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| **SAMPLE ACCRUAL COUNTY LANDFILL ASSOCIATION****INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORTSBASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ANDREQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATIONSCHEDULE OF FINDINGSJUNE 30, 2019** |

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|  | ====== Office of ======**AUDITOROF STATE****State Capitol Building • Des Moines, Iowa**======================= |
|  |  |
|  | **Rob Sand****Auditor of State** |

Practitioners:

This sample report is presented by the Office of Auditor of State as required by Chapter 11.6 of the Code of Iowa. In developing this report, we have made every effort to ensure the highest professional standards have been followed while attempting to provide meaningful and useful information to the citizens, our ultimate client. This sample is prepared based on an Association providing solid waste services on the basis of an agreement between several municipalities and a county government, as provided for in Chapter 28E of the Code of Iowa.

Audits of landfill associations should be performed in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards, the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and, if applicable, Title 2, U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance).

This sample report has been prepared in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles and conforms to guidelines provided in Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards published by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

The format shows the basic financial statements, required supplementary information and the Schedule of Findings which are necessary to meet the requirements of this Office. The detail presented in the financial statements is the minimum breakdown that will be acceptable subject, of course, to materiality considerations. If the auditor and the Association feel more detail is necessary to provide a fair presentation, this of course will be welcome. A sample such as this cannot present all situations which you may encounter, so the auditor's professional judgment must be used in determining the additional information to be shown as well as the footnotes to be presented.

Associations with $750,000 or more of federal expenditures are required to receive a Single Audit in accordance with the Uniform Guidance. Any questions concerning Single Audit requirements should be directed to the Association’s cognizant or oversight agency.

In accordance with the Uniform Guidance, the reporting package and the Data Collection Form shall be submitted to the central clearinghouse the earlier of 30 days after issuance of the audit report or 9 months after the reporting period. The Office of Management and Budget has designated the United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census as the Single Audit Clearinghouse. The Data Collection Form and reporting package must be submitted using the Clearinghouse’s Internet Data Entry System at <https://harvester.census.gov/facweb/>. The system requires the reporting package be uploaded in a single PDF file. Both the auditee and auditor contacts receive automated e-mails from the Federal Audit Clearinghouse as verification of the submission.

Under Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission governing ongoing disclosure by municipalities to the bond markets, virtually any municipality which issues more than $1 million of securities per issue is subject to an ongoing filing responsibility. All continuing disclosure submissions must be provided to the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (MSRB) through its Electronic Municipal Market Access (EMMA) system. In addition, submissions must be in an electronic format (text-searchable PDF), i.e. not scanned.

The findings on compliance, items (1) through (6), detail those items which are to be included regardless of whether there are instances of non-compliance or not. Any instances of non-compliance in other areas should also be reported. An example of a finding for non-compliance with financial assurance requirements is included in the additional notes section.

We have also included a page for listing the staff actually performing the audit. Although we have found this page to be helpful, you are not required to use it.

As required by Chapter 11.14 of the Code of Iowa, the news media are to be notified of the issuance of the audit report by the CPA firm, unless the firm has made other arrangements with the Association for the notification. We have developed a standard news release to be used for this purpose. The news release (paper copy or electronic format) should be completed by the CPA firm or the Association and submitted to this Office with a **text-searchable** electronic copy of the audit report sent by the CPA firm. Report filing requirements are detailed on the attached listing. We will make the audit report and news release available to the news media in this Office.

In accordance with Chapter 11.6(7) of the Code of Iowa, this Office is to be notified immediately regarding any suspected embezzlement, theft or significant financial irregularities.

Finally, I would like to express my appreciation to all CPA firms who are providing audit or other services to local governments and related entities. Together, we are able to provide a significant benefit to all taxpayers in the State.



 Rob Sand
 Auditor of State

**Report** – The Association or CPA firm is required to submit an electronic, **text-searchable**, PDF copy of the audit report, including the management letter(s) if issued separately, with this Office upon release to the Association within nine months following the end of the fiscal year subject to audit. Text-searchable files are required for the following reasons.

* The files created are much smaller in size than scanned-image files. Accordingly, text-searchable files require less storage space.
* Text-searchable files are required by the Census bureau when submitting Data Collection Forms and Single Audit reporting packages (i.e. consistent with Federal requirements).
* Text-searchable files provide transparency to the public.

**Per Diem Audit Billing & News Release** – A copy of the CPA firm's per diem audit billing, including total cost and hours, and a copy of the news release or media notification should also be submitted. These items can be submitted as either paper copies or electronic copies (word-searchable PDF).

**Filing Fee** – The filing fee should be submitted based on the following designated budget strata:

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| --- | --- |
| Budgeted Expenditures in | Filing |
| Millions of Dollars | Fee Amount |
| Under 1 | $ 100  |
| At least 1 but less than 3 | 175  |
| At least 3 but less than 5 | 250  |
| At least 5 but less than 10 | 425  |
| At least 10 but less than 25 | 625  |
| 25 and over | 850  |

**Submission** – Electronic submission (text-searchable PDF) of the audit report, per diem audit billing and news release should be e-mailed to SubmitReports@auditor.state.ia.us.

If you are unable to e-mail the PDF files, you may mail a CD containing the files to this Office. You may direct any questions about submitting electronic files to the above e-mail address.

Paper copies (if not submitted electronically) of the per diem audit billing and news release, as well as the filing fee, should be sent to the following address:

Office of Auditor of State

State Capitol Building

Room 111

1007 East Grand Avenue

Des Moines, IA 50319-0001

1. Revised the news release included in this Sample Accrual County Landfill Association report to include information on the findings identified during the audit.

**Additional Notes**

1. Implementation of GASB Statement No. 72, Fair Value Measurement and Application, is not reflected in this sample report because the only investments included are certificates of deposit. The requirements of GASB Statement No. 72 should be followed when applicable.
2. If the Association has deposits in credit unions at June 30, 2019, Note 2 should be modified to indicate whether the deposits were covered by federal depository insurance, collateralized with securities or letters of credit held by the Association or the Association’s agent in the Association’s name or by the State Sinking Fund in accordance with Chapter 12C of the Code of Iowa.
3. If the Association has not properly complied with Chapter 567-113.14(6) of the Iowa Administrative Code in demonstrating financial assurance for closure and postclosure care, then the Schedule of Findings should include a finding, such as:

Financial Assurance – The Association has not demonstrated financial assurance for closure and postclosure care as required by Chapter 567-113.14(6) of the Iowa Administrative Code. The calculation is made as follows:

Recommendation – The Association should demonstrate financial assurance by designating amounts sufficient to comply with Iowa Administrative Code requirements.

