomplete disaster recovery plan could delay the County's return to normal operations after a disaster.

We recommend that the head of the County Data Processing Department update the disaster recovery plan to reflect new systems, software, and changes in personnel and operations that have occurred over the years since the plan was last updated.

Client's Response:

Carlton County recognizes that a Disaster Recovery Plan needs to be in place. The MIS office is actively working on the adoption of a Plan and is also working with the MCIS to insure that there is an agreement with an alternative site to provide backup in the event of a disaster. Formal disaster recovery sites are being identified and agreements shall be negotiated for such a Plan.

98-7 <u>Contract Change Orders</u>

In a prior audit, we noted the County had an overrun of \$107,475 on the Law Enforcement Center remodeling that had to be absorbed by the General Fund. Change orders on this contract had been approved by the project architects and the project manager; however, they had not been approved by the County Board.

The County Board does not have a clear policy as to whether all contract change orders are to be approved by the Board. It has been past practice to bring change orders to the Board for approval. It is important that change orders be approved by the County Board because the use of County resources is required to fund any project overruns.

We recommend the County Board draft a clear policy on the procedures to be followed for change orders that states when change orders should be brought before the Board for approval.

Client's Response:

The County Board will adopt a formal policy with regard to contract and contract change orders to ensure that the County Board is aware of the change orders as they are incurred.

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

Board of County Commissioners Carlton County

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Carlton County as of and for the year ended December 31, 2008, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated January 14, 2010. We have issued an adverse opinion on the government-wide financial statements because Carlton County has neither reported capital assets nor other postemployment benefits (OPEB) obligations in the Statement of Net Assets and has neither reported the related depreciation nor the net OPEB obligation change in the Statement of Activities, as required by generally accepted accounting principles. Also, capital expenditures have not been eliminated from the Statement of Activities. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered Carlton County's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control over financial reporting.

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Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses. However, as discussed below, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

A control deficiency 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 misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the County's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process, or report financial data reliably in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of the County's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the County's internal control. We consider the deficiencies described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as items 96-11, 96-12, 96-18, 06-1 through 06-5, 07-1, and 08-1 to be significant deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by Carlton County's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all significant deficiencies that are also considered to be material weaknesses. However, of the significant deficiencies described above, we consider items 96-11, 06-2, and 08-1 to be material weaknesses.

Compliance and Other Matters

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

Minnesota Legal Compliance

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

The *Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for Local Government* contains six categories of compliance to be tested: contracting and bidding, deposits and investments, conflicts of interest, public indebtedness, claims and disbursements, and miscellaneous provisions. Our study included all of the listed categories.

The results of our tests indicate that, for the items tested, Carlton County complied with the material terms and conditions of applicable legal provisions, except as described in the Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as items 96-3, 96-4, 96-25, 04-1, 08-2, and 08-3.

Also included in the Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs are management practices comments. We believe these recommendations to be of benefit to Carlton County, and they are reported for that purpose.

Carlton County's written responses to the significant deficiencies, material weaknesses, legal compliance, and management practices findings identified in our audit have been included in the Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs. We did not audit the County's responses and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

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

/s/Rebecca Otto

REBECCA OTTO STATE AUDITOR /s/Greg Hierlinger

GREG HIERLINGER, CPA DEPUTY STATE AUDITOR

January 14, 2010

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STATE OF MINNESOTA OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR

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REPORT ON COMPLIANCE WITH REQUIREMENTS APPLICABLE TO EACH MAJOR PROGRAM AND INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE IN ACCORDANCE WITH OMB CIRCULAR A-133

Board of County Commissioners Carlton County

Compliance

We have audited the compliance of Carlton County with the types of compliance requirements described in the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) *Circular A-133 Compliance Supplement* that are applicable to each of its major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2008. Carlton County's major federal programs are identified in the Summary of Auditor's Results section of the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs. Compliance with the requirements of laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to each of its major federal programs is the responsibility of the County's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the County's compliance based on our audit.

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

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In our opinion, Carlton County complied, in all material respects, with the requirements referred to above that are applicable to each of its major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2008.

Internal Control Over Compliance

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

A control deficiency in internal control over compliance 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 noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies, that adversely affects the County's ability to administer a federal program such that there is more than a remote likelihood that noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by the County's internal control.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented or detected by Carlton County's internal control.

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

Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Carlton County as of and for the year ended December 31, 2008, and have issued our report thereon dated January 14, 2010. We have issued an adverse opinion on the government-wide financial statements because Carlton County has neither reported capital assets nor other postemployment benefits (OPEB) obligation in the

Statement of Net Assets and has neither reported the related depreciation nor the net OPEB obligation change in the Statement of Activities, as required by generally accepted accounting principles. Also, capital expenditures have not been eliminated from the Statement of Activities.

