

AVERY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

Newland, North Carolina

Financial Statements

June 30, 2018

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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of County Commissioners
Avery County
Newland, North Carolina

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Avery County, North Carolina, as of and for the year then ended June 30, 2018, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Avery County's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

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

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We did not audit the financial statements of the Avery County Airport Authority. Those statements were audited by other auditors whose report has been furnished to us, and our opinion, insofar as it relates to the amounts included for the Avery County Airport Authority, is solely based on the report of the other auditors. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require

that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement. The financial statements of the Avery County Airport Authority were audited in accordance with Governmental Auditing Standards.

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

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

Opinions

In our opinion, based on our audit and the report of the other auditors, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, the aggregate discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Avery County, North Carolina as of June 30, 2018, and the respective changes in financial position, thereof and the respective budgetary comparison for the General Fund for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis, the Other Postemployment Benefits' Schedule of Changes in the Total OPEB Liability and Related Ratios, the Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance schedules of the Changes in Total Pension Liability and Total Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Payroll, and the

other Postemployment Benefits' Schedules of Funding Progress and Employer Contributions Local Government Employees' Retirement System Schedules of the County's Proportionate Share of Net Pension Asset and County Contributions, pages 8-16 and 61-63, respectively, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We and other auditors have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Supplementary and Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the basic financial statements of Avery County, North Carolina. The combining and individual fund statements, budgetary schedules, other schedules as well as the accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal and State Awards, as required by U.S. Office and Management and Budget Title 2 *U.S. Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* and the *State Single Audit Implementation Act* are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The combining and individual fund financial statements, budgetary schedules, other schedules and the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal and State Awards are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally

accepted in the United States of America by us and other auditors. In our opinion, based on our audit, the procedures performed as described above, and the report of the other auditors, the combining and individual fund financial statements, budgetary schedules, other schedules, and the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal and State Awards are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated January 7, 2019 on our consideration of Avery 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 the report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering Avery County's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Young, Miller & Gillespie, P.A.

Young, Miller & Gillespie, P.A.
Spruce Pine, North Carolina
January 7, 2019

Management's Discussion and Analysis

As management of Avery County, we offer readers of Avery County's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities of Avery County for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018. We encourage readers to read the information presented here in conjunction with additional information that we have furnished in the County's financial statements, which follow this narrative.

Financial Highlights

- *The assets of Avery County exceeded its liabilities at the close of the fiscal year by \$35,794,563.*
- *The government's total net position increased for the current year by a net of \$430,850 primarily due to an increase in property taxes.*
- *As of the close of the current fiscal year, Avery County's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$21,664,962 an increase of \$1,471,525 in comparison with the prior year. Approximately 70 percent of this total amount, or \$15,158,370, is available for spending at the government's discretion.*
- *At the end of the current fiscal year, unassigned fund balance for the General Fund was \$15,158,370, or 58 percent of total general fund expenditures and transfers to other funds for the fiscal year.*
- *Avery County's total long-term debt decreased by \$443,443 during the current fiscal year due to repayment of debt proceeds.*

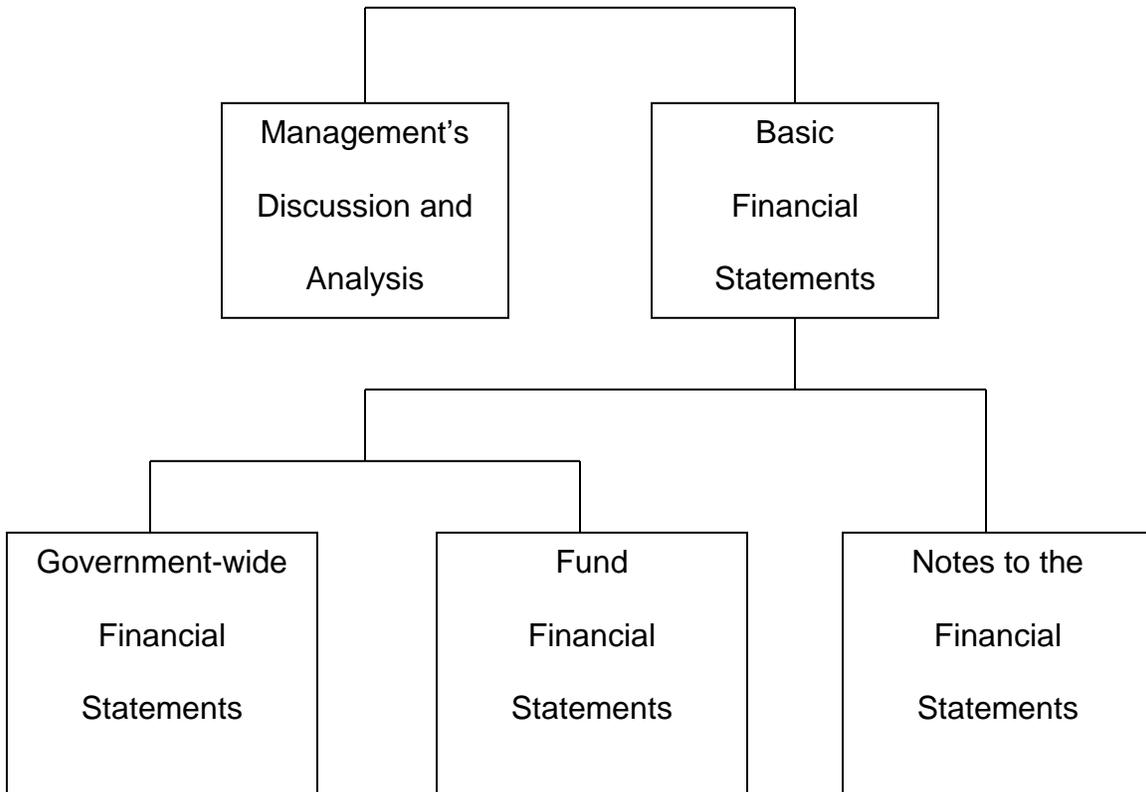
Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to Avery County's basic financial statements. The County's basic financial statements consist of three components; 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements (see Figure 1). The basic financial statements present two different views of the County through the use of government-wide statements and fund financial statements. In addition to the basic financial statements, this report contains other supplemental information that will enhance the reader's understanding of the financial condition of Avery County.

Management's Discussion and Analysis

Required Components of Annual Financial Report

Figure 1



Basic Financial Statements

The first two statements (Exhibits 1 and 2) in the basic financial statements are the **Government-wide Financial Statements**. They provide both short and long-term information about the County's financial status.

The next statements (Exhibits 3 through 6) are **Fund Financial Statements**. These statements focus on the activities of the individual parts of the County's government. These statements provide more detail than the government-wide statements. There are three parts to the Fund Financial Statements: 1) the governmental funds statements; 2) the budgetary comparison statements; and 3) the fiduciary fund statements.

The next section of the basic financial statements is the **notes**. The notes to the financial statements explain in detail some of the data contained in those statements. After the notes, **supplemental information** is provided to show details about the County's individual funds. Budgetary information required by the General Statutes also can be found in this part of the statements.

Management's Discussion and Analysis

Government-wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide the reader with a broad overview of the County's finances, similar in format to a financial statement of a private-sector business. The government-wide statements provide short and long-term information about the County's financial status as a whole.

The two government-wide statements report the County's net position and how it has changed. Net position is the difference between the County's total assets and total liabilities. Measuring net position is one way to gauge the County's financial condition.

The government-wide statements are divided into two categories: 1) governmental activities; 2) component units. The governmental activities include most of the County's basic services such as public safety, parks and recreation, and general administration. Property taxes and State and federal grant funds finance most of these activities.

The government-wide financial statements are on Exhibits 1 and 2 of this report.

Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements provide a more detailed look at the County's most significant activities. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. Avery County, like all other governmental entities in North Carolina, uses fund accounting to ensure and reflect compliance (or non-compliance) with finance-related legal requirements, such as the General Statutes or the County's budget ordinance. All of the funds of Avery County are in one category: governmental funds.

Governmental Funds – *Governmental funds are used to account for those functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. Most of the County's basic services are accounted for in governmental funds. These funds focus on how assets can be readily converted into cash flow in and out, and what monies are left at year-end that will be available for spending in the next year. Governmental funds are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting. This method also has a current financial resources focus. As a result, the governmental fund financial statements give the reader a detailed short-term view that helps him or her determine if there are more or less financial resources available to finance the County's programs. The relationship between government activities (reported in the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) and governmental funds is described in a reconciliation that is a part of the fund financial statements.*

Management's Discussion and Analysis

Avery County adopts an annual budget for its General Fund, as required by the General Statutes. The budget is a legally adopted document that incorporates input from the citizens of the County, the management of the County, and the decisions of the Board about which services to provide and how to pay for them. It also authorizes the County to obtain funds from identified sources to finance these current period activities. The budgetary statement provided for the General Fund demonstrates how well the County complied with the budget ordinance and whether or not the County succeeded in providing the services as planned when the budget was adopted. The budgetary comparison statement uses the budgetary basis of accounting and is presented using the same format, language, and classifications as the legal budget document. The statement shows four columns: 1) the original budget as adopted by the board; 2) the final budget as amended by the board; 3) the actual resources, charges to appropriations, and ending balances in the General Fund; and 4) the difference or variance between the final budget and the actual resources and charges. To account for the difference between the budgetary basis of accounting and the modified accrual basis, a reconciliation showing the differences in the reported activities is shown at the end of the budgetary statement.

Fiduciary Funds – *Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the government. Avery County has six fiduciary funds, including five agency funds and one pension trust fund.*

Notes to the Financial Statements – *The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements begin on page 25 of this report.*

Other Information – *In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report includes certain required supplementary information concerning Avery County's progress in funding its obligation to provide pension benefits to its employees. Required supplementary information can be found beginning on page 61 of this report.*

Management's Discussion and Analysis

Government-Wide Financial Analysis

Avery County's Net Position

Figure 2

	<i>Governmental</i>		
	<i>Activities</i>		
	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>Difference</u>
<i>Current and other assets</i>	\$ 23,246,595	\$ 21,697,649	\$ 1,548,946
<i>Capital assets</i>	22,696,214	20,875,351	1,820,863
<i>Deferred outflows</i>	1,582,815	2,377,280	(794,465)
<i>Total assets and deferred outflows</i>	<u>\$ 47,525,624</u>	<u>\$ 44,950,280</u>	<u>\$ 2,575,344</u>
<i>Long-term liabilities outstanding</i>	\$ 7,793,159	\$ 5,076,909	\$ 2,716,250
<i>Other liabilities</i>	3,553,809	4,384,854	(831,045)
<i>Total liabilities</i>	<u>11,346,968</u>	<u>9,461,763</u>	<u>1,885,205</u>
<i>Deferred Inflows</i>	384,093	124,804	259,289
<i>Net position:</i>			
<i>Net investment in capital assets</i>	22,696,214	17,309,785	5,386,429
<i>Restricted</i>	4,903,229	5,271,235	(368,006)
<i>Unrestricted</i>	8,195,120	12,782,693	(4,587,573)
<i>Total net position</i>	<u>\$ 35,794,563</u>	<u>\$ 35,363,713</u>	<u>\$ 430,850</u>

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as one useful indicator of a government's financial condition. The assets of Avery County exceeded liabilities by \$35,794,563 as of June 30, 2018. The County's net position increased by a net of \$430,850 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018. One of the larger portions of net position reflects the County's investment in capital assets (e.g. land, buildings, machinery, and equipment), less any related debt still outstanding that was issued to acquire those items. Avery County uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending. Although Avery County's investment in its capital assets is reported net of the outstanding related debt, the resources needed to repay that debt must be provided by other sources, since the capital assets cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities. An additional portion of Avery County's net position represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. The remaining balance of \$8,196,120 is unrestricted.

Several particular aspects of the County's financial operations positively influenced the total governmental net position:

- Continued diligence in the collection of property taxes by maintaining a collection percentage of 98.02%,
- Additional revenues due to an increase in property tax rates and in real estate transfer taxes.

Management's Discussion and Analysis

Avery County's Changes in Net Position

Figure 3

		<i>Governmental Activities</i>	
		<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
<i>Revenues:</i>			
<i>Program revenues:</i>			
<i>Charges for services</i>	\$	2,508,173	\$ 2,102,838
<i>Operating grants and contributions</i>		2,755,615	3,144,156
<i>Capital grants and contributions</i>		172,959	81,189
<i>General revenues:</i>			
<i>Property taxes</i>		20,893,764	16,592,954
<i>Other taxes</i>		5,643,356	5,635,006
<i>Investment earnings</i>		400,979	239,850
<i>Other</i>		156,260	372,187
<i>Total revenues</i>		<u>32,531,106</u>	<u>28,168,180</u>
<i>Expenses:</i>			
<i>General government</i>		3,754,447	3,533,167
<i>Public safety</i>		10,881,468	9,848,994
<i>Transportation</i>		838,891	868,140
<i>Environmental protection</i>		1,974,141	2,040,481
<i>Economic and physical development</i>		339,206	306,632
<i>Human services</i>		4,411,227	5,113,045
<i>Cultural and recreation</i>		563,266	579,151
<i>Education</i>		5,958,582	5,430,218
<i>Interest on long-term debt</i>		148,621	154,229
<i>Total expenses</i>		<u>28,869,849</u>	<u>27,874,057</u>
<i>Increase in net position</i>		3,661,257	294,123
<i>Net position, beginning</i>		35,363,713	35,153,370
<i>Prior period adjustment</i>		(3,230,407)	(83,780)
<i>Net position, beginning, as restated</i>		<u>32,133,306</u>	<u>35,069,590</u>
<i>Net position, ending</i>	\$	<u>35,794,563</u>	\$ <u>35,363,713</u>

Management's Discussion and Analysis

Financial Analysis of the County's Funds

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

Governmental Activities. *Governmental activities increased the County's net position by \$3,193,030.*

Governmental Funds. *The focus of Avery County's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of usable resources. Such information is useful in assessing Avery County's financing requirements. Specifically, fund balance available for appropriation can be a useful measure of a government's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.*

The general fund is the chief operating fund of Avery County. At the end of the current fiscal year, unassigned fund balance of the General Fund was \$15,158,370 while total general fund balance reached \$18,301,387. As a measure of the general fund's liquidity, it may be useful to compare both unreserved fund balance and total fund balance to total fund expenditures. Unreserved fund balance represents 58% percent of total General Fund expenditures and transfers to other funds, while total fund balance represents 70% percent of that same amount.

At June 30, 2018, the governmental funds of Avery County reported a combined fund balance of \$21,664,962, an increase over last year.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights: *During the fiscal year, the County revised the budget on several occasions. Generally, budget amendments fall into one of three categories: 1) amendments made to adjust the estimates that are used to prepare the original budget ordinance once exact information is available; 2) amendments made to recognize new funding amounts from external sources, such as federal and State grants; and 3) increases in appropriations that become necessary to maintain services.*

Total amendments to the General Fund increased the original budget by \$ 798,253. The majority of these amendments were due to federal and State pass through grants awarded to the County.

Capital Asset and Debt Administration

Capital assets. *Avery County's capital assets for its governmental activities as of June 30, 2018, total \$22,696,214 (net of accumulated depreciation). These assets include buildings, land, machinery and equipment, park facilities, and vehicles.*

Management's Discussion and Analysis

Major capital asset transactions during the year include:

- *Parking improvements beside the Courthouse*
- *Vehicles and related equipment for use in various functions of government*
- *Construction in progress of the new agricultural building and new pool*

Avery County's Capital Assets (net of depreciation)

Figure 4

	<i>Governmental</i>		<i>Difference</i>
	<i>Activities</i>	<i>Activities</i>	
	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	
<i>Land</i>	\$ 3,871,635	\$ 3,846,280	\$ 25,355
<i>Construction in progress</i>	2,251,084	444,544	1,806,540
<i>Buildings</i>	13,864,165	14,273,233	(409,068)
<i>Improvements other than buildings</i>	928,679	762,464	166,215
<i>Machinery and equipment</i>	857,976	797,549	60,427
<i>Vehicles and motorized equipment</i>	922,675	751,281	171,394
Total	<u>\$ 22,696,214</u>	<u>\$ 20,875,351</u>	<u>\$ 1,820,863</u>

Additional information on the County's capital assets can be found in note 2A pages 40 through 41 of the Financial Statements.

Long-term Debt. As of June 30, 2018 Avery County had total debt outstanding of \$10,505,691. Of this, \$3,122,123 is debt secured by deeds of trust, \$355,311 is a pension obligation, \$523,964 is accrued vacation liability, \$1,913,778 is for local government employee's retirement system, and \$4,590,515 is for other post employment health benefits offered to employees.

Additional information regarding Avery County's long-term debt can be found in note 2B beginning on page 56.

Management's Discussion and Analysis

Budget Highlights for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2019

Total budgeted revenues are projected to increase \$1,032,830 or 3.6 percent from the 2017-18 budgeted revenues. The increase is primarily attributed to increases in ad valorem taxes, sales taxes and NC State Department of Transportation reimbursements.

Budgeted General Fund appropriations are expected to increase \$1,032,830 or 3.6 percent from the 2017-18 budget. The majority of the increases are due to increased funding in the Sheriff's department, increased capital expenditures in the Emergency Medical Services, Transportation and the Solid Waste departments. There was also an increase in the Capital Reserve Project funding.