1. Following is an example footnote for an early retirement or other benefit plan or policy which meets the definition of a “termination benefit” as defined by GASB Statement No. 47.

**Sample Note – Termination Benefits**

In September 2018, the Association approved a voluntary early retirement plan for employees. The plan was only offered to employees for one year. Eligible employees must have completed at least fifteen years of full-time service to the Association and must have reached the age of fifty-five on or before June 30, 2019. The application for early retirement was subject to approval by the Association.

Early retirement benefits equal 60% of the employee’s salary in effect during the employee’s last year of employment, with a maximum retirement benefit of $30,000.

The policy requires early retirement benefits be paid in three equal annual installments beginning July 1, 2019.

At June 30, 2019, the Association has obligations to three participants with a total liability of $51,284. Actual early retirement expenses for the year ended June 30, 2019 totaled $25,642.

1. If the Association operates a transfer station, disclosure of the closure care costs should be included in the Notes to Financial Statements. In addition, the Schedule of Findings should include a finding indicating whether the Association has demonstrated financial assurance for closure care costs of the transfer station. Following is an example footnote for transfer station closure care.

**Sample Note – Transfer Station Closure Care**

To comply with state regulations, the Association is required to complete a closure plan detailing how the transfer station will comply with proper disposal of all solid waste and litter at the site, cleaning the transfer station building, including the rinsing of all surfaces which have come in contact with solid waste or washwater, cleaning of all solid waste transport vehicles which will remain on site, including the rinsing of all surfaces which have come in contact with solid waste, and the removal and proper management of all washwater in the washwater management system.

To comply with state regulations, the Association is required to maintain a closure account as financial assurance for the closure care costs. The effect of the state requirement is to commit landfill owners to perform certain closing functions as a condition for the right to operate the transfer station.

The total closure care costs for the Association as of June 30, 2019 have been estimated to be $9,830. The balance has been restricted and is fully funded at June 30, 2019.

1. If the Association is a member of the Iowa Communities Assurance Pool, the following disclosure should be included in the Notes to Financial Statements.

**Risk Management**

The Association is a member of the Iowa Communities Assurance Pool, as allowed by Chapter 670.7 of the Code of Iowa. The Iowa Communities Assurance Pool (Pool) is a local government risk-sharing pool whose 778 members include various governmental entities throughout the State of Iowa. The Pool was formed in August 1986 for the purpose of managing and funding third-party liability claims against its members. The Pool provides coverage and protection in the following categories: general liability, automobile liability, automobile physical damage, public officials liability, police professional liability, property, inland marine and boiler/machinery. There have been no reductions in insurance coverage from prior years.

Each member’s annual casualty contributions to the Pool fund current operations and provide capital. Annual casualty operating contributions are those amounts necessary to fund, on a cash basis, the Pool’s general and administrative expenses, claims, claims expenses and reinsurance expenses estimated for the fiscal year, plus all or any portion of any deficiency in capital. Capital contributions are made during the first six years of membership and are maintained at a level determined by the Board not to exceed 300% of basis rate.

The Pool also provides property coverage. Members who elect such coverage make annual property operating contributions which are necessary to fund, on a cash basis, the Pool’s general and administrative expenses, reinsurance premiums, losses and loss expenses for property risks estimated for the fiscal year, plus all or any portion of any deficiency in capital. Any year-end operating surplus is transferred to capital. Deficiencies in operations are offset by transfers from capital and, if insufficient, by the subsequent year’s member contributions.

The Association’s property and casualty contributions to the Pool are recorded as disbursements from its operating funds at the time of payment to the Pool. The Association’s contributions to the Pool for the year ended June 30, 2019 were $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

The Pool uses reinsurance and excess risk-sharing agreements to reduce its exposure to large losses. The Pool retains general, automobile, police professional, and public officials’ liability risks up to $500,000 per claim. Claims exceeding $500,000 are reinsured through reinsurance and excess risk-sharing agreements up to the amount of risk-sharing protection provided by the Association’s risk-sharing certificate. Property and automobile physical damage risks are retained by the Pool up to $250,000 each occurrence, each location. Property risks exceeding $250,000 are reinsured through reinsurance and excess risk-sharing agreements up to the amount of risk-sharing protection provided by the Association’s risk-sharing certificate.

The Pool’s intergovernmental contract with its members provides that in the event a casualty claim, property loss or series of claims or losses exceeds the amount of risk-sharing protection provided by the Association’s risk-sharing certificate, or in the event a casualty claim, property loss or series of claims or losses exhausts the Pool’s funds and any excess risk-sharing recoveries, then payment of such claims or losses shall be the obligation of the respective individual member against whom the claim was made or the loss was incurred.

The Association does not report a liability for losses in excess of reinsurance or excess risk-sharing recoveries unless it is deemed probable such losses have occurred and the amount of such loss can be reasonably estimated. Accordingly, at June 30, 2019, no liability has been recorded in the Association’s financial statements. As of June 30, 2019, settled claims have not exceeded the risk pool or reinsurance coverage since the Pool’s inception.

Members agree to continue membership in the Pool for a period of not less than one full year. After such period, a member who has given 60 days’ prior written notice may withdraw from the Pool. Upon withdrawal, payments for all casualty claims and claims expenses become the sole responsibility of the withdrawing member, regardless of whether a claim was incurred or reported prior to the member’s withdrawal. Upon withdrawal, a formula set forth in the Pool’s intergovernmental contract with its members is applied to determine the amount (if any) to be refunded to the withdrawing member.

The Association also carries commercial insurance purchased from other insurers for coverage associated with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in the amount of $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, respectively. The Association assumes liability for any deductibles and claims in excess of coverage limitations. Settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.Sample Accrual County Landfill Association

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|  | NEWS RELEASE |  |
|  |  | Contact:   |
| FOR RELEASE |  |  |

Auditor of State Rob Sand today released an audit report on Sample Accrual County Landfill Association.

**FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS:**

The Association’s revenues totaled $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ for the year ended June 30, 2019, a(n) \_\_\_% increase (decrease) from the prior year. Expenses for the year ended June 30, 2019 totaled $\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, a(n) \_\_\_% increase (decrease) from the prior year. The significant increase (decrease) in revenues and expenses is due primarily to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

**AUDIT FINDINGS:**

Sand reported six findings related to the receipt and expenditure of taxpayer funds. They are found on pages 39 through 43 of this report. The findings address issues such as a lack of segregation of duties, material amounts of receivables, payables and capital asset additions not properly recorded in the Association’s financial statements and the lack of reconciliations of customer billings, collections and delinquent accounts. Sand provided the Association with recommendations to address each of the findings.

The Landfill Association has a fiduciary responsibility to provide oversight of the Landfill’s operations and financial transactions. Oversight is typically defined as the “watchful and responsible care” a governing body exercises in its fiduciary capacity.

**(NOTE to CPAs: Include significant findings, including material weaknesses, significant non-compliance and all Federal findings. Auditor judgement should be used to determine which significant deficiencies reported under Government Auditing Standards, if any, should be included.)**

A copy of the audit report is available for review on the Auditor of State’s web site at <https://auditor.iowa.gov/audit-reports>.

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**SAMPLE ACCRUAL COUNTY LANDFILL ASSOCIATION**

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORTS
BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS

JUNE 30, 2019

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**Sample Accrual County Landfill Association

Officials**

Name Title Representing

Dwight Lewis Chairperson Sample County

Susan Greene Vice-Chairperson City of Big Bluffs

Carroll Jensen Member City of Cloudy Springs

Jacob McCoy Member City of Northdale

Glen Schmitz Member City of Coolville

Leon Collins Member City of Park Lake

Jay Bird Member City of Harrisburg

Martin Wright Member City of River Falls

Eileen Johnson Member City of Blakestown

Jennifer Fiddelke Member City of Round Lake

Jesse Miller Member City of Jackson

David Stewart Member City of Green Valley

Richard Carson Manager

Judy Clark Secretary

## Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members of the Sample Accrual County Landfill Association:

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying Statement of Net Position, and the related Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position and Cash Flows of the Sample Accrual County Landfill Association as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019, and the related Notes to Financial Statements which collectively comprise the Sample Accrual County Landfill Association’s basic financial statements listed in the table of contents.

Management’s Responsibility for the Financial Statements

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

Auditor’s Responsibility

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

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

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

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Sample Accrual County Landfill Association as of June 30, 2019, and the changes in its financial position and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Other Matters

*Required Supplementary Information*

U.S. generally accepted accounting principles require Management’s Discussion and Analysis, the Schedule of the Association’s Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability, the Schedule of Association Contributions and the Schedule of Changes in the Association’s Total OPEB Liability, Related Ratios and Notes on pages 7 through 10 and 32 through 36 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board which considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management’s responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated September 17, 2019 on our consideration of the Sample Accrual County Landfill Association’s internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely 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 effectiveness of the Association’s internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in considering the Sample Accrual County Landfill Association’s internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

 Marlys K. Gaston, CPA

 Deputy Auditor of State

September 17, 2019

MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

The Sample Accrual County Landfill Association provides this Management’s Discussion and Analysis of its financial statements. This narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities is for the year ended June 30, 2019. We encourage readers to consider this information in conjunction with the Association’s financial statements, which follow.

**2019 Financial Highlights**

* The Association’s operating revenues increased 19.0%, or $97,257, from fiscal year 2017 to fiscal year 2018. Gate fees and County and City assessments increased and other revenues decreased.
* The Association’s operating expenses were 4.9%, or $20,343, more in fiscal year 2017 than in fiscal year 2018.
* The Association’s net position increased 35.7%, or $195,511, over the June 30, 2018 balance.

**USING THIS ANNUAL REPORT**

The Sample Accrual County Landfill Association is a 28E organization and presents its financial statements using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting, which is the same measurement focus and basis of accounting employed by private sector business enterprises. This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the Sample Accrual County Landfill Association’s basic financial statements. The annual report consists of a series of financial statements and other information, as follows:

Management’s Discussion and Analysis introduces the basic financial statements and provides an analytical overview of the Association’s financial activities.

The Statement of Net Position presents information on the Association’s assets and deferred outflows of resources less the Association’s liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, with the difference reported as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the Association is improving or deteriorating.

The Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position is the basic statement of activities for proprietary funds. This statement presents information on the Association’s operating revenues and expenses, non-operating revenues and expenses and whether the Association’s financial position has improved or deteriorated as a result of the year’s activities.

The Statement of Cash Flows presents the change in the Association’s cash and cash equivalents during the year. This information can assist readers of the report in determining how the Association financed its activities and how it met its cash requirements.

Notes to Financial Statements provide additional information essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the basic financial statements.

Required Supplementary Information further explains and supports the financial statements with the Association’s proportionate share of the net pension liability and related contributions, as well as presenting the Schedule of Changes in the Association’s Total OPEB Liability, Related Ratios and Notes.

**FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE ASSOCIATION**

*Statement of Net Position*

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of the Association’s financial position. The Association’s net position increased from approximately $554,000, at June 30, 2018 to approximately $744,000 at June 30, 2019. A summary of the Association’s net position is presented below.

The unrestricted portion of the Association’s net position (78%) may be used to meet the Association’s obligations as they come due. The invested in capital assets (e.g., land, buildings and equipment), less the related debt portion of net position (16%) are resources allocated to capital assets. The remaining net position (6%) is restricted for closure and postclosure care and for tonnage fees due to the State of Iowa. State and federal laws and regulations require the Association to place a final cover on the landfill sites and perform certain maintenance and monitoring functions at the landfill sites for a minimum of thirty years after closure.

*Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position*

Operating revenues are received for gate fees from accepting solid waste and assessments from the residents of the Cities and the County. Operating expenses are expenses paid to operate the landfill. Non-operating revenues and expenses are for interest income and interest expense. The utilization of capital assets is reflected in the financial statements as depreciation, which allocates the cost of an asset over its expected useful life. A summary of revenues, expenses and changes in net position for the years ended June 30, 2018 and 2019 is presented below.

The Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position reflects a positive year with an increase in net position at the end of the fiscal year.

In fiscal year 2019, operating revenues increased $97,257, or 19.0%, primarily a result of gate fees increasing approximately $89,000 due to an increase in the volume of collections. Operating expenses increased $20,343, or 4.9%. The increase was primarily a result of estimated closure and postclosure care increasing approximately $20,000.

*Statement of Cash Flows*

The Statement of Cash Flows presents information related to cash inflows and outflows, summarized by operating, capital and related financing and investing activities. Cash provided by operating activities includes gate fees and assessments reduced by payments to employees and to suppliers. Cash used by capital and related financing activities includes lease payments and the purchase of capital assets. Cash used by investing activities includes the purchase of certificates of deposit and interest income.

**Capital Assets**

At June 30, 2019, the Association had approximately $182,000 invested in capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation of approximately $252,000. Depreciation expense totaled $25,746 for fiscal year 2019. More detailed information about the Association’s capital assets is presented in Note 3 to the financial statements.

**LONG-TERM Debt**

At June 30, 2019, the Association had $65,351 outstanding for a capital lease purchase agreement, a decrease of $30,875 from June 30, 2018. Additional information about the Association’s long-term debt is presented in Note 4 to the financial statements.

**Economic Factors**

The Sample Accrual County Landfill Association continued to improve its financial position during the current fiscal year. However, the current condition of the economy in the state continues to be a concern for Association officials. Some of the realities which may potentially become challenges for the Association to meet are:

* Facilities and equipment at the Association require constant maintenance and upkeep.
* Technology continues to expand and current technology becomes outdated presenting an ongoing challenge to maintain up to date technology at a reasonable cost.
* Annual deposits required to be made to closure and postclosure care accounts are based on constantly changing cost estimates and the number of tons of solid waste received at the facility.

The Association anticipates the current fiscal year will be much like the last and will maintain a close watch over resources to maintain the Association’s ability to react to unknown issues.

**CONTACTING THE ASSOCIATION’S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, customers and creditors with a general overview of the Association’s finances and to show the Association’s accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact Sample Accrual County Landfill Association, PO Box 123 Main Street, Anywhere, Iowa 50000.

Sample Accrual County Landfill Association

Basic Financial Statements

Sample Accrual County Landfill Association

Statement of Net Position

June 30, 2019

Sample Accrual County Landfill Association

Statement of Revenues, Expenses and
Changes in Net Position

Year ended June 30, 2019

Sample Accrual County Landfill Association

Sample Accrual County Landfill Association

Statement of Cash Flows

Year ended June 30, 2019

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The Sample Accrual County Landfill Association was formed in 1983 pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 28E of the Code of Iowa. The purpose of the Association is to operate the sanitary landfill in Sample Accrual County for use by all residents of the County.

The Association is composed of one representative from each of the eleven member cities and one representative from Sample County. The member cities are: Big Bluffs, Cloudy Springs, Northdale, Coolville, Park Lake, Harrisburg, River Falls, Blakestown, Round Lake, Jackson and Green Valley. Each member is entitled to one vote for each 1,500 people or fraction thereof as determined by the most recent general Federal Census.

The Association’s financial statements are prepared in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles as prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

A. Reporting Entity

For financial reporting purposes, the Sample Accrual County Landfill Association has included all funds, organizations, agencies, boards, commissions and authorities. The Association has also considered all potential component units for which it is financially accountable and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the Association are such that exclusion would cause the Association’s financial statements to be misleading or incomplete. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. These criteria include appointing a voting majority of an organization’s governing body and (1) the ability of the Association to impose its will on that organization or (2) the potential for the organization to provide specific benefits to or impose specific financial burdens on the Association. The Association has no component units which meet the Governmental Accounting Standards Board criteria.

B. Basis of Presentation

The accounts of the Association are organized as an Enterprise Fund. Enterprise Funds are utilized to finance and account for the acquisition, operation and maintenance of governmental facilities and services supported by user charges.

The Statement of Net Position presents the Sample Accrual County Landfill Association’s nonfiduciary assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, with the difference reported as net position. Net position is reported in the following categories.

Net investment in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by outstanding balances for bonds, notes and other debt attributable to the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets.

Restricted net position results when constraints placed on net position use are either externally imposed or are imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Unrestricted net position consists of net position not meeting the definition of the preceding categories. Unrestricted net position is often subject to constraints imposed by management which can be removed or modified.

C. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

The 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. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

The Association distinguishes operating revenues and expenses from non-operating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with the Association’s principal ongoing operations. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating revenues and expenses.

D. Assets, Deferred Outflows of Resources, Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Net Position

The following accounting policies are followed in preparing the Statement of Net Position:

Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments – The Association considers all short-term investments that are highly liquid to be cash equivalents. Cash equivalents are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and, at the day of purchase, have a maturity date no longer than three months. Cash investments not meeting the definition of cash equivalents at June 30, 2019 include non-negotiable certificates of deposit of $1,107,758.

Restricted Investments – Funds set aside for payment of closure and postclosure care are classified as restricted.

Capital Assets – Capital assets are accounted for at historical cost. Depreciation of all exhaustible capital assets is charged as an expense against operations. The cost of repair and maintenance is charged to expense while the cost of renewals or substantial betterments is capitalized. The cost and accumulated depreciation of assets disposed of are deleted, with any gain or loss recorded in current operations.

Reportable capital assets are defined by the Association as assets with initial, individual costs in excess of the following thresholds and estimated useful lives in excess of two years.

Capital assets of the Association are depreciated using the straight line method over the following estimated useful lives:

Interest is capitalized on qualified assets acquired with certain tax-exempt debt. The amount of interest to be capitalized is calculated by offsetting interest expense incurred from the date of the borrowing until completion of the project with interest earned on invested proceeds over the same period. There were no qualifying assets acquired during the year ended June 30, 2019.

Deferred Outflows of Resources – Deferred outflows of resources represent a consumption of net position applicable to a future year(s) which will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. Deferred outflows of resources consist of unrecognized items not yet charged to pension and OPEB expense and contributions from the Association after the measurement date but before the end of the Association’s reporting period.