Our audit was performed for the purpose of forming opinions on the County's basic financial statements. The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by OMB Circular A-133 and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

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

/s/Rebecca Otto

REBECCA OTTO STATE AUDITOR /s/Greg Hierlinger

GREG HIERLINGER, CPA DEPUTY STATE AUDITOR

January 14, 2010

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CARLTON COUNTY CARLTON, MINNESOTA

<u>Schedule 8</u>

SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

Federal Grantor Pass-Through Agency Grant Program Title	Pass-Through Grant Numbers	Federal CFDA Number	Ex	Expenditures	
U.S. Department of Agriculture Passed Through Carlton, Cook, Lake, and St. Louis Community Health Board Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and					
Children		10.557	\$	160,029	
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Human Services State Administrative Matching Grants for the Supplemental					
Nutrition Assistance Program		10.561		231,132	
Total U.S. Department of Agriculture			\$	391,161	
U.S. Department of Commerce					
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Coastal Zone Management Administrative Awards		11.419	\$	89,100	
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development					
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Employment and	CD AD 07 0071 0				
Economic Development Community Development Block Grant	CDAP-07-0071-0- FY08	14.228	\$	54,119	
U.S. Department of Justice					
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Employment and					
Economic Development Juvenile Accountability Block Grant		16.523	\$	10,627	
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Public Safety					
Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program		16.607		1,080	
Total U.S. Department of Justice			\$	11,707	
U.S. Department of Transportation					
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Transportation					
Airport Improvement Program	SP-0902-47 SP-0904-27 SP-0904-28	20.106	\$	61,443	
Highway Planning and Construction	SP-09-661-18	20.205	*	246,932	
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Natural Resources					
Recreational Trails Program		20.219	*	82,286	

CARLTON COUNTY CARLTON, MINNESOTA

<u>Schedule 8</u> (Continued)

SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

Federal Grantor Pass-Through Agency Grant Program Title	Pass-Through Grant Numbers	Federal CFDA Number	Expenditures	
U.S. Department of Transportation (Continued)				
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Public Safety				
State and Community Highway Safety		20.600		4,767
Minimum Penalties for Repeat Offenders for Driving While				
Intoxicated		20.608		4,639
Total U.S. Department of Transportation			\$	400,067
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency				
Passed Through Carlton, Cook, Lake, and St. Louis Community				
Health Board				
State Indoor Radon Grants		66.032	\$	3,587
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services				
Passed Through Carlton, Cook, Lake, and St. Louis Community				
Health Board				
Alzheimer's Disease Demonstration Grants to States		93.051	\$	25,229
Center for Disease Control and Prevention - Investigations				
and Technical Assistance		93.283		42,806
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)		93.558		34,978
Medical Assistance Program - Child and Teen Checkups		93.778		30,874
Preventative Health and Health Services Block Grant		93.991		200
Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant		93.994		37,852
Passed Through Arrowhead Regional Development Commission				
National Family Caregiver Support, Title III, Part E		93.052		26,618
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Human Services				
Promoting Safe and Stable Families		93.556		29,636
Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)		93.558		370,597
Child Support Enforcement		93.563		984,107
Refugee and Entrant Assistance Grant		93.566		602
Child Care and Development Cluster				
Child Care and Development Block Grant		93.575		22,043
Child Care Mandatory and Matching Funds of the Child Care and				
Development Fund		93.596		6,172
Foster Care Title IV-E		93.658		501,071
Social Services Block Grant		93.667		288,563
Chafee Foster Care Independence Program		93.674		3,749
Children's Health Insurance Program		93.767		581
Medical Assistance Program		93.778		877,776
Block Grants for Community Mental Health Services		93.958		14,707

CARLTON COUNTY CARLTON, MINNESOTA

<u>Schedule 8</u> (Continued)

SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

Federal Grantor Pass-Through Agency Grant Program Title	Pass-Through Grant Numbers	Federal CFDA Number	Ex	spenditures
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (Continued)				
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Health Center for Disease Control and Prevention - Investigations				
and Technical Assistance		93.283		1,000
Total U.S. Department of Health and Human Services			\$	3,299,161
U.S. Department of Homeland Security				
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Natural Resources				
Boating Safety Financial Assistance		97.012	\$	6,443
Passed Through Minnesota Department of Public Safety				
Emergency Management Performance Grants		97.042		9,177
Homeland Security Grant Program		97.067		1,598
Total U.S. Department of Homeland Security			\$	17,218
Total Federal Awards			\$	4,266,120

Notes to Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards

- 1. The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards presents the activity of federal award programs expended by Carlton County. The County's reporting entity is defined in Note 1 to the basic financial statements.
- 2. The expenditures on this schedule are on the modified accrual basis of accounting.
- 3. Expenditures on this schedule differ from federal revenues reported in the financial statements because of the modified accrual revenue recognition. In 2008, there were \$469,760 of receivables not recognized as revenue because period of availability criteria had not been met and \$352,727 of prior year deferred revenue which became available.
- 4. Pass-through grant numbers are presented for grants for which they have been assigned.
- 5. Carlton County did not pass any federal awards to subrecipients.