Requests for Information

This report is designed to provide an overview of the County's finances for those with an interest in this area. Questions concerning any of the information found in this report or requests for additional information should be directed to the Director of Finance, Avery County, P.O. Box 640, Newland, NC 28657.

Avery County, North Carolina
Statement of Net Position
June 30, 2018

	Primary Government	Component Unit
	Governmental	Avery County
	Activities	Airport
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 19,981,730	\$ 114,395
Receivables (net)	980,207	36,740
Due from other governments	2,261,451	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	23,207	-
		-
Capital assets:		
Land, improvements, and construction in progress	4,563,005	1,364,090
Other capital assets, net of depreciation	18,133,209	1,050,759
Total capital assets	<u>22,696,214</u>	<u>2,414,849</u>
Total assets	<u>45,942,809</u>	<u>2,565,984</u>
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	1,582,815	-
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	692,656	12,558
Accrued interest payable	148,621	-
Total pension liability	355,311	-
Net pension liability	1,913,778	-
Long-term liabilities:		
Due within one year	443,443	-
Due in more than one year	7,793,159	-
Total liabilities	<u>11,346,968</u>	<u>12,558</u>
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	<u>384,093</u>	<u>-</u>
NET POSITION		
Net investment in capital assets	22,696,214	2,414,849
Restricted for:		
Stabilization by State Statute	2,352,681	36,740
Register of Deeds	102,367	-
Fire Protection	2,116,261	-
Emergency Telephone System	331,920	-
Unrestricted (deficit)	8,195,120	101,837
Total net position	<u>\$ 35,794,563</u>	<u>\$ 2,553,426</u>

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

Avery County, North Carolina
Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended June 30, 2018

<i>Functions/Programs</i>	<i>Program Revenues</i>		<i>Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position</i>		<i>Component</i>	
	<i>Expenses</i>	<i>Charges for Services</i>	<i>Operating Grants and Contributions</i>	<i>Capital Grants and Contributions</i>	<i>Primary Government</i>	<i>Unit</i>
Primary government:						
<i>Governmental Activities:</i>						
<i>General government</i>	\$ 3,754,447	\$ 318,435	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (3,436,012)	
<i>Public safety</i>	10,881,468	1,495,500	229,356	-	(9,156,612)	
<i>Transportation</i>	838,891	313,322	166,850	1,082	(357,637)	
<i>Environmental protection</i>	1,974,141	331,978	34,498	15,305	(1,592,360)	
<i>Economic and physical development</i>	339,206	19,277	1,440	8,696	(309,793)	
<i>Human services</i>	4,411,227	100	2,323,471	-	(2,087,656)	
<i>Cultural and recreation</i>	563,266	29,561	-	-	(533,705)	
<i>Education</i>	5,958,582	-	-	147,876	(5,810,706)	
<i>Interest on long-term debt</i>	148,621	-	-	-	(148,621)	
<i>Total governmental activities</i>	<u>\$ 28,869,849</u>	<u>\$ 2,508,173</u>	<u>\$ 2,755,615</u>	<u>\$ 172,959</u>	<u>\$ (23,433,102)</u>	
 <i>Component units:</i>						
<i>Airport</i>	263,507	-	40,171	1,399,310		
	<u>\$ 263,507</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 40,171</u>	<u>\$ 1,399,310</u>		1,175,974
 <i>General revenues:</i>						
<i>Taxes:</i>						
<i>Property taxes, levied for general purpose</i>					20,893,764	-
<i>Local option sales tax</i>					4,796,250	-
<i>Other taxes and licenses</i>					847,106	-
<i>Investment earnings, unrestricted</i>					400,979	-
<i>Gain on disposal of assets</i>					(35,048)	-
<i>Miscellaneous, unrestricted</i>					191,308	28,836
<i>Total general revenues, special items, and transfers</i>					<u>27,094,359</u>	<u>28,836</u>
<i>Change in net position</i>					3,661,257	1,204,810
<i>Net position-beginning, as previously reported</i>					35,363,713	1,348,616
<i>Prior period adjustment</i>					<u>(3,230,407)</u>	<u>-</u>
<i>Net position, beginning</i>					<u>32,133,306</u>	<u>1,348,616</u>
<i>Net position-ending</i>					<u>\$ 35,794,563</u>	<u>\$ 2,553,426</u>

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

Avery County, North Carolina
Balance Sheet
Governmental Funds
June 30, 2018

	General	Agriculture Building Capital Project Fund	Other Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 16,392,303	\$ 284,479	\$ 3,304,948	\$ 19,981,730
Receivables, net	710,478	-	117,626	828,104
Due from other governments	2,258,580	106	2,765	2,261,451
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	23,207	-	-	23,207
Total assets	<u>\$ 19,384,568</u>	<u>\$ 284,585</u>	<u>\$ 3,425,339</u>	<u>\$ 23,094,492</u>

LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES, AND FUND BALANCES

Liabilities:

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 448,478	\$ 217,819	\$ 26,359	\$ 692,656
Total liabilities	<u>448,478</u>	<u>217,819</u>	<u>26,359</u>	<u>692,656</u>

Deferred Inflows of Resources:	<u>634,703</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>102,171</u>	<u>736,874</u>
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Fund balances:

Restricted:				
Stabilization by State statute	2,334,355	106	18,220	2,352,681
Register of Deeds	102,367	-	-	102,367
Fire Protection	-	-	2,116,261	2,116,261
Emergency Telephone System	-	-	331,920	331,920
Committed:				
Tax revaluation	23,207	-	-	23,207
Assigned:				
For Capital Outlay projects	683,088	66,660	830,408	1,580,156
Unassigned	15,158,370	-	-	15,158,370
Total fund balances	<u>18,301,387</u>	<u>66,766</u>	<u>3,296,809</u>	<u>21,664,962</u>

Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fund balances	<u>\$ 19,384,568</u>	<u>\$ 284,585</u>	<u>\$ 3,425,339</u>	
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Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position (Exhibit 1) are different because:

Deferred revenue not available for current operations	736,874
Net pension liability	(1,913,778)
Total pension liability	(355,311)
Contributions to pension plan in the current year are not current resources and therefore are deferred outflows of resources	625,074
Contributions to OPEB are not current resources and therefore are deferred outflows of resources	24,730
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds.	22,696,214
Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and therefore are deferred in the funds.	(4,590,515)
Law Enforcement Officer retirement deferred inflows and outflows	10,361
Pension related deferrals	833,881
Healthcare plan related deferrals	(295,324)
Interest receivable is not available to pay for current period expenditures and therefore not reported in the funds	152,103
Some liabilities, including bonds payable, are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds (Note 4).	<u>(3,794,708)</u>
Net position of governmental activities	<u>\$ 35,794,563</u>

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

Avery County, North Carolina
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance
Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended June 30, 2018

	General Fund	Agriculture Building Capital Project Fund	Other Non- major Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
REVENUES				
<i>Ad valorem taxes</i>	\$ 18,093,587	\$ -	\$ 2,612,117	\$ 20,705,704
<i>Local option sales taxes</i>	4,796,251	-	-	4,796,251
<i>Other taxes and licenses</i>	714,754	-	-	714,754
<i>Unrestricted intergovernmental</i>	171,419	-	-	171,419
<i>Restricted intergovernmental</i>	2,417,690	-	342,029	2,759,719
<i>Permits and fees</i>	436,292	-	-	436,292
<i>Sales and services</i>	1,947,714	-	-	1,947,714
<i>Investment earnings</i>	381,775	-	1,920	383,695
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	455,607	-	-	455,607
<i>Total revenues</i>	<u>29,415,089</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,956,066</u>	<u>32,371,155</u>
EXPENDITURES				
<i>Current:</i>				
<i>General government</i>	3,497,229	-	-	3,497,229
<i>Public safety</i>	7,357,780	-	2,957,864	10,315,644
<i>Transportation</i>	767,322	-	-	767,322
<i>Environmental protection</i>	1,860,470	-	-	1,860,470
<i>Economic and physical development</i>	321,833	-	8,696	330,529
<i>Human services</i>	4,330,807	-	-	4,330,807
<i>Cultural and recreational</i>	458,388	-	-	458,388
<i>Intergovernmental:</i>				
<i>Education</i>	5,958,582	-	-	5,958,582
<i>Capital outlay</i>	1,051,550	1,408,671	305,940	2,766,161
<i>Debt service:</i>				
<i>Principal</i>	443,444	-	-	443,444
<i>Interest</i>	171,054	-	-	171,054
<i>Total expenditures</i>	<u>26,218,459</u>	<u>1,408,671</u>	<u>3,272,500</u>	<u>30,899,630</u>
<i>Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures</i>	<u>3,196,630</u>	<u>(1,408,671)</u>	<u>(316,434)</u>	<u>1,471,525</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)				
<i>Transfers to other funds</i>	(3,600)	-	-	(3,600)
<i>Transfers from other funds</i>	-	-	3,600	3,600
<i>Total other financing sources and uses</i>	<u>(3,600)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,600</u>	<u>-</u>
<i>Net change in fund balance</i>	3,193,030	(1,408,671)	(312,834)	1,471,525
<i>Fund balances-beginning</i>	15,108,357	1,475,437	3,609,643	20,193,437
<i>Fund balances-ending</i>	<u>\$ 18,301,387</u>	<u>\$ 66,766</u>	<u>\$ 3,296,809</u>	<u>\$ 21,664,962</u>

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

Avery County, North Carolina
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance
Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended June 30, 2018

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:

Net changes in fund balances - total governmental funds	\$ 1,471,525
<i>Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital outlays exceeded depreciation in the current period.</i>	1,866,256
<i>Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds.</i>	205,341
<i>In the statement of activities, the gain on the sale of assets is reported, whereas in the governmental funds, the proceeds from the sale increase financial resources. The change in net assets differs from the change in fund balance by the depreciated cost of the fixed assets disposed of during the year.</i>	(45,393)
<i>Net contributions to the pension plan in the current year are not included in the statement of activities</i>	(100,419)
<i>The issuance of long-term debt provides current financial resources to governmental funds, while the repayment of the principal of long-term debt consumes the current financial resources of governmental funds. Neither transaction has any effect on net position. Also, governmental funds report the effect of issuance costs, premiums, discounts and similar items when debt is first issued, whereas these amounts are deferred and amortized in the statement of activities. This amount is the net effect of these differences in the treatment of long-term debt and related items.</i>	443,444
<i>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.</i>	<u>(179,497)</u>
Total changes in net position of governmental activities	<u><u>\$ 3,661,257</u></u>

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

Avery County, North Carolina
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances -
Budget and Actual - General Fund
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance With Final Positive (Negative)
<i>Revenues:</i>				
<i>Ad valorem taxes</i>	\$ 17,644,000	\$ 17,689,900	\$ 18,093,587	\$ 403,687
<i>Local option sales tax</i>	4,925,000	4,925,000	4,796,251	(128,749)
<i>Other taxes and licenses</i>	380,000	440,000	714,754	274,754
<i>Unrestricted intergovernmental</i>	302,300	164,000	171,419	7,419
<i>Restricted intergovernmental</i>	2,831,871	2,927,006	2,417,690	(509,316)
<i>Permits and fees</i>	323,560	387,110	436,292	49,182
<i>Sales and services</i>	2,056,750	1,907,800	1,947,714	39,914
<i>Investment earnings</i>	100,000	240,300	381,775	141,475
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	42,000	317,336	455,607	138,271
<i>Total revenues</i>	<u>28,605,481</u>	<u>28,998,452</u>	<u>29,415,089</u>	<u>416,637</u>
<i>Expenditures:</i>				
<i>Current:</i>				
<i>General government</i>	3,573,648	3,849,820	3,552,617	297,203
<i>Public safety</i>	8,283,315	8,566,448	7,789,502	776,946
<i>Transportation</i>	838,699	829,699	794,306	35,393
<i>Environmental protection</i>	2,236,136	2,306,364	1,991,609	314,755
<i>Economic and physical development</i>	337,728	369,428	321,833	47,595
<i>Human services</i>	5,307,301	5,287,171	4,391,493	895,678
<i>Cultural and recreational</i>	595,252	761,402	682,661	78,741
<i>Intergovernmental:</i>				
<i>Education</i>	5,958,582	5,958,582	5,958,582	-
<i>Debt service:</i>				
<i>Principal retirement</i>	443,445	443,445	443,444	1
<i>Interest and other charges</i>	171,054	171,054	171,054	-
<i>Total expenditures</i>	<u>27,745,160</u>	<u>28,543,413</u>	<u>26,097,101</u>	<u>2,446,312</u>
<i>Revenues over (under) expenditures</i>	<u>860,321</u>	<u>455,039</u>	<u>3,317,988</u>	<u>(2,862,949)</u>
<i>Other financing sources (uses):</i>				
<i>Transfers (to) from other funds</i>	(860,321)	(2,649,973)	(108,600)	(2,541,373)
<i>Fund balance appropriated</i>		2,194,934	-	2,194,934
<i>Total other financing sources (uses)</i>	<u>(860,321)</u>	<u>(455,039)</u>	<u>(108,600)</u>	<u>(346,439)</u>
<i>Revenues and other financing sources over expenditures and other financing uses</i>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>3,209,388</u>	<u>\$ (3,209,388)</u>
<i>Fund balances:</i>				
<i>Beginning of year, July 1</i>			15,108,357	
<i>A legally budgeted Tax Revaluation Fund is consolidated into the General Fund for reporting purposes:</i>				
<i>Transfers in from General Fund</i>			105,000	
<i>Labor and Fringe Benefits</i>			(121,358)	
<i>Fund Balance, Ending (Exhibit 4)</i>			<u>\$ 18,301,387</u>	

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

Avery County, North Carolina
Statement of Fiduciary Net Position
Fiduciary Funds
June 30, 2018

	<i>Pension Trust Fund</i>	<i>Agency Funds</i>
	<u>June 30, 2018</u>	<u>June 30, 2018</u>
Assets		
<i>Current assets:</i>		
<i>Cash and cash equivalents</i>	\$ 138,882	\$ 34,581
<i>Total assets</i>	<u>\$ 138,882</u>	<u>\$ 34,581</u>
Liabilities and Net Position		
<i>Liabilities:</i>		
<i>Miscellaneous liabilities</i>	\$ -	\$ 34,581
<i>Total liabilities</i>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,581</u>
<i>Net position</i>	<u>138,882</u>	<u>-</u>
<i>Total liabilities and net position</i>	<u>\$ 138,882</u>	<u>\$ 34,581</u>

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

Avery County, North Carolina
Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position
Fiduciary Funds
June 30, 2018

	<u><i>Pension Trust Fund</i></u>
<i>Additions:</i>	
<i>Employer contributions</i>	\$ 1,872
<i>Investment income</i>	<u>10,622</u>
<i>Total additions</i>	<u>12,494</u>
 <i>Deductions:</i>	
<i>Withdrawals and transfers out</i>	<u>24,842</u>
<i>Total deductions</i>	<u>24,842</u>
 <i>Change in net position</i>	 (12,348)
 <i>Net position, beginning</i>	 <u>151,230</u>
<i>Net position, ending</i>	<u>\$ <u>138,882</u></u>

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

Avery County, North Carolina
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

(1) SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounting policies of Avery County conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governments. The following is a summary of the more significant accounting policies:

(A) Reporting Entity

The County, which is governed by a five-member board of commissioners, is one of the 100 counties established in North Carolina under North Carolina General Statute 153A-10. As required by generally accepted accounting principles, these financial statements present the County and its component units, legally separate entities for which the County is financially accountable. The discretely presented component unit presented below is reported in a separate column in the County's financial statements in order to emphasize that it is a legally separate entity from the County.

Avery County Airport Authority – The North Carolina General Legislature enacted a law, which authorized the County of Avery to establish an airport authority for the maintenance of airport facilities within the County. On December 1, 1994, the Avery County Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution to establish the Avery County Airport Authority as a public authority under the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act. The Authority is composed of five voting members, appointed by the Avery County Board of Commissioners and serving without compensation. Periodic reports are to be made to the Avery County Board of Commissioners. The Authority may employ any agent, engineers or attorneys, or other persons whose services may be deemed by the Airport Authority to be necessary and useful in carrying out the provisions of House Bill 1878.

Complete financial statements for this component unit may be obtained at the administrative offices of the entity:

*Avery County Airport Authority
P.O. Box 927
Newland, North Carolina 28657*

Avery County Fire Commission – The North Carolina General Legislature enacted a law, which authorized the County of Avery to establish a Fire Commission for the administration of various fire departments within the County. In 2003, the Avery County Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution to establish the Avery County Fire Commission as a public authority under the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act. The Commission is composed of five voting members, two of which are appointed by the Avery County Board of Commissioners, two of which are appointed by the Fire Association representing the various fire departments and one of which is chosen from the four existing board members. All members are serving without compensation. Periodic reports are to be made to the Avery County Board of Commissioners

Avery County, North Carolina
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

The blended presentation method for the Fire Commission presents this component unit as a part of the special revenue fund types of the County, and offers no separate presentation.

(B) Basis of Presentation, Measurement Focus – Basis of Accounting

Government-wide Statements: *The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the primary government (the County) and its component units. These statements include the financial activities of the overall government, except for fiduciary activities. Eliminations have been made to minimize the double counting of internal activities. These statements distinguish between the governmental and business-type activities of the County. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other non-exchange transactions.*

The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the County's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function and, therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Indirect expense allocations that have been made in the funds have been reversed for the statement of activities. Program revenues include (a) fees and charges paid by the recipients of goods or services offered by the programs and (b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, are presented as general revenues.