Compensated Absences – Association employees accumulate a limited amount of earned but unused vacation hours for subsequent use or for payment upon termination, death or retirement. The Association’s liability for accumulated vacation has been computed based on rates of pay in effect at June 30, 2019.

Pensions – For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Iowa Public Employees’ Retirement System (IPERS) and additions to/deductions from IPERS’ fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by IPERS. For this purpose, benefit payments, including refunds of employee contributions, are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

Total OPEB Liability – For purposes of measuring the total OPEB liability, deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB and OPEB expense, information has been determined based on the Sample Accrual County Landfill Association’s actuary report. For this purpose, benefit payments are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms.

Deferred Inflows of Resources – Deferred inflows of resources represent an acquisition of net position applicable to a future year(s) which will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. Deferred inflows of resources in the Statement of Net Position consist of unrecognized items not yet charged to pension expense and the unamortized portion of the net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan assets.

1. Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments

The Association’s deposits in banks at June 30, 2019 were entirely covered by federal depository insurance or by the State Sinking Fund in accordance with Chapter 12C of the Code of Iowa. This chapter provides for additional assessments against depositories to ensure there will be no loss of public funds.

The Association is authorized by statute to invest public funds in obligations of the United States government, its agencies and instrumentalities; certificates of deposit or other evidences of deposit at federally insured depository institutions approved by the Association; prime eligible bankers acceptances; certain high rated commercial paper; perfected repurchase agreements; certain registered open-end management investment companies; certain joint investment trusts; and warrants or improvement certificates of a drainage district.

The Association had no investments meeting the disclosure requirements of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 72.

1. Capital Assets

Capital assets activity for the year ended June 30, 2019 was as follows:

Equipment costing $130,857 was purchased under a capital lease purchase agreement. Accumulated depreciation on this equipment totals $32,714, including $18,694 of depreciation for the year ended June 30, 2019.

1. Long-Term Liabilities

A summary of changes in long-term liabilities for the year ended June 30, 2019 is as follows:

Capital Lease Purchase Agreement

The Association entered into a capital lease purchase agreement for a John Deere scraper. The agreement is for a period of 4 years at an interest rate of 5% per annum and expires in fiscal year 2021. The following is a schedule by year of future minimum lease payments and the present value of net minimum lease payments:

Payments under this agreement for the year ended June 30, 2019 totaled $35,145, including interest of $3,266.

1. Pension Plan

Plan Description – IPERS membership is mandatory for employees of the Association, except those covered by another retirement system. Employees of the Association are provided with pensions through a cost-sharing multiple employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the Iowa Public Employees’ Retirement System (IPERS). IPERS issues a stand-alone financial report which is available to the public by mail at PO Box 9117, Des Moines, Iowa 50306-9117 or at www.ipers.org.

IPERS benefits are established under Iowa Code Chapter 97B and the administrative rules thereunder. Chapter 97B and the administrative rules are the official plan documents. The following brief description is provided for general informational purposes only. Refer to the plan documents for more information.

Pension Benefits – A Regular member may retire at normal retirement age and receive monthly benefits without an early-retirement reduction. Normal retirement age is age 65, any time after reaching age 62 with 20 or more years of covered employment or when the member’s years of service plus the member’s age at the last birthday equals or exceeds 88, whichever comes first. These qualifications must be met on the member’s first month of entitlement to benefits. Members cannot begin receiving retirement benefits before age 55. The formula used to calculate a Regular member’s monthly IPERS benefit includes:

* A multiplier based on years of service.
* The member’s highest five-year average salary, except members with service before June 30, 2012 will use the highest three-year average salary as of that date if it is greater than the highest five-year average salary.

If a member retires before normal retirement age, the member’s monthly retirement benefit will be permanently reduced by an early-retirement reduction. The early-retirement reduction is calculated differently for service earned before and after July 1, 2012. For service earned before July 1, 2012, the reduction is 0.25% for each month the member receives benefits before the member’s earliest normal retirement age. For service earned on or after July 1, 2012, the reduction is 0.50% for each month the member receives benefits before age 65.

Generally, once a member selects a benefit option, a monthly benefit is calculated and remains the same for the rest of the member’s lifetime. However, to combat the effects of inflation, retirees who began receiving benefits prior to July 1990 receive a guaranteed dividend with their regular November benefit payments.

Disability and Death Benefits – A vested member who is awarded federal Social Security disability or Railroad Retirement disability benefits is eligible to claim IPERS benefits regardless of age. Disability benefits are not reduced for early retirement. If a member dies before retirement, the member’s beneficiary will receive a lifetime annuity or a lump-sum payment equal to the present actuarial value of the member’s accrued benefit or calculated with a set formula, whichever is greater. When a member dies after retirement, death benefits depend on the benefit option the member selected at retirement.

Contributions – Contribution rates are established by IPERS following the annual actuarial valuation which applies IPERS’ Contribution Rate Funding Policy and Actuarial Amortization Method. State statute limits the amount rates can increase or decrease each year to 1 percentage point. IPERS Contribution Rate Funding Policy requires the actuarial contribution rate be determined using the “entry age normal” actuarial cost method and the actuarial assumptions and methods approved by the IPERS Investment Board. The actuarial contribution rate covers normal cost plus the unfunded actuarial liability payment based on a 30-year amortization period. The payment to amortize the unfunded actuarial liability is determined as a level percentage of payroll based on the Actuarial Amortization Method adopted by the Investment Board.

In fiscal year 2019, pursuant to the required rate, Regular members contributed 6.29% of covered payroll and the Association contributed 9.44% of covered payroll, for a total rate of 15.73%.

The Association’s contributions to IPERS for the year ended June 30, 2019 totaled $5,765.

Net Pension Liability, Pension Expense, Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions – At June 30, 2019, the Association reported a liability of $45,639 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2018 and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The Association’s proportion of the net pension liability was based on the Association’s share of contributions to IPERS relative to the contributions of all IPERS participating employers. At June 30, 2018, the Association’s proportion was 0.000924%, which was a decrease of 0.000635% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2017.

For the year ended June 30, 2019, the Association recognized pension expense of $3,710. At June 30, 2019, the Association reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

$5,765 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from Association contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ending June 30, 2020. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

There were no non-employer contributing entities to IPERS.

ActuarialAssumptions – The total pension liability in the June 30, 2018 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions applied to all periods included in the measurement:

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2018 valuation were based on the results of an economic assumption study dated March 24, 2017 and a demographic assumption study dated June 28, 2018.

Mortality rates used in the 2018 valuation were based on the RP-2014 Employee and Healthy Annuitant Tables with MP-2017 generational adjustments.

The long-term expected rate of return on IPERS’ investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates (expected returns, net of investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

Discount Rate – The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed employee contributions will be made at the contractually required rate and contributions from the Association will be made at contractually required rates, actuarially determined. Based on those assumptions, IPERS’ fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current active and inactive employees. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on IPERS’ investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the Association’s Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate – The following presents the Association’s proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 7.00%, as well as what the Association’s proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate 1% lower (6.00%) or 1% higher (8.00%) than the current rate.

IPERS’ Fiduciary Net Position – Detailed information about IPERS’ fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued IPERS financial report which is available on IPERS’ website at www.ipers.org.

Payables to IPERS – At June 30, 2019, the Association reported payables to IPERS of $798 for legally required Association contributions and $532 for legally required employee contributions withheld from employee wages which had not yet been remitted to IPERS.

1. Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB)

Plan Description – The Association administers a single-employer benefit plan which provides medical, prescription drug and dental benefits for employees, retirees and their spouses. Group insurance benefits are established under Iowa Code Chapter 509A.13. No assets are accumulated in a trust that meets the criteria in paragraph 4 of GASB Statement No. 75.

OPEB Benefits – Individuals who are employed by Sample Accrual County Landfill Association and are eligible to participate in the group health plan are eligible to continue healthcare benefits upon retirement. Retirees under age 65 pay the same premium for the medical, prescription drug and dental benefits as active employees, which results in an implicit rate subsidy and an OPEB liability.

Retired participants must be age 55 or older at retirement. At June 30, 2019, the following employees were covered by the benefit terms:

Total OPEB Liability – The Association’s total OPEB liability of $12,782 was measured as of June 30, 2019 and was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date.

ActuarialAssumptions – The total OPEB liability in the June 30, 2019 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions and the entry age normal actuarial cost method, applied to all periods included in the measurement.

Discount Rate – The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 3.58% which reflects the index rate for 20-year tax-exempt general obligation municipal bonds with an average rating of AA/Aa or higher as of the measurement date.

Mortality rates are from the SOA RPH-2017 total dataset mortality table fully generational using Scale MP-2017. Annual retirement probabilities are based on varying rates by age and turnover probabilities mirror those used by IPERS.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2019 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study with dates corresponding to those listed above.

Changes in the Total OPEB Liability

Changes of assumptions reflect a change in the discount rate from 4.50% in fiscal year 2017 to 3.58% in fiscal year 2019.

Sensitivity of the Association’s Total OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate – The following presents the total OPEB liability of the Association, as well as what the Association’s total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1% lower (2.58%) or 1% higher (4.58%) than the current discount rate.

Sensitivity of the Association’s Total OPEB Liability to Changes in the Healthcare Cost Trend Rates – The following presents the total OPEB liability of the Association, as well as what the Association’s total OPEB liability would be it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that are 1% lower (7.50%) or 1% higher (9.50%) than the current healthcare cost trend rates.

OPEB Expense and Deferred Outflows of Resources Related to OPEB – For the year ended June 30, 2019, the Association recognized OPEB expense of $1,797. At June 30, 2019, the Association reported deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

The amount reported as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized as OPEB expense as follows:

1. Closure and Postclosure Care

To comply with federal and state regulations, the Association is required to complete a monitoring system plan and a closure/postclosure care plan and to provide funding necessary to effect closure and postclosure care, including the proper monitoring and care of the landfill after closure. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requirements have established closure and thirty-year postclosure care requirements for all municipal solid waste landfills that receive waste after October 9, 1993. State governments are primarily responsible for implementation and enforcement of those requirements and have been given flexibility to tailor requirements to accommodate local conditions that exist. The effect of the EPA requirement is to commit landfill owners to perform certain closing functions and postclosure monitoring functions as a condition for the right to operate the landfill in the current period. The EPA requirements provide that when a landfill stops accepting waste, it must be covered with a minimum of twenty-four inches of earth to keep liquid away from the buried waste. Once the landfill is closed, the owner is responsible for maintaining the final cover, monitoring ground water and methane gas, and collecting and treating leachate (the liquid that drains out of waste) for thirty years.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 18 requires landfill owners to estimate total landfill closure and postclosure care costs and recognize a portion of these costs each year based on the percentage of estimated total landfill capacity used that period. Estimated total cost consists of four components: (1) the cost of equipment and facilities used in postclosure monitoring and care, (2) the cost of final cover (material and labor), (3) the cost of monitoring the landfill during the postclosure period and (4) the cost of any environmental cleanup required after closure. Estimated total cost is based on the cost to purchase those services and equipment currently and is required to be updated annually for changes due to inflation or deflation, technology, or applicable laws or regulations.

These costs for the Association have been estimated at $237,522 and $190,624 for closure and postclosure care, respectivly, for Cell A and $342,911 and $316,928 for closure and postclosure care, respectively, for Cell B, for a total of $1,087,985 as of June 30, 2019, and the portion of the liability that has been recognized is $649,727. These amounts are based on what it would cost to perform all closure and postclosure care during the year ended June 30, 2019. Actual costs may be higher due to inflation, changes in technology or changes in regulations. The estimated remaining life of Cell B is 24 years. The capacity used at June 30, 2019 in Cell A is 100% and Cell B is 34%.

Chapter 455B.306(9)(b) of the Code of Iowa requires permit holders of municipal solid waste landfills to maintain separate closure and postclosure care accounts to accumulate resources for the payment of closure and postclosure care costs. The Association has begun accumulating resources to fund these costs and, at June 30, 2019, assets of $690,000 are restricted for these purposes, of which $350,000 is for closure and $340,000 is for postclosure care. They are reported as restricted investments in the Statement of Net Position.