Fund Financial Statements: *The fund financial statements provide information about the County's funds, including its fiduciary funds and component units. Separate statements for each fund category – governmental and fiduciary – are presented. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major governmental funds, each displayed in a separate column. All remaining governmental funds are aggregated and reported as non-major funds.*

The County reports the following major governmental funds:

General Fund. *This 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 Tax Revaluation Fund is a legally budgeted fund under North Carolina General Statutes; however, for statement presentation in accordance with GASB Statement No. 54, it is consolidated in the General Fund.*

Capital Projects Funds. *The County maintains a major capital project fund. The agriculture building project fund was established to report expense for the construction of the new facility.*

The County reports the following fund types:

Avery County, North Carolina
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

Pension Trust Fund. The County maintains a Pension Trust Fund to account for the IRC section 457 deferred compensation plan. Pension trust funds are used to report resources that are required to be held in trust for the members and beneficiaries of defined benefit pension plans, defined contribution plans, or other postemployment benefit plans.

Agency Funds. Agency funds are custodial in nature and do not involve the measurement of operating results. Agency funds are used to account for assets the County holds on behalf of others. The County maintains the following agency funds: the Social Services Fund, which accounts for monies deposited with the Department of Social Services for the benefit of certain individuals; the Fines and Forfeitures Fund, which accounts for various legal fines and forfeitures that the County is required to remit to Avery County Board of Education; and the Motor Vehicle Tax Fund, which accounts for registered motor vehicle property taxes that are billed and collected by the County for various municipalities and special districts within the County, the Deed of Trust Fee Fund, which accounts for the five dollars of each fee collected by the register of deeds for registering or filing a deed of trust or mortgage and remitted to the State Treasurer on a monthly basis and the Inmate Trust Fund, used to account for monies held on behalf inmates during their incarceration.

Nonmajor Funds. The County maintains four legally annually budgeted funds. The Emergency Telephone System Fund, the Fire District Fund, the Revaluation Fund and the Grant Project Fund are reported as nonmajor special revenue funds.

In addition, the County reported two non-major capital fund types for the year. The High School Renovation Capital Project Fund and the Pool Renovation Project Fund are both capital projects funds that account for expansion and renovation of the facilities.

(C) Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting

In accordance with North Carolina General Statutes, all funds of the County are maintained during the year using the modified accrual basis of accounting.

Government-wide and Fiduciary Fund Financial Statements. The government-wide and fiduciary fund financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus, except for the agency funds, which have no measurement focus. The government-wide and fiduciary fund financial statements are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, regardless of when the related cash flows take place. Non-exchange transactions, in which the County gives (or receives) value without directly receiving (or giving) equal value in exchange, include property taxes, grants, entitlements, and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied. Revenue from grants, entitlements, and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied.

Amounts reported as program revenues include 1) charges to customers or applicants for goods, services, or privileges provided, 2) operating grants and contributions, and 3) capital grants and contributions, including special assessments. Internally dedicated

Avery County, North Carolina
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

resources are reported as general revenues rather than as program revenues. Likewise, general revenues include all taxes.

Governmental Fund Financial Statements. Governmental funds are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized when measurable and available. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on general long-term debt, claims and judgments, and compensated absences, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent they have matured. General capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Proceeds of general long-term debt and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources.

The County considers all revenues available if they are collected within 60 days after year-end, except for property taxes. Ad valorem property taxes are not accrued as revenue because the amount is not susceptible to accrual. At June 30, taxes receivable for property other than motor vehicles are materially past due and are not considered to be an available resource to finance the operations of the current year. As of September 1, 2013, State law altered the procedures for the assessment and collection of property taxes on registered motor vehicles in North Carolina. Effective with this change in the law, the State of North Carolina is responsible for billing and collecting the property taxes on registered motor vehicles on behalf of all municipalities and special tax districts. Property taxes are due when vehicles are registered. The billed taxes are applicable to the fiscal year in which they are received. Uncollected taxes that were billed in periods prior to September 1, 2013 and for limited registration plates are shown as a receivable in these financial statements and are offset by deferred inflows of resources.

Sales taxes collected and held by the State at year-end on behalf of the County are recognized as revenue. Intergovernmental revenues and sales and services are not susceptible to accrual because generally they are not measurable until received in cash. Expenditure-driven grants are recognized as revenue when the qualifying expenditures have been incurred and all other grant requirements have been satisfied.

Under the terms of grant agreements, the County funds certain programs by a combination of specific cost-reimbursement grants, categorical block grants, and general revenues. Thus when program expenses are incurred, there are both restricted and unrestricted net position available to finance the program. It is the County's policy to first apply cost-reimbursement grant resources to such programs, followed by categorical block grants, and then by general revenues.

(D) Budgetary Data

The County's budgets are adopted as required by North Carolina General Statutes. An annual budget is adopted for the general and special revenue (excluding the capital reserve fund) funds. All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year-end. Project ordinances are adopted for the capital projects fund and the capital reserve fund, which is a special

Avery County, North Carolina
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

revenue fund type. All budgets are prepared using the modified accrual basis of accounting.

Expenditures may not legally exceed appropriations at the functional level for the general fund, at the departmental level for the special revenue funds, and at the object level for the capital projects funds. The County Manager is authorized to transfer any non-salary related appropriations within a fund. During the year, several amendments to the original budget were necessary, the effects of which were not material.

A budget calendar is included in the North Carolina General Statutes, which prescribes the last day on which certain steps of the budget procedure are to be performed. The following schedule lists the tasks to be performed and the date by which each is required to be completed.

April 30 – Each department head will transmit to the budget officer the budget requests and revenue estimates for the budget year.

June 1 – The budget and the budget message shall be submitted to the governing board. The public hearing on the budget should be scheduled at this time.

July 1 – the governing board shall adopt the budget ordinance.

(E) Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Fund Equity

Deposits and Investments

All deposits of the County, the Avery County Airport Authority, and the Avery County Fire Commission are made in board-designated official depositories and are secured as required by G.S. 159-31. The County and its two component units may designate as an official depository any bank or savings and loan association whose principal office is located in North Carolina. Also, the County may establish time deposit accounts such as NOW and SuperNOW accounts, money market accounts, and certificates of deposit.

State law [G.S. 159-30(c)] authorizes the County to invest in obligations of the United States or obligations fully guaranteed both as to principal and interest by the United States; obligations of the State of North Carolina; bonds and notes of any North Carolina local government or public authority; obligations of certain non-guaranteed federal agencies; certain high quality issues of commercial paper and bankers' acceptances; and the North Carolina Capital Management Trust (NCCMT).

The County, the Airport Authority, and the Fire Commission's investments with maturity of more than one year at acquisition and non-money market investments are carried at fair value as determined by quoted market prices. The securities of the NCCMT Cash Portfolio, an SEC-registered money market mutual fund, are valued at fair value, which is the NCCMT's share price. The NCCMT Term Portfolio's securities are valued at fair value. Money market investments that have a remaining maturity at the time of purchase of

Avery County, North Carolina
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

one year or less are reported at amortized cost. Non-participating interest earnings and investments contracts are reported at cost.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The County pools money from several funds to facilitate disbursement and investment and to maximize investment income. Therefore, all cash and investments are essentially demand deposits and are considered cash and cash equivalents.

Restricted Cash

Money in the Tax Revaluation Fund is classified as restricted assets because its use is restricted per North Carolina General Statute 153A-150.

Ad Valorem Taxes Receivable

In accordance with State law [G.S. 105-347 and G.S. 159-13(a)], the County levies ad valorem taxes on July 1, the beginning of the fiscal year. The taxes are due on September 1; however, penalties and interest do not accrue until the following January 6. These taxes are based on the assessed values as of January 1, 2017.

Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

All receivables that historically experience uncollectible accounts are shown net of an allowance for doubtful accounts. This amount is estimated by analyzing the percentage of receivables that were written off in prior years.

Fixed Assets

Purchased or constructed capital assets are reported at cost or estimated historical cost. Donated capital assets received prior to July 1, 2015 are recorded at their estimated fair value at the date of donation. Donated capital assets received after July 1, 2015 are recorded at acquisition value. Minimum capitalization costs are as follows: land, buildings, improvements, substations, lines, and other plant and distribution system, infrastructure, furniture and equipment and vehicles, \$5,000. The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets' lives are not capitalized.

The County holds title to certain Avery County Board of Education properties that have not been included in capital assets. The properties have been deeded to the County to permit installment purchase financing of acquisition and construction costs and to permit the County to receive refunds of sales tax paid for construction costs. Agreements between the County and the Board of Education give the Board of Education full use of the facilities, full responsibility for maintenance of the facilities, and provide that the County will convey title to the property back to the Board of Education, once all restrictions of the financing agreements and all sales tax reimbursement requirements have been met. The properties

Avery County, North Carolina
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

are reflected as capital assets in the financial statements of the Avery County Board of Education.

Capital assets of the County are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the following estimated useful lives:

	<u>Years</u>
Buildings	50
Improvements	10-30
Furniture and equipment	5-10
Vehicles	3
Computer equipment	3

Capital assets of the Avery County Airport Authority are depreciated on a straight-line basis over the following estimated useful lives:

	<u>Years</u>
Facility upgrades	10
Improvements	12
Additions	20

The Avery County Fire Commission holds title to no capital assets.

Long-Term Debt

In the government-wide financial statements in the fund financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the applicable governmental activities or proprietary fund type statement of net position.

In the fund financial statements for governmental fund types, the face amount of debt issued is reported as an “other financing source.”

Deferred outflows/inflows of resources

In addition to assets, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflow of resources. This separate financial statement element, Deferred Outflows of Resources, represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period and so will not be recognized as an expense or expenditure until then. The County has two items that meet this criterion – pension related deferrals and deferrals related to other post employment healthcare benefits. In addition to liabilities, the statement of financial position can also report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, Deferred Inflows of Resources, represents an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period and so will not be

Avery County, North Carolina
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

recognized as revenue until then. The County has two items that meet the criteria for this category - other pension related deferrals and other post employment healthcare benefits.

Net Position/Fund Balances

Net Position

Net position in government-wide financial statements is classified as net investment in capital assets; restricted, and unrestricted. Restricted net position represents constraints on resources that are either externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments or imposed by law through State statute.

Fund Balances

In the governmental fund financial statements, fund balance is composed of five classifications designed to disclose the hierarchy of constraints placed on how fund balance can be spent.

The governmental fund types classify fund balances as follows:

Nonspendable Fund Balance- This classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are either (a) not in spendable form or (b) legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

Inventories - portion of fund balance that is not an available resource because it represents the year-end balance of ending inventories, which are not spendable resources.

Restricted Fund Balance-This classification includes revenue sources that are restricted to specific purposes externally imposed by creditors or imposed by law.

Restricted for Stabilization of State Statute-portion of fund balance that is restricted by State Statute [G.S. 159-8(a)].

Restricted for Register of Deeds- portion of fund balance that is restricted by revenue source to pay for the computer equipment and imaging technology for the Register of Deeds office.

Restricted for Emergency Telephone System – portion of fund balance that is restricted by revenue source for the emergency telephone system fund.

Restricted for Fire Protection- portion of fund balance that is restricted by revenue source for fire protection expenditures.

Avery County, North Carolina
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

Restricted for School Capital-portion of fund balance that can only be used for School Capital per G.S. 159-18-22.

Committed Fund Balance - Portion of fund balance that can only be used for specific purpose imposed by majority vote of Avery County's governing body (highest level of decision-making authority). Any changes or removal of specific purposes requires majority action by the governing body.

Assigned Fund Balance- portion of fund balance that the Avery County governing board has budgeted.

Subsequent year's expenditures-portion of fund balance that is appropriated in the next year's budget that is not already classified in restricted or committed. The governing body approves the appropriation; however the budget ordinance authorizes the manager to modify the appropriations by resource or appropriation within funds up to \$100,000.

Assigned School Capital Outlay- portion of fund balance that has been budgeted by the board for future school capital construction.

Unassigned Fund Balance - Portion of fund balance that has not been restricted, committed, or assigned to specific purposes or other funds.

Avery County has a revenue spending policy that provides guidance for programs with multiple revenue sources. The Finance Officer will use resources in the following hierarchy: bond proceeds, federal funds, State funds, local non-city funds, and county funds. For purposes of fund balance classification expenditures are to be spent from restricted fund balance first, followed in-order by committed fund balance, assigned fund balance and lastly unassigned fund balance. The Finance Officer has the authority to deviate from this policy if it is in the best interest of the County.

Avery County has also adopted a minimum fund balance policy for the General Fund which instructs management to conduct the business of the County in such a manor that available fund balance is at least equal to 20% of budgeted expenditures.

(F) Revenues, Expenditures and Expenses

Other Resources

The General Fund provides the basis of local resources for other governmental funds. These transactions are recorded as "Operating transfers-out" in the General Fund and "Operating transfers-in" in the receiving fund. The County's General Fund also transfers funds to Avery County Airport Authority to be used for the maintenance of airport facilities in the County.

Compensated Absences

Under the vacation policy of the County, vacation leave will be paid to any employee who resigns or retires from the County in good standing. This vacation pay is not to exceed a maximum of thirty (30) days or 240 hours. The County is not obligated to pay any employee for accrued vacation if the employee is terminated from employment for just cause.

The County's sick leave policy provides for an unlimited accumulation of earned sick leave. Sick leave does not vest, but any unused sick leave accumulated at the time of retirement may be used in the determination of length of service for retirement benefit purposes. Since the County has no obligation for accumulated sick leave until it is actually taken, no accrual for sick leave has been made.

Comparative Data/Reclassifications

Comparative total data for the prior year has been presented in selected sections of the accompanying financial statements in order to provide an understanding of the changes in the County's financial position and operations. Comparative totals have not been included on the statements where their inclusion would not provide enhanced understanding of the County's financial position and operations or would cause the statements to be unduly complex or difficult to understand.

Defined Benefit Pension and OPEB Plans

The County participates in a cost-sharing, multiple-employer, defined benefit pension plan that is administered by the State; the Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System (LGERs) and one other postemployment benefit plan (OPEB), the Healthcare Benefits Plan (HCB). For purposes of measuring the net pension asset, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net positions of the state-administered defined benefit pension plans and additions to/deductions from the state-administered defined benefit pension plans' fiduciary net positions have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the state-administered defined benefit pension plans. For this purpose, plan member contributions are recognized in the period in which the contributions are due. The County's employer contributions are recognized when due and the County has a legal requirement to provide the contributions. Benefits and refunds are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the terms of the state-administered defined benefit pension plans. Investments are reported at fair value. For purposes of measuring the net OPEB liability, deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to OPEB, and OPEB expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the HCB and additions to/deductions from the HCB's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the HCB. For this purpose, the HCB recognizes benefit payments when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments for all plans are reported at fair value.

Avery County, North Carolina
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

(G) Reconciliation of Government-wide and Fund Financial Statements

1. *Explanation of certain differences between the governmental fund balance sheet and the government-wide statement of net position.*

The governmental fund balance sheet includes a reconciliation between fund balance - total governmental funds and net position – governmental activities as reported in the government-wide statement of net position. The net adjustment of \$14,129,601 consists of several elements as follows:

<i>Description</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<i>Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and are therefore not reported in the funds (total capital assets on government-wide statement in governmental activities column)</i>	\$ 36,862,314
<i>Less Accumulated Depreciation</i>	<u>(14,166,100)</u>
<i>Net capital assets</i>	22,696,214
<i>Net pension liability is recorded in the government wide statements</i>	(1,913,778)
<i>Total pension liability is recorded in government wide statements</i>	(355,311)
<i>Accrued interest receivable less the amount claimed as unearned revenue in the government-wide statements as these funds are not available and therefore deferred in the fund statements</i>	152,103
<i>Liabilities for revenue deferred but earned and therefore recorded in the fund statements but not the government-wide</i>	736,874
<i>Deferrals related to other post employment benefits</i>	(295,324)
<i>Deferrals related to pension fund</i>	844,242
<i>Contributions to other post employment benefits in the current year</i>	24,730
<i>Contributions to the pension plan in the current year</i>	625,074
<i>Liabilities that, because they are not due and payable in the current period, do not require current resources to pay and are therefore not recorded in the fund statements:</i>	
<i>Compensated absences payable</i>	(523,964)
<i>Bonds, leases, and installment financing</i>	(3,122,123)
<i>Other post-employment health benefits</i>	(4,590,515)
<i>Accrued interest payable</i>	<u>(148,621)</u>
<i>Total adjustment</i>	<u>\$ 14,129,601</u>

Explanation of certain differences between the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance and the government-wide statement of activities

Avery County, North Carolina
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

The governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances includes a reconciliation between net changes in fund balances – total governmental funds and changes in net position of governmental activities as reported in the government-wide statement of activities. There are several elements of that total adjustment of \$2,189,732 as follows:

<i>Description</i>	<i>Amount</i>
<i>Capital outlay expenditures recorded in the fund statements but capitalized as assets in the statement of activities</i>	<i>\$2,766,161</i>
<i>Depreciation expense, the allocation of those assets over their useful lives, that is recorded on the statement of activities but not in the fund statements</i>	<i>(899,905)</i>
<i>Gain (loss) on the sale of fixed assets</i>	<i>(45,393)</i>
<i>Principal payments on debt owed are recorded as a use of funds on the fund statements but again affect only the statement of net assets in the government-wide statements</i>	<i>443,444</i>
<i>Expenses reported in the statement of activities that do not require the use of current resources to pay are not recorded as expenditures in the fund statements</i>	<i>(257,483)</i>
<i>Difference in interest expense between fund statements (modified accrual) and government-wide statements (full accrual)</i>	<i>(22,433)</i>
<i>Revenues reported in the statement of activities that do not provide current resources are not recorded as revenues in the fund statements</i>	
<i>Increase in deferral of taxes from 06/30/17</i>	<i>188,057</i>
<i>Increase in accrued interest on taxes receivable for 6/30/18</i>	<i>17,284</i>
<i>Total adjustment</i>	<u><u><i>\$ 2,189,732</i></u></u>

*Avery County, North Carolina
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018*

(2) DETAIL NOTES ON ALL FUNDS

(A) Assets

Deposits

All of the County's, the Airport Authority's, and the Fire Commission's deposits are either insured or collateralized by using one of two methods. Under the Dedicated Method, all deposits exceeding the federal depository insurance coverage level are collateralized with securities held by the County's, the Airport Authority's and the Fire Commission's agents in these units' name. Under the Pooling Method, which is a collateral pool, all uninsured deposits are collateralized with securities held by the State Treasurer's agent in the name of the State Treasurer. Since the State Treasurer is acting in a fiduciary capacity for the County, the Airport Authority, and the Fire Commission, these deposits are considered to be held by their agents in the entities' name. The amount of pledged collateral is based on an approved averaging method for non-interest bearing deposits and the actual current balance for interest-bearing deposits. Depositories using the Pooling Method report to the State Treasurer the adequacy of their pooled collateral covering uninsured deposits. The State Treasurer does not confirm this information with the County, the Airport Authority, and the Fire Commission or with the escrow agent. Because of the inability to measure the exact amount of collateral pledged for the County, the Airport Authority and the Fire Commission under the Pooling Method, the potential exists for undercollateralization, and this risk may increase in periods of high cash flows. However, the State Treasurer of North Carolina enforces strict standards of financial stability for each depository that collateralizes public deposits under the Pooling Method.

The County and its two component units have no formal policy regarding custodial credit risk for deposits, but rely on the State Treasurer to enforce standards of minimum capitalization for all pooling method financial institutions and to monitor them for compliance. The County analyzes the financial soundness of any other financial institution used by the County. The County complies with the provisions of G.S. 159-31 when designating official depositories and verifying that deposits are properly secured.

At June 30, 2018, the County's deposits had a carrying value of \$1,849,845 and a bank balance of \$2,053,126. This includes \$173,463 in fiduciary funds. Of the bank balance, \$500,000 was covered by federal depository insurance and \$1,553,126 was covered by collateral held under the Pooling Method. The County maintains a petty cash fund of \$500.

At June 30, 2018, the carrying amount of deposits for the Avery County Airport Authority was \$114,395 and the bank balance was \$118,726. All of the bank balance was covered by federal depository insurance.

At June 30, 2018, the carrying amount of deposits for the Avery County Fire Commission was \$1,302,426 and the bank balance was \$1,344,685. Of the bank balance, \$250,000 was

Avery County, North Carolina
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

covered by federal depository insurance and the remainder was covered by collateral held under the Pooling method.

Investments

At June 30, 2018, the County's investments consisted of the following:

Investment Type	Valuation Measurement Method	Fair Value	Less Than 6 Months	6-12 Months
NC Capital Management Trust-Cash Portfolio	Amortized Cost	17,025,629	N/A	N/A

Interest Rate Risk. The County has no formal policies on interest rate risk.

Credit Risk. The County limits investments to the provisions of G.S. 159-30 and restricts the purchase of securities to the highest possible ratings whenever particular types of securities are rated. The County's investments in the NC Capital Management Trust Cash Portfolio carried a credit rating of AAAM by Standard & Poor's as of June 30, 2018.

Custodial Credit Risk. Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the County will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The County has no formal policy on custodial credit risk.

Receivable – Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

Receivables at the government-wide level at June 30, 2018 were as follows:

	Accounts	Taxes and Related Accrued Interest	Due from Other Governments	Total
Governmental Activities:				
General	\$ 75,775	\$ 810,998	\$ 2,258,580	\$ 3,145,353
Other Governmental	-	144,310	2,871	147,181
Total receivables	75,775	955,308	2,261,451	3,292,534
Allowance for doubtful accounts	-	(202,979)	-	(202,979)
Total-governmental activities	\$ 75,775	\$ 752,329	\$ 2,261,451	\$ 3,089,555

For the County, the amounts presented in Exhibit 1, the Statement of Net Position, are net of the following allowances for doubtful accounts:

*Avery County, North Carolina
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018*

<i>Fund</i>	<i>June 30, 2018</i>
<i>General</i>	
<i>Fund:</i>	
<i>Property taxes</i>	\$ 176,115
<i>Special Revenue Fund:</i>	
<i>Total</i>	\$ <u>202,979</u>

The due from other governments that is owed to the County consisted of the following:

<i>Town of Banner Elk – Building note</i>	\$ 750,000
<i>Local option sales and related tax</i>	791,647
<i>NC DHHS operating funds</i>	237,740
<i>NC DOT operating and capital funds</i>	78,492
<i>NC DMV Motor Vehicle tax</i>	89,885
<i>NC E-911 fees</i>	15,455
<i>Sales tax refunds</i>	103,624
<i>Emergency management grant</i>	60,700
<i>Federal interest subsidy</i>	31,149
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	<u>102,759</u>
<i>Total</i>	<u>\$ 2,261,451</u>

During a prior fiscal year, the County sold the old Banner Elk School building to the Town of Banner Elk for \$1,000,000 in exchange for a note receivable. Terms of the note call for annual principle payments of \$83,333 for a term of twelve years at a zero percent interest rate with payments beginning on July 15, 2015.

Avery County, North Carolina
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

Capital Assets

Capital asset activity for the year ended June 30, 2018, was as follows:

	Beginning Balances	Increases	Transfers/ (Decreases)	Ending Balances
<i>Governmental activities:</i>				
<i>Capital assets not being depreciated:</i>				
Land	\$ 3,846,280	\$ 25,355	\$ -	\$ 3,871,635
Construction in progress	444,544	1,806,538	-	2,251,082
Total capital assets not being depreciated	<u>4,290,824</u>	<u>1,831,893</u>	-	<u>6,122,717</u>
<i>Capital assets being depreciated:</i>				
Buildings	19,300,849	15,305	(191,800)	19,124,354
Other improvements	2,359,977	266,824	-	2,626,801
Equipment	4,742,881	249,228	-	4,992,109
Vehicles and motor equipment	3,768,096	402,911	(174,674)	3,996,333
Total capital assets being depreciated	<u>30,171,803</u>	<u>934,268</u>	<u>(366,474)</u>	<u>30,739,597</u>
<i>Less accumulated depreciation for:</i>				
Buildings	5,026,287	378,980	146,407	5,258,860
Other improvements	1,598,841	100,608	-	1,699,449
Equipment	3,945,333	188,800	-	4,134,133
Vehicles and motor equipment	3,016,815	231,517	174,674	3,073,658
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>13,587,276</u>	<u>899,905</u>	<u>321,081</u>	<u>14,166,100</u>
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	<u>16,584,527</u>			<u>16,573,497</u>
Governmental activity capital assets, net	<u>\$ 20,875,351</u>			<u>\$ 22,696,214</u>
General government	\$ 203,890			
Public safety	378,864			
Economic and Physical Development	4,177			
Environmental Protection	120,314			
Human services	82,786			
Transportation	63,062			
Cultural and recreational	46,812			
Total depreciation expense	<u>\$ 899,905</u>			

Construction commitments

The government has no active construction projects with outstanding commitments as of June 30, 2018.

Avery County, North Carolina
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

Discretely presented component units

Activity for the Avery County Airport for the year ended June 30, 2018, was as follows:

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Transfers</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
<i>Capital assets not being depreciated:</i>				
Land	\$ 112,000	-	-	\$ 112,000
Construction in progress	112,315	1,139,775	-	1,252,090
<i>Total capital assets not being depreciated</i>	<u>224,315</u>	<u>1,139,775</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,364,090</u>
<i>Capital assets being depreciated:</i>				
Equipment	11,978	-	-	11,978
Building improvements	16,960	-	-	16,960
Leasehold improvements	2,779,173	89,726	-	2,868,899
Fuel storage facility	66,604	135,430	-	202,034
<i>Total capital assets being depreciated</i>	<u>2,874,715</u>	<u>225,156</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,099,871</u>
<i>Less accumulated depreciation for:</i>				
Equipment	11,978	-	-	11,978
Building improvements	5,813	1,192	-	7,005
Leasehold improvements	1,755,317	200,308	-	1,955,625
Fuel storage facility	66,604	7,900	-	74,504
<i>Total accumulated depreciation</i>	<u>1,839,712</u>	<u>209,400</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,049,112</u>
<i>Total capital assets being depreciated, net</i>	<u>1,035,003</u>			<u>1,050,759</u>
<i>Avery County Airport capital assets, net</i>	<u>\$1,259,318</u>			<u>\$2,414,849</u>

Payables

Payables at the government-wide level at June 30, 2018, were as follows:

	<u>Vendors</u>	<u>Salaries and Benefits</u>	<u>Accrued Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
<i>Governmental Activities:</i>				
General	\$ 448,478	\$ -	\$ 148,621	\$ 597,099
Other Governmental	244,178	-	-	244,178
<i>Total-governmental activities</i>	<u>\$ 692,656</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 148,621</u>	<u>\$ 841,277</u>

(B) Liabilities

(1) Pension Plan Obligations

a. Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System

Avery County, North Carolina
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

Plan Description. The County is a participating employer in the statewide Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System (LGERS), a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the State of North Carolina. LGERS membership is comprised of general employees and local law enforcement officers (LEOs) of participating local governmental entities. Article 3 of G.S. Chapter 128 assigns the authority to establish and amend benefit provisions to the North Carolina General Assembly. Management of the plan is vested in the LGERS Board of Trustees, which consists of 13 members – nine appointed by the Governor, one appointed by the state Senate, one appointed by the state House of Representatives, and the State Treasurer and State Superintendent, who serve as ex-officio members. The Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System is included in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the State of North Carolina. The State's CAFR includes financial statements and required supplementary information for LGERS. That report may be obtained by writing to the Office of the State Controller, 1410 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1410, by calling (919) 981-5454, or at www.osc.nc.gov.

Benefits Provided. LGERS provides retirement and survivor benefits. Retirement benefits are determined as 1.85% of the member's average final compensation times the member's years of creditable service. A member's average final compensation is calculated as the average of a member's four highest consecutive years of compensation. Plan members are eligible to retire with full retirement benefits at age 65 with five years of creditable service, at age 60 with 25 years of creditable service, or at any age with 30 years of creditable service. Plan members are eligible to retire with partial retirement benefits at age 50 with 20 years of creditable service or at age 60 with five years of creditable service (age 55 for firefighters). Survivor benefits are available to eligible beneficiaries of members who die while in active service or within 180 days of their last day of service and who have either completed 20 years of creditable service regardless of age (15 years of creditable service for firefighters and rescue squad members who are killed in the line of duty) or have completed five years of service and have reached age 60. Eligible beneficiaries may elect to receive a monthly Survivor's Alternate Benefit for life or a return of the member's contributions. The plan does not provide for automatic post-retirement benefit increases. Increases are contingent upon actuarial gains of the plan.

LGERS plan members who are LEOs are eligible to retire with full retirement benefits at age 55 with five years of creditable service as an officer, or at any age with 30 years of creditable service. LEO plan members are eligible to retire with partial retirement benefits at age 50 with 15 years of creditable service as an officer. Survivor benefits are available to eligible beneficiaries of LEO members who die while in active service or within 180 days of their last day of service and who also have either completed 20 years of creditable service regardless of age, or have completed 15 years of service as a LEO and have reached age 50, or have completed five years of creditable service as a LEO and have reached age 55, or have completed 15 years of creditable service as a LEO if killed in the line of duty. Eligible beneficiaries may elect to receive a monthly Survivor's Alternate Benefit for life or a return of the member's contributions.

Contributions. Contribution provisions are established by General Statute 128-30 and may be amended only by the North Carolina General Assembly. County employees are required to contribute 6% of their compensation. Employer contributions are actuarially determined and set annually by the LGERS Board of Trustees. The County's contractually required contribution rate for the year ended June 30, 2018, was 8.25% of compensation for law enforcement officers and 7.71% for general employees and firefighters, actuarially determined as an amount that, when combined with employee contributions, is

Avery County, North Carolina
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

expected to finance the costs of benefits earned by employees during the year. Contributions to the pension plan from the County were \$625,074 for the year ended June 30, 2018.

Refunds of Contributions – County employees who have terminated service as a contributing member of LGERS, may file an application for a refund of their contributions. By state law, refunds to members with at least five years of service include 4% interest. State law requires a 60 day waiting period after service termination before the refund may be paid. The acceptance of a refund payment cancels the individual’s right to employer contributions or any other benefit provided by LGERS.

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

At June 30, 2018, the County reported a liability of \$1,913,778 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension asset was measured as of June 30, 2017. The total pension liability used to calculate the net pension asset was determined by an actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2016. The total pension liability was then rolled forward to the measurement date of June 30, 2017 utilizing update procedures incorporating the actuarial assumptions. The County’s proportion of the net pension asset was based on a projection of the County’s long-term share of future payroll covered by the pension plan, relative to the projected future payroll covered by the pension plan of all participating LGERS employers, actuarially determined. At June 30, 2018, the County’s proportion was .11888%, which was an increase of .00102% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2017.

For the year ended June 30, 2018, the County recognized pension expense of \$682,214. At June 30, 2018, the County reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 110,251	\$ 54,173
Changes of assumptions	\$ 273,314	
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	464,668	-
Changes in proportion and differences between County contributions and proportionate share of contributions	59,605	19,784
County contributions subsequent to the measurement date	625,074	-
Total	<u>\$ 1,532,912</u>	<u>\$ 73,957</u>

\$625,074 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from County contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as an increase of the net pension asset in the year ended June 30, 2019. Other amounts reported as deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

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Notes to Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018*

Year ended June 30:		
2019		\$ 124,229
2020		566,002
2021		284,314
2022		(140,665)
2023		-
Thereafter		-
		\$ 833,880

Actuarial Assumptions. The total pension liability in the December 31, 2016 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	3.0 percent
Salary increases	3.5 to 7.75 percent, including inflation and productivity factor
Investment rate of return	7.2 percent, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation

The plan currently uses mortality tables that vary by age, gender, employee group (i.e. general, law enforcement officer) and health status (i.e. disabled and healthy). The current mortality rates are based on published tables and based on studies that cover significant portions of the U.S. population. The healthy mortality rates also contain a provision to reflect future mortality improvements.

The actuarial assumptions used in the December 31, 2016 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2014.

Future ad hoc COLA amounts are not considered to be substantively automatic and are therefore not included in the measurement.

The projected long-term investment returns and inflation assumptions are developed through review of current and historical capital markets data, sell-side investment research, consultant whitepapers, and historical performance of investment strategies. Fixed income return projections reflect current yields across the U.S. Treasury yield curve and market expectations of forward yields projected and interpolated for multiple tenors and over multiple year horizons. Global public equity return projections are established through analysis of the equity risk premium and the fixed income return projections. Other asset categories and strategies' return projections reflect the foregoing and historical data analysis. These projections 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 as of June 30, 2018 are summarized in the following table:

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Notes to Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018*

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Fixed Income	29.0%	1.4%
Global Equity	42.0%	5.3%
Real Estate	8.0%	4.3%
Alternatives	8.0%	8.9%
Credit	7.0%	6.0%
Inflation Protection	6.0%	4.0%
Total	100%	

The information above is based on 30 year expectations developed with the consulting actuary for the 2016 asset liability and investment policy study for the North Carolina Retirement Systems, including LGERS. The long-term nominal rates of return underlying the real rates of return are arithmetic annualized figures. The real rates of return are calculated from nominal rates by multiplicatively subtracting a long-term inflation assumption of 3.05%. All rates of return and inflation are annualized.

Discount rate. The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.2%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from plan members will be made at the current contribution rate and that contributions from employers will be made at statutorily required rates, actuarially determined. Based on these assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of the current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the County's proportionate share of the net pension asset to changes in the discount rate. The following presents the County's proportionate share of the net pension asset calculated using the discount rate of 7.2 percent, as well as what the County's proportionate share of the net pension asset or net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (6.2 percent) or 1-percentage-point higher (8.2 percent) than the current rate:

	1% Decrease (6.2%)	Discount Rate (7.2%)	1% Increase (8.2%)
County's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset)	\$ 5,745,207	\$ 1,913,778	\$ (1,284,254)

Pension plan fiduciary net position. Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the State of North Carolina.

b) Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance

1. Plan Description.

Avery County administers a public employee retirement system (the Separation Allowance), a single-employer defined benefit pension plan that provides retirement benefits to the County's qualified sworn law enforcement officers under the age of 62 who have completed at least 30 years of creditable service or have attained 55 years of age and have completed five or more years of creditable service. The Separation Allowance is equal to 0.85 percent of the annual equivalent of the base rate of compensation most recently applicable to the officer for each year of creditable service. The retirement benefits are not subject to any increases in salary or retirement allowances that may be authorized by the General Assembly. Article 12D of G.S. Chapter 143 assigns the authority to establish and amend benefit provisions to the North Carolina General Assembly.