Also, pursuant to Chapter 567-113.14(8) of the Iowa Administrative Code (IAC), since the estimated closure and postclosure care costs are not fully funded, the Association is required to demonstrate financial assurance for the unfunded costs. The Association has adopted the dedicated fund financial assurance mechanism. Under this mechanism, the Association must certify the following to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources:

* The fund is dedicated by local government statute as a reserve fund.
* Payments into the fund are made annually over a pay-in period of ten years or the permitted life of the landfill, whichever is shorter.
* Annual deposits to the fund are determined by the following formula:

NP = CE – CB

 Y

NP = next payment

CE = total required financial assurance

CB = current balance of the fund

Y = number years remaining in the pay-in period

Chapter 567-113.14(8) of the IAC allows the Association to choose the dedicated fund mechanism to demonstrate financial assurance and use the accounts established to satisfy the closure and postclosure care account requirements. Accordingly, the Association is not required to establish closure and postclosure care accounts in addition to the accounts established to comply with the dedicated fund financial assurance mechanism.

1. Solid Waste Tonnage Fees Retained

The Association has established an account for restricting and using solid waste tonnage fees retained by the Association in accordance with Chapter 455B.310 of the Code of Iowa.

At June 30, 2019, the unspent amounts retained by the Association and restricted for the required purposes totaled $5,000.

1. Risk Management

The Association is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft, damage to and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. These risks are covered by the purchase of commercial insurance. Settled claims from these risks have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years. The Association assumes liability for any deductibles and claims in excess of coverage limitations.

**Required Supplementary Information**

**Sample Accrual County Landfill Association**

Sample Accrual County Landfill Association

Schedule of the Association’s Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability

Iowa Public Employees’ Retirement System
For the Last Five Years\*

Required Supplementary Information

Sample Accrual County Landfill Association

Schedule of Association Contributions

Iowa Public Employees’ Retirement System
For the Last Ten Years

Required Supplementary Information

*Changes of benefit terms*:

Legislation enacted in 2010 modified benefit terms for Regular members. The definition of final average salary changed from the highest three to the highest five years of covered wages. The vesting requirement changed from four years of service to seven years. The early retirement reduction increased from 3% per year measured from the member’s first unreduced retirement age to a 6% reduction for each year of retirement before age 65.

*Changes of assumptions*:

The 2018 valuation implemented the following refinements as a result of a demographic assumption study dated June 28, 2018:

* Changed mortality assumptions to the RP-2014 mortality tables with mortality improvements modeled using Scale MP-2017.
* Adjusted retirement rates.
* Lowered disability rates.
* Adjusted the probability of a vested Regular member electing to receive a deferred benefit.
* Adjusted the merit component of the salary increase assumption.

The 2017 valuation implemented the following refinements as a result of an experience study dated March 24, 2017:

* Decreased the inflation assumption from 3.00% to 2.60%.
* Decreased the assumed rate of interest on member accounts from 3.75% to 3.50% per year.
* Decreased the discount rate from 7.50% to 7.00%.
* Decreased the wage growth assumption from 4.00% to 3.25%.
* Decreased the payroll growth assumption from 4.00% to 3.25%.

The 2014 valuation implemented the following refinements as a result of a quadrennial experience study:

* Decreased the inflation assumption from 3.25% to 3.00%.
* Decreased the assumed rate of interest on member accounts from 4.00% to 3.75% per year.
* Adjusted male mortality rates for retirees in the Regular membership group.
* Moved from an open 30-year amortization period to a closed 30-year amortization period for the UAL (unfunded actuarial liability) beginning June 30, 2014. Each year thereafter, changes in the UAL from plan experience will be amortized on a separate closed 20-year period.

The 2010 valuation implemented the following refinements as a result of a quadrennial experience study:

* Adjusted retiree mortality assumptions.
* Modified retirement rates to reflect fewer retirements.
* Lowered disability rates at most ages.
* Lowered employment termination rates.
* Generally increased the probability of terminating members receiving a deferred retirement benefit.
* Modified salary increase assumptions based on various service duration.

**Notes to Schedule of Changes in the Association’s Total OPEB Liability and Related Ratios**

*Changes in benefit terms:*

There were no significant changes in benefit terms.

*Changes in assumptions:*

Changes in assumptions and other inputs reflect the effects of changes in the discount rate each period. The following are the discount rates used in each period.

Year ended June 30, 2019 3.58%

Year ended June 30, 2018 4.50%

Year ended June 30, 2017 4.25%

Independent Auditor’s Report on Internal Control
over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters
Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with
Government Auditing Standards

To the Members of the Sample Accrual County Landfill Association:

We have audited in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the Sample Accrual County Landfill Association as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019, and the related Notes to Financial Statements which collectively comprise the Association’s basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated September 17, 2019.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Sample Accrual County Landfill Association’s internal control over financial reporting to determine the audit procedures appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Sample Accrual County Landfill Association’s internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Sample Accrual County Landfill Association’s internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and, therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that have not been identified. However, as described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings, we identified deficiencies in internal control we consider to be material weaknesses and a significant deficiency.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility a material misstatement of the Sample Accrual County Landfill Association’s financial statements will not be prevented or detected and corrected on a timely basis. We consider the deficiencies in the Sample Accrual County Landfill Association’s internal control described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as items (A), (B) and (C) to be material weaknesses.

A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control which is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance. We consider the deficiency described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as item (D) to be a significant deficiency.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Sample Accrual County Landfill Association’s financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, non-compliance 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 non-compliance or other matters required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards. However, we noted certain immaterial instances of non-compliance or other matters which are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings.

Comments involving statutory and other legal matters about the Association’s operations for the year ended June 30, 2019 are based exclusively on knowledge obtained from procedures performed during our audit of the financial statements of the Association. Since our audit was based on tests and samples, not all transactions that might have had an impact on the comments were necessarily audited. The comments involving statutory and other legal matters are not intended to constitute legal interpretations of those statutes.

The Sample Accrual County Landfill Association’s Responses to the Findings

The Sample Accrual County Landfill Association’s responses to the findings identified in our audit are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings. The Sample Accrual County Landfill Association’s responses were not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

Purpose of this Report

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

We would like to acknowledge the many courtesies and assistance extended to us by personnel of the Sample Accrual County Landfill Association during the course of our audit. Should you have any questions concerning any of the above matters, we shall be pleased to discuss them with you at your convenience.