All full-time County law enforcement officers are covered by the Separation Allowance. At December 31, 2017, the Separation Allowance's membership consisted of:

<i>Retirees receiving benefits</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Terminated plan members entitled to but not yet receiving benefits</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Active plan members</i>	<i>25</i>
<i>Total</i>	<u><i>27</i></u>

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:

Basis of Accounting. The County has chosen to fund the Separation Allowance on a pay as you go basis. Pension expenditures are made from the General Fund, which is maintained on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Benefits are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the terms of the plan.

The Separation Allowance has no assets accumulated in a trust that meets the criteria which are outlined in GASB Statement 73.

3. Actuarial Assumptions

The entry age actuarial cost method was used in the December 31, 2016 valuation. The total pension liability was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

<i>Inflation</i>	<i>2.5 percent</i>
<i>Salary increases</i>	<i>3.50 to 7.35 percent, including inflation and productivity factor</i>
<i>Discount rate</i>	<i>3.16 percent</i>

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Notes to Financial Statements
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The discount rate is based on the weekly average of the Bond Buyer General Obligation 20 Year Municipal Bond Index as determined at the end of each month.

Mortality rates are based on the RP-2000 Mortality tables with adjustments for mortality improvements based on Scale AA.

3. Contributions.

The County is required by Article 12D of G.S. Chapter 143 to provide these retirement benefits and has chosen to fund the amounts necessary to cover the benefits earned on a pay as you go basis through appropriations made in the General Fund operating budget. There were no contributions made by employees. The County's obligation to contribute to this plan is established and may be amended by the North Carolina General Assembly. Administration costs of the Separation Allowance are financed through investment earnings. The County paid \$ 13,520 as benefits came due for the reporting period.

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

At June 30, 2018, the County reported a total pension liability of \$355,311. The total pension liability was measured as of December 31, 2017 based on a December 31, 2016 actuarial valuation. The total pension liability was rolled forward to December 31, 2017 utilizing update procedures incorporating the actuarial assumptions. For the year ended June 30, 2018, the County recognized pension expense of \$37,226.

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ -	\$ 10,140
Changes of assumptions	25,037	4,536
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	-	-
Changes in proportion and differences between County contributions and proportionate share of contributions	-	-
County contributions subsequent to the measurement date	7,297	-
Total	<u>\$ 32,334</u>	<u>\$ 14,676</u>

\$7,297 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from benefit payments made and administrative expenses incurred subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a decrease of the total pension liability in the year ended June 30, 2019. Other amounts reported as deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

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Year ended June 30:

2018	\$	2,119
2019		2,119
2020		2,119
2021		2,411
2022		1,593
Thereafter		

Sensitivity of the County's total pension liability to changes in the discount rate. The following presents the County's total pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 3.16 percent, as well as what the County's total pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (2.16 percent) or 1-percentage-point higher (4.16 percent) than the current rate:

	<u>1% Decrease (2.16%)</u>	<u>Discount Rate (3.16%)</u>	<u>1% Increase (4.16%)</u>
County's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset)	\$ 386,451	\$ 355,311	\$ 326,856

**Schedule of Changes in Total Pension Liability
Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance**

<i>Total Pension Liability</i>	<i>\$ 316,101</i>
<i>Changes for the year:</i>	
<i>Service Cost at End of Year</i>	<i>22,566</i>
<i>Interest</i>	<i>11,941</i>
<i>Change in benefit terms</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Difference between expected and actuarial Experience</i>	<i>(12,403)</i>
<i>Changes of assumptions and other inputs</i>	<i>30,626</i>
<i>Benefit payments</i>	<i>(13,520)</i>
<i>Other</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Net changes</i>	<i>\$39,210</i>
<i>Total Pension Liability as of June 30, 2018</i>	<i>\$355,311</i>

*Avery County, North Carolina
Notes to Financial Statements
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Changes of assumptions. Changes of assumptions and other inputs reflect a change in the discount rate from 3.86 percent at June 30, 2016 to 3.16 percent at June 30, 2017.

Changes in Benefit Terms. Reported compensation adjusted to reflect the assumed rate of pay as of the valuation date.

The plan currently uses mortality tables that vary by age, and health status (i.e. disabled and healthy). The current mortality rates are based on published tables and based on studies that cover significant portions of the U.S. population. The healthy mortality rates also contain a provision to reflect future mortality improvements.

The actuarial assumptions used in the December 31, 2016 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2014.

c. Supplemental Retirement Income Plan for Law Enforcement Officers

Plan Description. The County contributes to the Supplemental Retirement Income Plan (Plan), a defined contribution pension plan administered by the Department of State Treasurer and a Board of Trustees. The Plan provides retirement benefits to law enforcement officers employed by the County. Article 5 of G.S. Chapter 135 assigns the authority to establish and amend benefit provisions to the North Carolina General Assembly.

Funding Policy. Article 12E of G.S. Chapter 143 requires the County to contribute each month an amount equal to five percent of each officer's salary, and all amounts contributed are immediately vested. Also, the law enforcement officers may make voluntary contributions to the plan. Contributions for the year ended June 30, 2018 were \$56,970 all of which was contributed by the County.

d. Deferred Compensation Plan

The County offers its employees two deferred compensation plans created in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Sections 457 and 401K. The plans, which are available to all County employees, permit them to defer a portion of their salary until future years. The deferred compensation is not available to employees until termination, retirement, death, or unforeseeable emergency. The 401K plan offers an employer match dollar for dollar up to three percent of compensation for eligible employees.

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

The net pension liability for LGERS was measured as of December 31, 2017, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The total pension liability for LEOSSA was measured as of June 30, 2017, with an actuarial

Avery County, North Carolina
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valuation date of December 31, 2016. The County's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the County's share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the contribution of all participating entities. Following is information related to the proportionate share and pension expense:

	<u>LGERS</u>	<u>LEOSSA</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability (Asset)	\$ 1,913,778	\$ 355,311	\$ 2,269,089
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	0.11786%	n/a	
Total Pension Liability	-	\$ -	\$ -
Pension Expense	\$ 682,214	\$ 37,226	\$ 719,440

At June 30, 2018, the County reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	<u>LGERS</u>	<u>LEOSSA</u>	<u>Total</u>
<u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u>			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 110,251	\$ -	\$ 110,251
Changes of assumptions	273,314	25,037	298,351
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	464,668	-	464,668
Changes in proportion and differences between County contributions and proportionate share of contributions	59,605	-	59,605
County contributions (LGERS, ROD)/benefit payments and administration costs (LEOSSA) subsequent to the measurement date	625,074	7,297	632,371
<u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u>			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 54,173	\$ 10,140	\$ 64,313
Changes of assumptions	-	4,536	4,536
Changes in proportion and differences between County contributions and proportionate share of contributions	19,784	-	19,784

(1) Other Post Employment Benefits

HEALTHCARE BENEFITS

Plan Administration. Employees retiring with at least twenty (20) years of service with Avery County, inclusive of any accumulated sick leave, and are fifty five (55) years of age or older, will be afforded full, continued medical benefits for that individual only until they are eligible to receive Medicare. Upon becoming eligible for Medicare, Avery County will provide an amount of money up to but not to exceed

Avery County, North Carolina
Notes to Financial Statements
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\$2,000 per fiscal year toward the purchase of an individual supplemental health insurance policy. The Board of Commissioners may amend the benefit provisions. A separate report was not issued for the plan.

Retired Employees' Years of Creditable Service	County Contribution
30 or more	100%
25-29	87.50%
20-24	75.00%

Plan membership. At June 30, 2018, the HCB Plan membership consisted of the following:

	<u>2018</u>
Inactive plan members or beneficiaries currently receiving benefit payments	19
Inactive plan members entitled to but not yet receiving benefit payments	0
Active plan members	<u>180</u>
	<u>199</u>

Total OPEB Liability

The County's total OPEB liability of \$4,590,515 was measured as of June 30, 2017 and was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date.

Actuarial assumptions and other inputs

The total OPEB liability in the June 30, 2017 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions and other inputs, applied to all periods included in the measurement unless otherwise specified:

Inflation	2.5 percent
Salary increases	3.5.- 7.75 percent, average, including inflation
Discount rate	3.56 percent
Healthcare cost trend rates	Pre-medicare – 7.5% Medicare – 0.0%

The discount rate is based on the June average of the Bond Buyer General Obligation 20 year Municipal Bond Index published weekly by the Bond Buyer.

*Avery County, North Carolina
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018*

Changes in the Total OPEB Liability

	Total OPEB Liability
Balance at July 1/2017	4,641,610
Changes for the year	
Service cost	254,700
Interest	138,061
Changes of benefit terms	-
Differences between expected and actual experience	154
Changes in assumptions or other inputs	(333,486)
Benefit payments	(110,524)
Net changes	<u>(51,095)</u>
Balance at 6/30/2018	4,590,515

Mortality rates were based on the RP-2014 Total Data Set for Healthy Annuitants Mortality Table.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2017 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period January 2010 through December 2014 adopted by the LGERS.

Sensitivity of the total OPEB liability to changes in the discount rate. The following presents the total OPEB liability of the County, as well as what the County's total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (2.56 percent) or 1-percentage-point higher (3.56 percent) than the current discount rate:

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Discount Rate (3.56%)</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
Total OPEB liability	\$ 4,120,100	\$ 4,590,515	\$ 5,165,924

Sensitivity of the total OPEB liability to changes in the healthcare cost trend rates. The following presents the total OPEB liability of the County, as well as what the County's total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that are 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the current healthcare cost trend rates:

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
Total OPEB liability	\$ 5,221,218	\$ 4,590,515	\$ 457,144

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Notes to Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018*

OPEB Expense and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB

For the year ended June 30, 2018, the County recognized OPEB expense of \$354,753. At June 30, 2018, the County reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ -	\$ 295,460
Changes of assumptions	136	-
Benefit payments and administrative costs made subsequent to the measurement date	24,730	
Total	<u>\$ 24,866</u>	<u>\$ 295,460</u>

Amounts reported as deferred inflows of resources related to healthcare benefits will be recognized in benefit expense as follows:

2019	\$ (38,008)
2020	(38,008)
2021	(38,008)
2022	(38,008)
2023	(38,008)
Thereafter	(105,284)

(2) Other Employment Benefits

The County has elected to provide death benefits to employees through the Death Benefit Plan for members of the Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System (Death Benefit Plan), a multiple-employer, State-administered, cost-sharing plan funded on a one-year term cost basis. The beneficiaries of those employees who die in active service after one year of contributing membership in the System, or who die within 180 days after retirement or termination of service and have at least one year of contributing membership service in the System at the time of death are eligible for death benefits. Lump sum death benefit payments to beneficiaries are equal to the employee's 12 highest months' salary in a row during the 24 months prior to the employee's death, but the benefit will be a minimum of \$25,000 and will not exceed \$50,000. Because all death benefit payments are made from the Death Benefit Plan and not by the County, the County does not determine

Avery County, North Carolina
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the number of eligible participants. The County has no liability beyond the payment of monthly contributions. The contributions to the Death Benefit Plan cannot be separated between the post-employment benefit amount and the other benefit amount. Contributions are determined as a percentage of monthly payroll based upon rates established annually by the State. Separate rates are set for employees not engaged in law enforcement and for law enforcement officers. The County considers these contributions to be immaterial.

(3) Solid Waste Landfill Closure

During the fiscal year ended June 30, 1995, the County closed its solid waste landfill. Contingent liabilities, if any, associated with this closure are not recognized in the financial statements. At present the County contracts with a solid waste disposal company for the hauling and disposal of solid waste to a commercially operated landfill located outside of Avery County.

(4) Deferred Inflows of Resources

The balance in deferred inflows of resources at year-end in the governmental fund type statements is composed of the following elements:

	<i>Deferred Outflows of Resources</i>	<i>Deferred Inflows of Resources</i>
<i>Pensions - difference between expected and actual experience</i>		
<i>LGERS</i>	<i>\$ 110,251</i>	<i>\$ 54,173</i>
<i>Changes of assumptions</i>	<i>298,351</i>	<i>19,784</i>
<i>Opeb - Changes of assumptions</i>		<i>295,460</i>
<i>Opeb - difference between projected and actual investment earnings</i>	<i>136</i>	
<i>Opeb contributions to plan in 2017-18 fiscal year</i>	<i>24,730</i>	
<i>Pensions - difference between projected and actual investment earnings</i>	<i>464,668</i>	
<i>Pensions - change in proportion and difference between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions</i>	<i>59,605</i>	<i>14,676</i>
<i>Contributions to pension plan in 2017-2018 fiscal year</i>	<i>625,074</i>	
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$ 1,582,815</i>	<i>\$ 384,093</i>

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Notes to Financial Statements
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(5) *Risk Management*

The County is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The County participates in three self-funded risk-financing pools administered by the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners. Through these pools, the County obtains property coverage equal to replacement cost values of owned property subject to a limit as outlined in the contract, for any one occurrence, with an annual aggregate of \$50 million for flood and earthquake, with other sub-limits for coverage per the County's contract. The County also purchases general, auto, public officials, law enforcement and employment practices liability coverage of \$2 million per occurrence, auto physical damage coverage for owned autos at actual cash value, crime coverage of \$250,000 per occurrence, and workers' compensation coverage up to the statutory limits. The pools are audited annually by certified public accountants, and are available to the County upon request. Two of the pools are reinsured through a multi-state public entity captive for single occurrence losses in excess of \$500,000 per occurrence and an additional \$500,000 annual aggregate up to \$2 million limit for liability coverage, \$145 million of aggregate annual losses in excess of \$100,000 per occurrence and an additional \$1 million annual aggregate for property, auto, physical damage, and crime coverage, and single occurrence losses of \$350,000 per occurrence and \$300,000 annual aggregate for workers' compensation.

The County carries flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Plan (NFIP). County officials have determined that structures may incur differing levels of damage based on location, and, therefore, have purchased insurance coverage commensurate with exposure.

In accordance with G.S. 159-29, the County's employees that have access at any given time to \$100 or more of the County's funds are performance bonded through a crime coverage declaration by the NCACC Liability and Property Pool. The Director of Finance, Tax Collector, Register of Deeds, County Manager and Chairman of the Board are each individually bonded for the following amounts: Finance Director, Tax Collector, County Manager and Chairman of the Board, \$50,000 and Register of Deeds \$25,000.

The County carries commercial coverage for all other risks of loss. There have been no significant reductions in insurance coverage from the previous year and settled claims have not exceeded coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

(6) *Claims and Judgments*

At June 30, 2018, the County was a defendant to various lawsuits. In the opinion of the County management and County attorney, the ultimate outcome of these legal matters will not have a material adverse effect on the County's financial position. Pending cases as of June 30, 2018 that may have an unfavorable outcome are covered by the County's liability insurance.

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Notes to Financial Statements
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(7) Long-Term Obligations

Notes Payable

On September 6, 2006, the County entered into a commitment of \$2,000,000 in order to finance a school renovation project. The contract is with Bank of America for the issuance of Qualified Zone Academy Bond (QZAB) funding. Required principal repayment is \$110,110 per year for a fifteen year term. The bond is currently discounted in the amount of \$348,350. The guaranteed interest rate on the bonds is 2.66% per annum and will be held on deposit with the bank as Trustee until such time as the bonds mature.

On May 14, 2010, the County entered into a commitment of \$5,000,000 in order to finance a school renovation project. The contract is a two part commitment. The first loan, in the amount of \$4,645,266, is for the issuance of Qualified School Construction Bond (QSCB) funding. The second commitment, for \$354,734, is financed through Build America Bonds. Required principal repayment is \$83,333 per quarter for a fifteen year term. The interest rate on the bonds is 6.73% per annum.

For Avery County, the future minimum payments as of June 30, 2018 are:

<u>Year</u> <u>Ending</u> <u>June 30</u>	<u>General</u> <u>Long-Term</u> <u>Debt</u>	<u>Interest</u> <u>Due and</u> <u>Payable</u>
2019	\$443,443	\$ 148,621
2020	443,443	126,188
2021	443,443	103,754
2022	443,443	81,321
2023	443,443	58,888
2024-2026	<u>904,908</u>	<u>50,475</u>
Total	\$3,122,123	\$ 569,247

At June 30, 2018, the County had a legal debt margin of \$ 282,212,269.

a. Long Term Obligation Activity

The following is a summary of changes in the County's long term obligations for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018:

Avery County, North Carolina
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Governmental activities:	<i>Balance</i> <i>July 1, 2017</i>	<i>Increases</i>	<i>Decreases</i>	<i>Balance</i> <i>June 30, 2018</i>	<i>Current</i> <i>Portion</i>
<i>Installment purchase</i>	\$ 3,565,566	-	443,443	3,122,123	443,443
<i>Other post employment benefits</i>	4,641,610		51,095	4,590,515	-
<i>Total pension liability – LEO</i>	316,101	39,210		355,311	-
<i>Vacation pay obligation</i>	554,533	-	17,569	523,964	-
<i>Net pension liability - LGERS</i>	2,635,729	-	721,951	1,913,778	-
Total governmental activities	\$11,713,539	39,210	1,234,058	\$10,505,691	\$, 443,443

b. Interfund Balances and Activity

Transfers to/from other funds at June 30, 2018, consist of the following:

<i>From the General fund to provide funding for construction project capital funds</i>	(\$3,600)
<i>Total</i>	<u>(\$3,600)</u>

(3) JOINT VENTURES

The County participates in a joint venture to operate Avery-Mitchell-Yancey Regional Library with three other local governments. Each participating government appoints three members to the twelve-member board of the library. The County has an ongoing financial responsibility for the joint venture because the Library's continued existence depends on the participating governments' continued funding. None of the participating governments have any equity interest in the Library, so no equity interest has been reflected in the financial statements at June 30, 2018. In accordance with the intergovernmental agreement between the participating governments, the County appropriated \$112,858 to the library to supplement its activities. Complete financial statements can be obtained from the Library's offices at Highway 19E, Burnsville, North Carolina 28714.

The County in conjunction with the State of North Carolina, Mitchell County, and Yancey County, participates in a joint venture to operate Mayland Community College (College). Each of the four participants appoints three members of the thirteen-member board of trustees

Avery County, North Carolina
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of the College. The College's student government president serves as an ex-officio nonvoting member of the College's board of trustees. The College is included as a component unit of the State. The Counties have the basic joint responsibility for providing funding for the facilities of the College and also provide some financial support for the College's operations. The Counties have an ongoing joint financial responsibility for the College because of the statutory responsibilities to provide funding for the College's facilities. Avery County contributed \$333,000 to the College for operating purposes and \$18,000 for capital outlay during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018. The participating governments do not have an equity interest in the joint venture; therefore, no equity interest has been reflected in the County's financial statements at June 30, 2018. Complete financial statements for Mayland Community College may be obtained from the College's administrative offices at 200 Mayland Tech Road, Spruce Pine, North Carolina 28777.

The County participates in a joint venture to operate the Toe River Health District with two other local governments. Each participating government appoints one member to the twelve-member board of directors of the Health District. The County has an ongoing financial responsibility for the joint venture because the Health District's continued existence depends on the participating governments' continued funding. None of the participating governments have any equity interest in the Health District, so no equity interest has been reflected in the financial statements at June 30, 2018. In accordance with the intergovernmental agreement between the participating governments, the County appropriated \$315,788 to the Health District to supplement its activities. Complete financial statements can be obtained from the Toe River Health District's offices at Greenwood Road, Spruce Pine, North Carolina 28777.

The County participates in a joint venture to operate Vaya Health Center (a public manager of care for individuals facing challenges with mental illness, intellectual/development disabilities and/or substance use/ addiction) with members in a twenty three county region. Each participating government appoints a council member to the governing board of the Vaya Health. The County has an ongoing financial responsibility for the joint venture because the Center's continued existence depends on the participating governments' continued funding. None of the participating governments have any equity interest in the Center, so no equity interest has been reflected in the financial statements at June 30, 2018. In accordance with the intergovernmental agreement between the participating governments, the County appropriated \$89,600 to the Center to supplement its activities. Complete financial statements can be obtained from the Vaya Health Center's offices located in Boone, North Carolina 28607.

(4) JOINTLY GOVERNED ORGANIZATION

The County, in conjunction with seven other counties and nineteen municipalities, established the High Country Council of Governments (Council). The participating governments established the Council to coordinate various funding received from federal and State agencies. Each participating government appoints one member to the Council's governing board. The County paid membership fees of \$9,202 to the Council during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018.

(5) SUPPLEMENTAL AND ADDITIONAL SUPPLEMENTAL ONE-HALF OF ONE PERCENT LOCAL GOVERNMENT SALES AND USE TAXES

State law (Chapter 105, Articles 40 and 42, of the North Carolina General Statutes) requires the County to use a portion of the proceeds of its supplemental and additional supplemental sales taxes, or local option sales taxes, for public school capital outlays or to retire public school indebtedness. During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018, the County reported these local option sales taxes within its General Fund. The County expended the restricted portion of these taxes for public school indebtedness.

(6) BENEFIT PAYMENTS ISSUED BY THE STATE

The State, from federal and State monies, directly paid the amounts listed below to individual recipients. County personnel are involved with certain functions; primarily eligibility determinations that cause benefit payments to be issued by the State. These amounts disclose this additional aid to County recipients, which do not appear in the financial statements because they are not revenues and expenditures of the County.

	<u><i>Federal</i></u>	<u><i>State</i></u>
<i>Medicaid</i>	\$ 14,941,885	\$ 7,849,382
<i>N.C. Health Choice</i>	463,345	-
<i>Temporary Assistance for Needy Families</i>	88,893	-
<i>Title IV-E Foster Care Assistance</i>	202,350	48,847
<i>State Foster Care Benefits Program</i>	-	86,200
<i>State Special Assistance for Adults</i>	-	99,011
<i>CWS Adoption Subsidy</i>	-	207,889

(7) SUMMARY DISCLOSURE OF SIGNIFICANT COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Federal and State Assisted Programs

The County has received proceeds from several federal and State grants. Periodic audits of these grants are required and certain costs may be questioned as not being appropriate expenditures under the grant agreements. Such audits could result in the refund of grant monies to the grantor agencies. Management believes that any required refunds will be immaterial. No provision has been made in the accompanying financial statements for the refund of grant monies.

Avery County, North Carolina
Notes to Financial Statements
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

(8) FUND BALANCE

Avery County has a revenue spending policy that provides policy for programs with multiple revenue sources. The Finance Officers will use resources in the following hierarchy: bond proceeds, federal funds, State funds, local non-city funds, city funds. For purposes of fund balance classification expenditures are to be spent from restricted fund balance first, followed in order by committed fund balance, assigned fund balance and lastly unassigned fund balance. The Finance Officer has the authority to deviate from this policy if it is in the best interest of the County.

The following schedule provides management and citizens with information on the portion of governmental fund balances that are available for appropriation:

Total fund balance-Governmental Funds	\$21,664,962
Less:	
Prepaid assets	-
Stabilization by State Statute	2,352,681
Register of Deeds fund	102,367
Fire Protection	2,116,261
Construction projects	1,580,156
Emergency Telephone System	331,920
Tax Revaluation	23,207
Working Capital/ Fund Balance Policy	15,158,370
Remaining Fund Balance	-0-

(9) SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management has evaluated subsequent events through January 7, 2019, the date which the financial statements were available to be issued.

(10) CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES/RESTATEMENT

The County implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) No. Statement 75, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions, in the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018. The implementation of the statement required the County to record beginning total OPEB liability and the effects on net position of benefit payments and administrative expenses paid by the County related to OPEB during the measurement period (fiscal year ending December 31, 2017). Beginning deferred outflows and inflows of resources associated with the implementation were excluded from the restatement. As a result, net position for the governmental activities decreased by \$3,230,407.

Avery County, North Carolina
Schedule of Changes in Total Pension Liability
Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance
June 30, 2018

	2018	2017
Beginning balance	\$ 316,101	\$ 311,362
Service Cost	22,566	22,162
Interest on the total pension liability	11,941	10,737
Changes of benefit terms	-	-
Differences between expected and actual experience in the measurement of the total pension liability	(12,403)	-
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	30,626	(6,950)
Benefit payments	(13,520)	(21,210)
Other changes	-	-
Ending balance of the total pension liability	<u>\$ 355,311</u>	<u>\$ 316,101</u>

The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the prior fiscal year ending December 31.

Avery County, North Carolina
Schedule of Total Pension Liability as a Percentage of Covered Payroll
Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance
June 30, 2018

	2018	2017
Total pension liability	\$ 355,311	\$ 316,101
Covered payroll	1,091,700	1,018,758
Total pension liability as a percentage of covered payroll	32.55%	31.03%

Notes to the schedules:

Avery County, North Carolina has no assets accumulated in a trust that meets the criteria in paragraph 4 of GASB Statement 73 to pay related benefits.

Avery County, North Carolina
Schedule of Changes in the Net OPEB Liability and Related Ratios

	2017
Total OPEB Liability	
Service cost	\$ 254,700
Interest	138,061
Changes of benefit terms	-
Differences between expected and actual experience	154
Changes of assumptions	(333,486)
Benefit payments	(110,524)
Net change in total OPEB liability	(51,095)
Total OPEB liability - beginning	4,641,610
Total OPEB liability - ending	4,590,515
 Plan fiduciary net position	
Contributions - employer	-
Net investment income	-
Benefit payments	-
Administrative expense	-
Net change in plan fiduciary net position	-
Plan fiduciary net position - beginning	-
Plan fiduciary net position - ending	-
 County's net OPEB liability - ending	\$ 4,590,515
 Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability	0.00%
Covered payroll	6,643,106
County's net OPEB liability as a percentage of covered payroll	69.10%

See the accompanying Independent Auditor's Report.

AVERY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
Proportionate Share of Net Pension (Liability) Asset
Required Supplementary Information
Last Five Fiscal Years

Local Government Employees Retirement System

	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
County's proportion of the net pension liability (asset) (%)	0.125270	0.124910	0.120510	0.074390	0.072600
County's proportion of the net pension liability (asset) (\$)	1,913,778	2,635,729	540,842	(703,390)	914,816
County's covered-employee payroll	7,334,668	6,992,385	6,995,484	6,829,415	6,351,122
County's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset) as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	0.261	0.377	0.077	(0.103)	0.14
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	0.9418	0.9147	0.9809	1.0264	0.9435

* The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the prior fiscal year ending June 30.

AVERY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
Schedule of Contributions to the Local Government Employees' Retirement System
Required Supplementary Information
Last Five Fiscal Years

Local Government Employees Retirement System

	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Contractually required contribution	625,074	554,547	478,437	498,107	484,976
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	625,074	554,547	478,437	498,107	484,976
County's covered-employee payroll	7,509,908	7,334,668	6,992,585	6,995,484	6,829,415
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	0.0832	0.0756	0.0684	0.0712	0.0710

See the accompanying Independent Auditor's Report.

Avery County, North Carolina

General Fund

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances --Budget and Actual--

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

(With Comparative Actual Amounts for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017)

	2018		Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	2017
	Budget	Actual		Actual
Revenues:				
<i>Ad valorem taxes:</i>				
Taxes	\$	\$ 17,998,063	\$	\$ 14,265,566
Penalties and interest		129,742		130,373
Refunds and releases		(34,218)		(42,105)
Total		<u>17,689,900</u>		<u>14,353,834</u>
<i>Local option sales taxes:</i>				
Article 39 one percent		2,320,894		2,605,644
Article 40 one-half of one percent		1,147,894		1,101,571
Article 42 one-half of one percent		1,161,792		1,061,252
Article 44 one-half of one percent		312		1,156
Video programming distribution		38,962		52,866
Medicaid Hold Harmless payment		126,397		247,763
Total		<u>4,925,000</u>		<u>5,070,252</u>
<i>Other taxes and licenses:</i>				
Real estate transfer tax		677,924		426,678
Scrap tire disposal tax		24,173		23,853
Solid waste disposal		12,657		15,506
Total		<u>440,000</u>		<u>466,037</u>
<i>Unrestricted intergovernmental:</i>				
Payments in lieu of taxes		171,003		138,076
Food stamp tax reimbursement		416		700
Sales tax refunds		-		-
Total		<u>164,000</u>		<u>138,776</u>
<i>Restricted intergovernmental:</i>				
State and federal grants		2,689,068		2,826,063
Court facilities fees		23,666		26,945
ABC bottle tax		7,949		7,664
Total		<u>2,927,006</u>		<u>2,860,672</u>
<i>Licenses and permits:</i>				
Inspection fees and building permits		158,624		141,279
Register of deeds		229,511		161,764
Marriage licenses		7,440		7,500
Officer fees		7,317		8,461
Gun permits		2,125		1,815
IPM dues		0		0
Fingerprint fees		3,790		3,945
Concealed weapons fees		27,485		25,480
Total		<u>387,110</u>		<u>350,244</u>
<i>Sales and services:</i>				
Election department		15,688		-
Transportation and related fees		157,794		476,290
Rents, concessions and fees		26,409		26,987
Recreation fees		29,561		39,053
Jail fees		13,810		16,758
Tax assessor fees		181		46

See the accompanying Independent Auditor's Report.

Avery County, North Carolina

General Fund

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances --Budget and Actual--

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

(With Comparative Actual Amounts for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017)

	2018		Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	2017
	Budget	Actual		Actual
Emergency medical service		1,045,700		993,161
Solid waste fees		338,598		268,265
Civil process fees		13,809		16,133
Electronic management program		1,440		1,318
Civil license revocations		1,731		1,222
Total	1,907,800	1,644,721	(263,079)	1,839,233
Investment earnings	240,300	381,775	141,475	289,700
Miscellaneous:				
Sales of fixed assets		10,345		29,126
Donations		22,087		-
Restitution fees		1,658		3,445
Drug fund		17,623		4,754
School resource officer		96,230		98,681
Inmate housing reimbursement		236,748		198,275
Other		70,916		45,473
Total	317,336	455,607	138,271	379,754
Total revenues	28,998,452	29,415,089	416,637	25,748,502
Expenditures:				
General government -				
Governing body:				
Salaries and employee benefits		149,474		150,841
Other operating expenditures		111,282		105,186
Capital outlay		-		5,407
Total	309,123	260,756	48,367	261,434
Administration:				
Salaries and employee benefits		149,102		182,303
Other operating expenditures		21,281		18,148
Capital outlay		1,520		19,902
Total	203,827	171,903	31,924	220,353
Elections:				
Salaries and employee benefits		155,072		153,289
Other operating expenditures		47,676		53,478
Capital outlay		120,536		8,631
Total	389,215	323,284	65,931	215,398
Finance:				

Avery County, North Carolina

General Fund

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances --Budget and Actual--

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

(With Comparative Actual Amounts for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017)

	2018		Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	2017
	Budget	Actual		Actual
Salaries and employee benefits		263,981		266,824
Other operating expenditures		54,023		56,808
Capital outlay		13,985		10,517
Total	356,155	331,989	24,166	334,149
Tax listing and supervisor:				
Salaries and employee benefits		263,700		298,656
Other operating expenditures		84,731		81,186
Capital outlay		4,398		5,000
Total	430,468	352,829	77,639	384,842
Tax collections:				
Salaries and employee benefits		115,364		116,958
Other operating expenditures		6,474		6,453
Total	130,560	121,838	8,722	123,411
Tax mapping:				
Salaries and employee benefits		82,963		84,246
Operating expenditures		21,444		25,491
Capital outlay		19,838		-
Total	132,268	124,245	8,023	109,737
Register of Deeds:				
Salaries and employee benefits		176,281		178,260
Other operating expenditures		457,487		325,345
Capital outlay		7,787		9,887
Total	622,219	641,555	(19,336)	513,492
Public Buildings:				
Salaries and employee benefits		371,776		400,949
Other operating expenditures		612,020		493,914
Capital outlay		135,634		367,834
Total	1,169,935	1,119,430	50,505	1,262,697
Legal and auditing:				
Contracted services	96,400	96,666	(266)	99,780
Facilities fees:				
Operating expenditures		8,122		7,773
Capital outlay		-		-
Total	9,650	8,122	1,528	7,773
Total general government	3,849,820	3,552,617	297,203	3,533,066

Avery County, North Carolina

General Fund

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances --Budget and Actual--

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

(With Comparative Actual Amounts for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017)

	2018		Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	2017
	Budget	Actual		Actual
Public safety -				
Sheriff's Department:				
Salaries and employee benefits		1,783,302		1,792,185
Other operating expenditures		365,660		350,197
Capital outlay		186,062		255,668
Total	2,541,124	2,335,024	206,100	2,398,050
Jail:				
Salaries and employee benefits		1,223,568		1,280,272
Other operating expenditures		683,677		445,603
Capital outlay		2,869		14,952
Total	2,099,471	1,910,114	189,357	1,740,827
Building inspection:				
Salaries and employee benefits		280,168		286,980
Other operating expenditures		52,189		44,528
Capital outlay		5,550		34,281
Total	394,399	337,907	56,492	365,789
Emergency management:				
Salaries and employee benefits		146,612		131,498
Other operating expenditures		30,414		27,188
Capital outlay		111,100		12,128
Total	320,536	288,126	32,410	170,814
Emergency medical services:				
Salaries and employee benefits		1,600,389		1,648,241
Other operating expenditures		353,999		312,338
Capital outlay		127,094		130,128
Total	2,267,219	2,081,482	185,737	2,090,707
Central dispatch:				
Salaries and employee benefits		732,348		695,160
Other operating expenditures		73,382		73,025
Capital outlay		-		47,540
Total	913,399	805,730	107,669	815,725
OSHA instruction:				
Total	300	200	100	-
Medical examiner:				
Professional services	10,000	11,150	(1,150)	10,600
Community agency contributions:				
Humane Society		19,769		20,000
Total	20,000	19,769	231	20,000
Total public safety	8,566,448	7,789,502	776,946	7,612,512

See the accompanying Independent Auditor's Report.