 Marlys K. Gaston, CPA

 Deputy Auditor of State

September 17, 2019

**Findings Related to the Financial Statements:**

**INTERNAL CONTROL DEFICIENCIES:**

1. Segregation of Duties

Criteria – Management is responsible for establishing and maintaining internal control. A good system of internal control provides for adequate segregation of duties so no one individual handles a transaction from its inception to completion. In order to maintain proper internal control, duties should be segregated so the authorization, custody and recording of transactions are not under the control of the same employee. This segregation of duties helps prevent losses from employee error or dishonesty and maximizes the accuracy of the Association’s financial statements.

Condition – Generally, one individual has control over the following areas for the Association:

1. Accounting system – record keeping for revenues, expenses and related reporting.
2. Receipts – collecting, depositing and recording.
3. Payroll – changes to the master list, preparation and distribution.

Cause – The Association has a limited number of employees and procedures have not been designed to adequately segregate duties or provide compensating controls through additional oversight of transactions and processes.

Effect – Inadequate segregation of duties could adversely affect the Association’s ability to prevent or detect and correct misstatements, errors or misappropriation on a timely basis by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions.

Recommendation – The Association should review its control activities to obtain the maximum internal control possible under the circumstances utilizing currently available staff or Association Board members to provide additional control through review of financial transactions, reconciliations and reports.

Response – Due to the limited number of office employees, segregation of duties is very difficult. However, we will have the Manager or an Association Board member review receipts, posting and payroll on a test basis.

Conclusion – Response accepted.

1. Financial Reporting

Criteria – A deficiency in internal control over financial reporting exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements of the financial statements on a timely basis. Properly designed policies and procedures and implementation of the policies and procedures are an integral part of ensuring the reliability and accuracy of the Association’s financial statements.

Condition – Material amounts of receivables, payables and capital asset additions were not properly recorded in the Association’s financial statements. Adjustments were subsequently made by the Association to properly include these amounts in the financial statements.

Cause – Association policies do not require and procedures have not been established to require independent review of year end cut-off transactions to ensure the Association’s financial statements are accurate and reliable.

Effect – Lack of policies and procedures resulted in Association employees not detecting the errors in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. As a result, material adjustments to the Association’s financial statements were necessary.

Recommendation – The Association should establish procedures to ensure all receivables, payables and capital asset additions are identified and properly reported in the Association’s financial statements.

Response – We will double check these in the future to avoid missing any receivables, payables or capital asset transactions.

Conclusion – Response accepted.

1. Reconciliation of Billings, Collections and Delinquent Accounts

Criteria – An effective internal control system provides for internal controls related to maintaining delinquent account listings, reconciling customer billings, collections and delinquent accounts and comparing customer collections to deposits to ensure proper recording of customer receipts, the propriety of adjustments and write-offs and the propriety of delinquent account balances.

Condition – Billings, collections and delinquent accounts were not reconciled throughout the year and a delinquent accounts listing was not prepared. Also, collections were not reconciled to deposits.

Cause – Policies have not been established and procedures have not been implemented to maintain delinquent account listings, reconcile billings, collections and delinquent accounts and to reconcile collections to deposits.

Effect – This condition could result in unrecorded or misstated receipts, improper or unauthorized adjustments and write-offs and/or misstated delinquent account balances.

Recommendation – Procedures should be established to reconcile customer billings, collections and delinquent accounts monthly. The Association should review the reconciliations and monitor delinquencies and improve write-offs of uncollectible accounts.

Response – A monthly reconciliation will be prepared and reviewed by the Association. Delinquent accounts will be reviewed and write-offs of uncollectible accounts will be approved.

Conclusion – Response accepted.

1. Expenses

Criteria – Internal controls over safeguarding assets constitute a process, effected by an entity’s governing body, management and other personnel designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of unauthorized transactions and safeguarding assets from error or misappropriation. Such processes include establishing polices addressing proper asset use and proper supporting documentation.

Condition – Certain invoices were not marked “paid” to help prevent duplicate payment of invoices.

Cause – Invoices not properly cancelled when paid is the result of a lack of policies and procedures requiring documents to be canceled upon payment.

Effect – Lack of written policies and procedures requiring documents be properly canceled upon payment could result in duplicate payments, unauthorized transactions and the opportunity for misappropriation.

Recommendation – All paid invoices should be marked or stamped “paid” with the date of payment to aid in preventing possible duplicate payment of invoices.

Response – Invoices will all be marked “paid”.

Conclusion – Response accepted.

**INSTANCES OF NON-COMPLIANCE:**

No matters were noted.

**Other Findings Related to Required Statutory Reporting:**

(1) Questionable Expenses – No expenses we believe may not meet the requirements of public purpose as defined in an Attorney General's opinion dated April 25, 1979 were noted.

(2) Travel Expense – No expenditures of money for travel expenses of spouses of Association officials or employees were noted.

(3) Board Minutes – No transactions were found that we believe should have been approved in the Association minutes but were not. However, the minutes did not always indicate the vote of each member present.

Recommendation – The Association should ensure the minutes indicate the vote of each member present as required by Chapter 21 of the Code of Iowa.

Response – This recommendation will be followed at future Board meetings.

Conclusion – Response accepted.

(4) Deposits and Investments – No instances of non-compliance with the deposit and investment provisions of Chapter 12B and Chapter 12C of the Code of Iowa were noted, except as follows:

The Association has not adopted a written investment policy as required by Chapter 12B.10B of the Code of Iowa.

Recommendation – The Association should adopt a written investment policy to comply with the provisions of Chapter 12B.10B of the Code of Iowa.

Response – On October 15, 2019, the Association adopted a written investment policy as required.

Conclusion – Response accepted.

(5) Solid Waste Tonnage Fees Retained – No instances of non-compliance with the solid waste fees used or retained in accordance with provisions of Chapter 455B.310 of the Code of Iowa were noted.

(6) Financial Assurance – The Association has demonstrated financial assurance for closure and postclosure care by establishing a local government dedicated fund as provided in Chapter 567-113.14(6) of the Iowa Administrative Code. The calculation is made as follows:

This audit was performed by:

Marlys K. Gaston, CPA, Deputy Auditor of State

John Q. Reviewer, CPA, Manager

Jerome Warning, CPA, Senior Auditor