Avery County, North Carolina

General Fund

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances --Budget and Actual--

For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

(With Comparative Actual Amounts for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017)

	2018		Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	2017
	Budget	Actual		Actual
<i>Public transportation:</i>				
<i>Streets and highways:</i>				
Salaries and employee benefits		527,329		528,834
Other operating expenditures		174,561		176,168
Capital outlay		29,980		57,953
Total public transportation	829,699	731,870	97,829	762,955
<i>Environmental protection -</i>				
<i>Sanitation:</i>				
Salaries and employee benefits		826,404		852,803
Other operating expenditures		861,185		1,053,698
Capital outlay		71,606		166,007
Total	2,040,308	1,759,195	281,113	2,072,508
<i>Soil conservation service:</i>				
Salaries and employee benefits		108,962		110,700
Other operating expenditures		123,452		97,856
Total	266,056	232,414	33,642	208,556
Total environmental protection	2,306,364	1,991,609	314,755	2,281,064
<i>Economic and physical development -</i>				
<i>Agricultural extension agent:</i>				
Salaries and employee benefits		170,894		167,739
Other operating expenditures		81,058		78,460
Capital outlay		61,031		10,632
Total	358,428	312,983	45,445	256,831
<i>Regional economic development:</i>				
Region D Development Council		1,000		-
W.N.C. Development Association		7,850		1,000
Total	11,000	8,850	2,150	1,000
Total economic and physical development	369,428	321,833	47,595	257,831
<i>Human services -</i>				
<i>Public Health:</i>				
Toe River Health District		315,788		300,000
Vaya Health		89,600		89,600
Alcoholic rehabilitation		7,949		7,664
Total	415,388	413,337	2,051	397,264
<i>Veteran's Service Officer -</i>				
Salaries and employee benefits		23,734		23,964
Other operating expenditures		3,008		2,160
Capital outlay		-		5,031
Total	29,885	26,742	3,143	31,155

See the accompanying Independent Auditor's Report.

Avery County, North Carolina
General Fund
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances --Budget and Actual--
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018
(With Comparative Actual Amounts for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017)

	2018		Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	2017
	Budget	Actual		Actual
Social Services:				
Salaries and employee benefits		1,959,296		1,966,142
Other operating expenditures		173,148		173,289
Capital outlay		38,001		50,579
Total	2,364,706	2,170,445	194,261	2,190,010
County participation:				
Medicaid		32,372		88,751
Special assistance		308,313		370,266
Foster care		298,189		305,441
Crisis intervention		54,344		62,657
Family Support Act		-		85,970
JOBS program		48,837		48,798
Total	1,339,756	742,055	597,701	961,883
Senior Citizens:				
Salaries and employee benefits		555,239		560,143
Other operating expenditures		316,280		307,033
Capital outlay		44,926		54,108
Total	1,004,449	916,445	88,004	921,284
Day Care and Child Development:				
Contracted services		-		401,886
Community Based Alternatives				
Operating expenditures	106,330	97,469	8,861	112,928
Aid to the Blind				
	1,657	-	1,657	-
Community agency contributions:				
ADAP - Yellow Mountain		24,000		24,000
Avery Alzheimer's Support		1,000		1,000
Total	25,000	25,000	-	25,000
Total human services	5,287,171	4,391,493	895,678	5,041,410
Cultural and recreational -				
Parks & recreation:				
Salaries and employee benefits		210,537		231,916
Other operating expenditures		67,922		103,693
Capital outlay		188,923		23,969
Total	526,119	467,382	58,737	359,578
Community agency contributions:				
Shrine Club		1,000		1,000
Oasis		-		1,000

See the accompanying Independent Auditor's Report.

Avery County, North Carolina

General Fund

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances --Budget and Actual--
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

(With Comparative Actual Amounts for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017)

	2018		Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	2017
	Budget	Actual		Actual
Blue Ridge Resource		400		400
Avery Little League		2,500		2,500
Tag Office		25,000		33,000
Avery Chamber of Commerce		5,000		5,000
Blue Ridge Partnership for Children		7,500		7,500
YMCA		30,000		25,000
Drug court		12,000		12,000
Avery Museum		19,021		3,000
Total	122,425	102,421	20,004	90,400
Library:				
Contracted services	112,858	112,858	-	83,280
Total cultural and recreational	761,402	682,661	78,741	533,258
Education -				
Public schools - current expense		4,641,552		4,410,013
Public schools - capital outlay		966,030		692,205
Community College - current expense		333,000		310,000
Community College - capital outlay		18,000		18,000
Total education	5,958,582	5,958,582	-	5,430,218
Debt service -				
Principal retirement	443,445	443,444		443,443
Interest and fees	171,054	171,054		193,488
Total debt service	614,499	614,498	1	636,931
Total expenditures	28,543,413	26,034,665	2,508,748	26,089,245
Revenue over (under) expenditures	455,039	3,380,424	2,925,385	(340,743)
Other financing sources (uses):				
Operating transfers in (out):				
To Revaluation Fund	(105,000)	(105,000)	-	(95,000)
To/From CapitalProjects Fund	(2,472,740)	(686,688)	1,786,052	(530,000)
To component unit - Airport	(72,233)	(62,436)	9,797	(51,402)
Total operating transfers	(2,649,973)	(854,124)	1,795,849	(676,402)
Total other financing sources (uses)	(2,649,973)	(854,124)	1,795,849	(676,402)
Excess of revenues and other sources over (under) expenditures and other uses	(2,194,934)	2,526,300	4,721,234	(1,017,145)
Appropriated fund balance	2,194,934	-	(2,194,934)	-
Excess of revenues, other sources and appropriated fund balance over (under) expenditures and other uses	\$ -	2,526,300	\$ 2,526,300	(1,017,145)
Fund balances - beginning of year		15,067,485		16,134,129
Fund balances - end of year		\$ 17,593,785		\$ 15,116,984

See the accompanying Independent Auditor's Report.

Avery County, North Carolina**Revaluation Fund****Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances --Budget and Actual--
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018***(With Comparative Actual Amounts for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017)*

	2018		Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	2017
	Budget	Actual		Actual
<i>Revenues:</i>				
<i>Investment earnings</i>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<i>Total revenues</i>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<i>Expenditures:</i>				
<i>General government:</i>				
<i>Tax listing</i>		121,358	(121,358)	104,031
<i>Total expenditures</i>	<u>123,333</u>	<u>121,358</u>	<u>(121,358)</u>	<u>104,031</u>
<i>Revenues over (under) expenditures</i>	(123,333)	(121,358)	(121,358)	(104,031)
<i>Other financing sources (uses):</i>				
<i>Fund balance appropriated</i>	18,333		18,333	
<i>Operating transfer in (out) from General Fund</i>	<u>105,000</u>	<u>105,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>95,000</u>
<i>Total other financing sources (uses)</i>	<u>123,333</u>	<u>105,000</u>	<u>18,333</u>	<u>95,000</u>
<i>Excess of revenues and other sources over (under) expenditures</i>	\$ <u>-</u>	\$ (16,358)	\$ <u>(139,691)</u>	\$ (9,031)
<i>Fund balances - beginning of year</i>		<u>40,872</u>		<u>49,903</u>
<i>Fund balances - end of year</i>		\$ <u>24,514</u>		\$ <u>40,872</u>

See the accompanying Independent Auditor's Report.

Avery County, North Carolina
Combining Balance Sheet
Non-major Governmental Funds
June 30, 2018

	<i>Emergency Telephone System Fund</i>	<i>Fire District Fund</i>	<i>Total Non-major Special Revenue Funds</i>	<i>Pool Renovation Project</i>	<i>Total Non-major Governmental Funds</i>
ASSETS					
<i>Cash and cash equivalents</i>	\$ 357,217	\$ 2,117,323	\$ 2,474,540	\$ 830,408	\$ 3,304,948
<i>Accounts receivable, net</i>	15,455	-	15,455	-	15,455
<i>Taxes receivable, net</i>	-	102,171	102,171	-	102,171
<i>Due from other governments</i>	2,765	-	2,765	-	2,765
<i>Prepaid expenses</i>	-	-	-	-	-
Total assets	\$ 375,437	\$ 2,219,494	\$ 2,594,931	\$ 830,408	\$ 3,425,339
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES					
<i>Liabilities:</i>					
<i>Accounts payable and accrued liabilities</i>	\$ 25,297	\$ 1,062	\$ 26,359	\$ -	\$ 26,359
<i>Deferred revenue</i>	-	102,171	102,171	-	102,171
Total liabilities	25,297	103,233	128,530	-	128,530
<i>Fund balances:</i>					
<i>Nonspendable:</i>					
<i>Prepaid assets</i>	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Restricted:</i>					
<i>Reserved by State statute</i>	18,220	-	18,220	-	18,220
<i>Fire Protection</i>	-	2,116,261	2,116,261	-	2,116,261
<i>Emergency Telephone System</i>	331,920	-	331,920	-	331,920
<i>Assigned:</i>					
<i>Designated for subsequent year's expenditures</i>	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Designated for capital outlay project</i>	-	-	-	830,408	830,408
<i>Unassigned</i>	-	-	-	-	-
Total fund balances	350,140	2,116,261	2,466,401	830,408	3,296,809
Total liabilities and fund balances	\$ 375,437	\$ 2,219,494	\$ 2,594,931	\$ 830,408	\$ 3,425,339

See the accompanying Independent Auditor's Report.

Avery County, North Carolina
Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance
Non-major Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended June 30, 2018

	<i>Non-Major Non-major Capital Projects Funds</i>						
	<i>Emergency Telephone System Fund</i>	<i>Fire District Fund</i>	<i>Grant Projects Funds</i>	<i>Total Non-major Special Revenue Funds</i>	<i>Pool Renovation</i>	<i>High School Renovation</i>	<i>Total Non-major Governmental Funds</i>
REVENUES							
<i>Ad valorem taxes</i>	\$ -	\$ 2,612,117	\$ -	\$ 2,612,117	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,612,117
<i>Restricted intergovernmental</i>	185,457	-	8,696	194,153	-	147,876	342,029
<i>Investment earnings</i>	315	1,605	-	1,920	-	-	1,920
<i>Total revenues</i>	<u>185,772</u>	<u>2,613,722</u>	<u>8,696</u>	<u>2,808,190</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>147,876</u>	<u>2,956,066</u>
EXPENDITURES							
<i>Current:</i>							
<i>Economic and physical development</i>	-	-	8,696	8,696	-	-	8,696
<i>Human services</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Cultural and recreational</i>	-	-	-	-	154,464	-	154,464
<i>Public safety</i>	147,472	2,810,392	-	2,957,864	-	-	2,957,864
<i>Education</i>	-	-	-	-	-	151,476	151,476
<i>Total expenditures</i>	<u>147,472</u>	<u>2,810,392</u>	<u>8,696</u>	<u>2,966,560</u>	<u>154,464</u>	<u>151,476</u>	<u>3,272,500</u>
<i>Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures</i>	<u>38,300</u>	<u>(196,670)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(158,370)</u>	<u>(154,464)</u>	<u>(3,600)</u>	<u>(316,434)</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)							
<i>Transfers (to) from other funds</i>	-	-	-	-	-	3,600	3,600
<i>Total other financing sources and uses</i>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,600</u>	<u>3,600</u>
<i>Net change in fund balances</i>	38,300	(196,670)	-	(158,370)	(154,464)	-	(312,834)
<i>Fund balances - beginning</i>	311,840	2,312,931	-	2,624,771	984,872	-	3,609,643
<i>Fund balances - ending</i>	<u>\$ 350,140</u>	<u>\$ 2,116,261</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 2,466,401</u>	<u>\$ 830,408</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 3,296,809</u>

See the accompanying Independent Auditor's Report.

Avery County, North Carolina
Emergency Telephone System Fund
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances --Budget and Actual--
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018
(With Comparative Actual Amounts for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017)

	2018		Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	2017
	Budget	Actual		Actual
<i>Revenues:</i>				
<i>E-911 surcharges</i>	\$	\$ 185,457	\$	\$ 199,849
<i>Investment earnings - surcharges</i>		315		398
<i>Total revenues</i>	<u>185,835</u>	<u>185,772</u>	<u>(63)</u>	<u>200,247</u>
<i>Expenditures:</i>				
<i>Public safety:</i>				
<i>Public safety expenditures</i>		147,472		133,171
<i>Capital outlay for public safety</i>		-		147,672
<i>Total expenditures</i>	<u>330,329</u>	<u>147,472</u>	<u>182,857</u>	<u>280,843</u>
<i>Revenues over (under) expenditures</i>	<u>(144,494)</u>	<u>38,300</u>	<u>182,794</u>	<u>(80,596)</u>
<i>Other financing sources (uses):</i>				
<i>Proceeds from capital lease</i>	-	-	-	-
<i>Operating transfer in (out):</i>				
<i>To Debt Service</i>	-	-	-	-
<i>From General Fund</i>	-	-	-	-
<i>Fund balance appropriated</i>	144,494		144,494	
<i>Total other financing sources (uses)</i>	<u>144,494</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>144,494</u>	<u>-</u>
<i>Excess of revenues and other sources over (under) expenditures and other uses</i>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>38,300</u>	<u>\$ 38,300</u>	<u>(80,596)</u>
<i>Fund balances - beginning of year</i>		<u>311,840</u>		<u>392,436</u>
<i>Fund balances - end of year</i>		<u>\$ 350,140</u>		<u>\$ 311,840</u>

Avery County, North Carolina**Fire District Fund****Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances --Budget and Actual--****For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018****(With Comparative Actual Amounts for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2017)**

	2018		Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	2017
	Budget	Actual		Actual
<i>Revenues:</i>				
Ad valorem taxes	\$	\$ 2,612,117	\$	\$ 2,498,607
Interest and other income		1,605		1,492
Total revenues		<u>2,530,500</u>	<u>(83,222)</u>	<u>2,500,099</u>
<i>Expenditures:</i>				
<i>Public safety:</i>				
Volunteer fire and rescue departments		735,404		708,092
Fire commission		2,074,988		1,197,527
Total expenditures		<u>2,530,500</u>	<u>(279,892)</u>	<u>1,905,619</u>
Excess of revenues and other sources over (under) expenditures and other uses	\$	<u>-</u>	\$ <u>196,670</u>	<u>594,480</u>
Fund balances - beginning of year		<u>2,312,931</u>		<u>1,718,451</u>
Fund balances - end of year	\$	<u>2,116,261</u>	\$	<u>2,312,931</u>

See the accompanying Independent Auditor's Report.

Avery County, North Carolina
 Capital Projects Fund - Agriculture Building Fund
 Statement of Revenue, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances--
 Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP)
 From Inception and for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

	Project Authorization	Actual			Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
		Prior Years	Current Year	Total To Date	
<i>Revenues:</i>					
Restricted intergovernmental revenues	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<i>Expenditures - Economic and Physical Development</i>					
General construction	\$ 920,000		903,084	903,084	16,916
Architect/engineering fees	85,000	39,763	40,186	79,949	5,051
Permits, surveys, insurance	21,000	14,800	6,150	20,950	50
Furniture	38,500		3,235	3,235	35,265
Site prep	435,500	-	436,262	436,262	(762)
Feasibility study/plan	30,000		19,754	19,754	10,246
Contingency	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditures	<u>1,530,000</u>	<u>54,563</u>	<u>1,408,671</u>	<u>1,463,234</u>	<u>66,766</u>
Revenues over (under) expenditures	(1,530,000)	(54,563)	(1,408,671)	(1,463,234)	66,766
<i>Other financing sources and uses</i>					
Transfers in (out) - general fund	1,530,000	1,530,000	-	1,530,000	-
Total other financing sources	<u>1,530,000</u>	<u>1,530,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,530,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Revenues and other sources over (under) expenditures	\$ <u>-</u>	\$ <u>1,475,437</u>	(1,408,671)	\$ <u>66,766</u>	\$ <u>66,766</u>
<i>Fund balances:</i>					
Beginning of year, July 1			<u>1,475,437</u>		
End of year, June 30			\$ <u><u>66,766</u></u>		

Avery County, North Carolina
 Capital Projects Fund - Pool Project Fund
 Statement of Revenue, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances--
 Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP)
 From Inception and for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

	<u>Project Authorization</u>	<u>Prior Years</u>	<u>Actual Current Year</u>	<u>Total To Date</u>	<u>Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)</u>
<i>Revenues:</i>					
Restricted intergovernmental revenues	\$ 187,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (187,000)
Total	<u>187,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<i>Expenditures - Cultural and Recreational</i>					
General construction	\$ 2,245,074	-	154,463	154,463	2,090,611
Architect/engineering fees	171,213	678	-	678	170,535
Permits, surveys, insurance	22,000	14,450	-	14,450	7,550
Furniture	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
Site prep	524,725	-	-	-	524,725
Total expenditures	<u>2,973,012</u>	<u>15,128</u>	<u>154,463</u>	<u>169,591</u>	<u>2,803,421</u>
Revenues over (under) expenditures	(2,786,012)	(15,128)	(154,463)	(169,591)	2,616,421
<i>Other financing sources and uses</i>					
Transfers in (out) - general fund	<u>2,786,012</u>	<u>1,000,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,000,000</u>	<u>(1,786,012)</u>
Total other financing sources	<u>2,786,012</u>	<u>1,000,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,000,000</u>	<u>(1,786,012)</u>
Revenues and other sources over (under) expenditures	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 984,872</u>	<u>(154,463)</u>	<u>\$ 830,409</u>	<u>\$ 830,409</u>
<i>Fund balances:</i>					
Beginning of year, July 1			<u>984,872</u>		
End of year, June 30			<u>\$ 830,409</u>		

AVERY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

*Grant Project Fund - Community Development Block Grants
Statement of Revenue, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances--
Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP)
From Inception and for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018*

	<u>Project Authorization</u>	<u>Prior Years</u>	<u>Actual Current Year</u>	<u>Total To Date</u>	<u>Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)</u>
<i>Revenues:</i>					
<i> Restricted intergovernmental revenues:</i>					
Grant 04-D-2703	\$ 50,000	\$ 37,685	\$ 8,696	\$ 46,381	\$ (3,619)
Total	<u>50,000</u>	<u>37,685</u>	<u>8,696</u>	<u>46,381</u>	<u>(3,619)</u>
<i>Expenditures - Economic and physical development</i>					
Rehabilitation	45,000	37,685	3,696	41,381	3,619
Administration	5,000	-	5,000	5,000	-
Planning	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditures	<u>50,000</u>	<u>37,685</u>	<u>8,696</u>	<u>46,381</u>	<u>3,619</u>
<i>Revenues and other sources over (under) expenditures</i>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
<i>Fund balances:</i>					
Beginning of year, July 1			-		
End of year, June 30			<u>\$ -</u>		

See the accompanying Independent Auditor's Report.

Avery County, North Carolina
Combining Statement of Changes in Assets and Liabilities
Agency Funds
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

	<u>Balance</u> <u>July 1,</u> <u>2017</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deductions</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>June 30,</u> <u>2018</u>
Social Services -				
<i>Assets:</i>				
Cash and investments	\$ 35,720	\$ 175,051	\$ (184,644)	\$ 26,127
<i>Liabilities:</i>				
Miscellaneous liabilities	\$ 35,720	\$ 175,051	\$ (184,644)	\$ 26,127
Motor Vehicle Tax -				
<i>Assets:</i>				
Taxes receivable	\$ -	\$ 247,029	\$ (247,029)	\$ -
<i>Liabilities:</i>				
Intergovernmental payables	\$ -	\$ 247,029	\$ (247,029)	\$ -
Fines and Forfeitures -				
<i>Assets:</i>				
Cash and investments	\$ -	\$ 73,409	\$ (73,409)	\$ -
<i>Liabilities:</i>				
Intergovernmental payables - Board of Education	\$ -	\$ 73,409	\$ (73,409)	\$ -
Total intergovernmental payables	\$ -	\$ 73,409	\$ (73,409)	\$ -
Deed of Trust Fee Fund				
<i>Assets:</i>				
Cash and investments	\$ -	\$ 6,513	\$ (6,513)	\$ -
<i>Liabilities:</i>				
Intergovernmental payables - State of NC	\$ -	\$ 6,513	\$ (6,513)	\$ -
Inmate Trust Fund				
<i>Assets:</i>				
Cash and investments	\$ 7,882	\$ 88,362	\$ (87,790)	\$ 8,454
<i>Liabilities:</i>				
Miscellaneous liabilities	\$ 7,882	\$ 88,362	\$ (87,790)	\$ 8,454
Totals - All Agency Funds				
<i>Assets:</i>				
Cash and investments	\$ 43,602	\$ 343,335	\$ (352,356)	\$ 34,581
Taxes receivable	-	247,029	(247,029)	-
Total assets	\$ 43,602	\$ 590,364	\$ (599,385)	\$ 34,581
<i>Liabilities:</i>				
Miscellaneous liabilities	\$ 43,602	\$ 263,413	\$ (272,434)	\$ 34,581
Intergovernmental payables - Town Motor Vehicles	-	247,029	(247,029)	-
Intergovernmental payables - Board of Education	-	73,409	(73,409)	-
Intergovernmental payables - State of North Carolina	-	6,513	(6,513)	-
Total liabilities	\$ 43,602	\$ 590,364	\$ (599,385)	\$ 34,581

See the accompanying Independent Auditor's report.

AVERY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
General Fund
Schedule of Ad Valorem Taxes Receivable
June 30, 2018

	<i>Uncollected Balance June 30, 2017</i>	<i>Additions</i>	<i>Collections and Credits</i>	<i>Uncollected Balance June 30, 2018</i>
2017 - 2018	\$	\$ 17,987,195	\$ 17,630,903	\$ 356,292
2016 - 2017	261,347	-	127,404	133,943
2015 - 2016	163,543	-	70,613	92,930
2014 - 2015	121,452	-	57,145	64,307
2013 - 2014	74,681	-	26,491	48,190
2012 - 2013	40,356	-	16,079	24,277
2011 - 2012	29,663	-	6,698	22,965
2010 - 2011	16,733	-	1,643	15,090
2009 - 2010	18,870	-	1,145	17,725
2008 - 2009	36,175	-	987	35,188
2007 - 2008	6,479	-	6,479	-
	<u>\$ 769,299</u>	<u>\$ 17,987,195</u>	<u>\$ 17,945,587</u>	<u>\$ 810,907</u>
<i>Less: allowance for uncollectible accounts:</i>				
General Fund				<u>(176,115)</u>
<i>Ad valorem taxes receivable - net</i>				
General Fund				<u>\$ 634,792</u>
Reconciliation with revenues:				
<i>Ad valorem taxes - General Fund</i>				<u>\$ 18,093,587</u>
<i>Reconciling items:</i>				
Interest collected				(129,742)
Taxes written off				(18,258)
Total reconciling items				<u>(148,000)</u>
<i>Total collections and credits</i>				<u>\$ 17,945,587</u>

AVERY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
Analysis of Current Tax Levy
County-Wide Levy
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018

	<u>County-wide</u>			<u>Total Levy</u>	
				<u>Property Valuation</u>	<u>Rate</u>
<i>Original levy:</i>					
<i>Property taxed at current year's rate</i>	\$ 3,742,774,852	0.4800	\$ 17,965,319	\$ 17,120,063	\$ 845,256
<i>Penalties</i>	-		7,756	7,756	-
<i>Total</i>	<u>3,742,774,852</u>		<u>17,973,075</u>	<u>17,127,819</u>	<u>845,256</u>
 <i>Discoveries:</i>					
<i>Current year taxes</i>	2,941,644	0.4800	14,120	14,120	-
<i>Total</i>	<u>2,941,644</u>		<u>14,120</u>	<u>14,120</u>	<u>-</u>
 <i>Total property valuations</i>	<u>3,745,716,496</u>				
 <i>Net levy</i>			17,987,195	17,141,939	845,256
 <i>Uncollected taxes at June 30, 2018</i>			<u>356,293</u>	<u>356,293</u>	<u>-</u>
 <i>Current year's taxes collected</i>			\$ <u>17,630,902</u>	\$ <u>16,785,646</u>	\$ <u>845,256</u>
 <i>Current year's collection percentage</i>			<u>98.02%</u>	<u>97.92%</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

See the accompanying Independent Auditor's Report.

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 Board of County Commissioners
Avery County, North Carolina

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities, the aggregate discretely presented component unit, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of Avery County, North Carolina, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2018, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Avery County, North Carolina's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated January 7, 2019.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

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

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

Compliance and Other Matters

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

Purpose of this Report

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

Young, Miller & Gillespie, P.A.
Spruce Pine, North Carolina
January 7, 2019

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program; Report on Internal Control Over Compliance; In accordance with OMB Uniform Guidance; and the State Single Audit Implementation Act

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Commissioners
County of Avery
Newland, North Carolina

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

We have audited the County of Avery, North Carolina, compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the OMB *Compliance Supplement* and the *Audit Manual for Governmental Auditors in North Carolina*, issued by the Local Government Commission, that could have a direct and material effect on each of the County of Avery's major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2018. The County of Avery's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

Management's Responsibility

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

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on compliance for each of the County of Avery's major federal programs based on our audit of the types of compliance requirements referred to above. We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the audit requirements of Title 2, U.S. Code of Federal Regulations, Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance) and the State Single Audit Implementation

Act. Those standards, the Uniform Guidance, and the State Single Audit Implementation Act 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 direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the County of Avery's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures, as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. However, our audit does not provide a legal determination of the County of Avery's compliance.

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

In our opinion, the County of Avery complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2018.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

Management of the County of Avery is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above. In planning and performing our audit of compliance, we considered the County of Avery's internal control over compliance with the types of requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program to determine the auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance for each major federal program and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the County's internal control over compliance.

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A material weakness in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be

prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

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

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

Young, Miller & Gillespie, P.A.

Young, Miller & Gillespie, P.A.
Spruce Pine, North Carolina
January 7, 2019

Report on Compliance With Requirements Applicable to Each Major State Program and Internal Control Over Compliance in Accordance With the Uniform Guidance and the State Single Audit Implementation Act

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Commissioners
County of Avery
Newland, North Carolina

Report on Compliance for Each Major State Program

We have audited the County of Avery, North Carolina's compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the *Audit Manual for Governmental Auditors in North Carolina*, issued by the Local Government Commission that could have a direct and material effect on each of the County of Avery's (the County's) major state programs for the year ended June 30, 2018. The County's state programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

Management's Responsibility

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

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on compliance for each of the County of Avery's major state programs based on our audit of the types of compliance requirements referred to above. We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and applicable sections of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform

Guidance) as described in the Audit Manual for Governmental Auditors in North Carolina, and the State Single Audit Implementation Act. Those standards, Uniform Guidance, *Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations*, and the State Single Audit Implementation Act 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 direct and material effect on a major state program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the County's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures, as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion on compliance for each major state program. However, our audit does not provide a legal determination of the County of Avery, North Carolina's compliance.

Opinion on Each Major State Program

In our opinion, the County of Avery complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major state programs for the year ended June 30, 2018.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

Management of the County is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above. In planning and performing our audit of compliance, we considered the County's internal control over compliance with the types of requirements that could have a direct and material effect on a major state program to determine the auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on compliance for each major state program and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, 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 of Avery's internal control over compliance.

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a state program on a timely basis. A material weakness in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or

combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a state program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a state program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

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

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

Young, Miller & Gillespie, P.A.

Young, Miller & Gillespie, P.A.
Spruce Pine, North Carolina
January 7, 2019

AVERY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
For the Year Ended June 30, 2018

I. Summary of Auditor's Results

- A. An unmodified opinion was issued on the financial statements of Avery County, North Carolina.
- B. Our audit of the financial statements disclosed no significant deficiencies in internal controls.
- C. Our audit of the financial statements disclosed no instances of noncompliance with laws, regulations, and the provisions of contracts and grant agreements that are material to the financial statements.
- D. Our audit of compliance with types of compliance requirements applicable to the County's major programs disclosed no significant deficiency in internal controls over major programs.
- E. An unmodified opinion was issued on Avery County's compliance with the types of compliance requirements applicable to its major federal and State programs.
- F. Audit findings relative to the major federal award programs for Avery County are reported in this schedule.
- G. Major federal programs for Avery County for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018 are:

<u>Program Name</u>	<u>CFDA # s</u>
Medical Assistance Program	93.778-1
Low-Income Energy Assistance	93.568-2

- H. The major State programs for Avery County for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2018 are:

Public School Building Fund Lottery Proceeds
 NC Department of Transportation – ROAP, RGP and Work First Programs

- I. The threshold for determining Type A programs for Avery County is \$ 750,000.
- J. Avery County qualified as a low risk auditee under Section 200.520 of the Uniform Guidance.

II. Findings related to the Audit of the Financial Statements of Avery County, North Carolina

None

III. Findings and Questioned Costs Related to the Audit of Federal and State Awards

None

IV. Status of Prior Year Findings

Findings as noted in the prior year audit related to significant deficiency in regard lack of segregation of duties due to small staff size. Although it is not economically feasible for governmental entities of this size to employ a staff of the size necessary to achieve an optimum level of separation of duties, the County has implemented procedures to address the problem to the extent possible.

AVERY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AND STATE AWARDS
For the Year Ended June 30, 2018

<u>Grantor/Pass-through Grantor/Program Title</u>	<u>Federal CFDA Number</u>	<u>State Pass-Through Grantor's Number</u>	<u>Federal (Direct & Pass-Through) Expenditures</u>	<u>State Expenditures</u>	<u>Passed Through to Subrecipients</u>	<u>Local Expenditures</u>
Federal Grants:						
<i>Cash Programs:</i>						
<u>U.S. Department of Health & Human Services</u>						
<i>Passed-through Region D Council of Governments:</i>						
<i>Special Programs for the Aging-Title III B</i>						
<i>Grants for Supportive Services and Senior Centers</i>						
	93.044		\$ 85,741	\$ 15,131	\$ -	\$ -
<i>Special Programs for the Aging-Title III C</i>						
<i>Nutrition Services</i>						
	93.045		63,907	11,278	-	-
<i>Passed through N.C. Dept. of Health and Human Resources</i>						
<i>Division of Social Services:</i>						
<i>Administration:</i>						
<i>Work First Service</i>						
	93.558		168,300	-	-	100,896
<i>Work First Administrative</i>						
	93.558		34,143	-	-	28,170
<i>Low-Income Home Energy Assistance</i>						
<i>Block Grant</i>						
	93.568		73,142	-	-	-
<i>Crisis Intervention Payments</i>						
	93.568		54,016	-	-	-
<i>Adoption Foster Care</i>						
	93.658		237,918	29,306	-	131,675
<i>Permanency Planning</i>						
	93.645		4,771	-	-	1,590
<i>Family Preservation</i>						
	93.556		9,285	-	-	-
<i>Child Support Enforcement</i>						
	93.563		81,277	-	-	41,870
<i>In-Home Service - SSBG</i>						
	93.667		77,679	-	-	25,893
<i>NC Health Choice</i>						
	93.767		41,130	21	-	-
<i>Independent Living - LINKS</i>						
	93.674		4,252	1,063	-	-
<i>IV-E Adoption Subsidy</i>						
	93.659		35,151	-	-	1,602
<i>Division of Medical Assistance:</i>						
<i>Administration:</i>						
<i>Title XIX - Medicaid</i>						
	93.778		594,461	1,483	-	220,756
<u>Subsidized Child Care Cluster:</u>						
<i>Division of Social Services:</i>						
<i>Child Care Development Fund</i>						
	93.596		80,000	-	-	-
<i>Total Subsidized Child Care Cluster</i>						
			<u>80,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<i>IV E Foster Care</i>						
	93.658					
<i>Total U.S. Department of Health & Human Resources</i>						
			<u>1,645,173</u>	<u>58,282</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>552,452</u>
<u>U.S. Department of Agriculture</u>						
<i>Passed through Region D Council of Governments:</i>						
<i>Nutrition Program for the Elderly</i>						
	10.570		20,785	-	-	-
<i>Passed through N.C. Dept. of Health and Human Resources</i>						
<i>Division of Social Services:</i>						
<i>Administration:</i>						
<i>Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program:</i>						
<i>State Administrative Matching Grants for the SNAP</i>						
	10.561		198,548	-	-	198,548
<i>Total U.S. Department of Agriculture</i>						
			<u>219,333</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>198,548</u>
<u>U.S. Department of Transportation</u>						
<i>Passed through N.C. Dept. of Transportation</i>						
<i>Public Transportation Programs:</i>						
<i>Formula Grants for Rural Areas</i>						
	20.509		157,036	9,814	-	-
<i>Formula Grants for Rural Areas - Capital</i>						
	20.509		962	120	-	120
<i>Total U.S. Department of Transportation</i>						
			<u>157,998</u>	<u>12,931</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>120</u>
<u>U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development</u>						
<i>Passed through N.C. Dept. of Commerce</i>						
<i>Division of Community Assistance:</i>						

AVERY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AND STATE AWARDS
For the Year Ended June 30, 2018

<u>Grantor/Pass-through Grantor/Program Title</u>	<u>Federal CFDA Number</u>	<u>State Pass-Through Grantor's Number</u>	<u>Federal (Direct & Pass-Through) Expenditures</u>	<u>State Expenditures</u>	<u>Passed Through to Subrecipients</u>	<u>Local Expenditures</u>
Scattered Housing Grant	14.228		8,695	-	-	-
Total U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development			8,695	-	-	-
<u>U.S. Department of Homeland Security</u>						
Passed through N.C. Dept. of Public Safety						
Emergency Management Performance	97.042		99,342	-	-	-
Total U.S. Department of Homeland Security			99,342	-	-	-
Total federal assistance			2,130,541	71,213	-	751,120
STATE GRANTS						
Cash Programs:						
<u>N.C. Department of Health and Human Resources:</u>						
<i>Passed-through Region D Council of Governments:</i>						
Senior Center General Purchases			-	10,938	-	-
Senior Center Operations			-	10,559	-	-
<i>Division of Social Services:</i>						
State Child Welfare			-	33,449	-	-
Foster Care			-	857	-	-
<i>Direct Benefit Payment:</i>						
SFHF Maximization			-	58,763	-	58,184
State Foster Care Benefits Program			-	27,437	-	27,437
<i>North Carolina Department of Public Safety</i>						
Aolescent Substance Abuse			-	-	-	-
Juvenile Service Landship			-	18,004	-	-
PASS			-	14,603	-	-
Juvenile Non-Det			-	10,615	-	-
Project Challenge			-	29,020	-	-
Juvenile Service Operational			-	2,114	-	-
Governors Crime Commission			-	13,430	-	-
Total N.C. Department of Health and Human Resources			-	229,789	-	85,621
<u>N.C. Department of Transportation:</u>						
Elderly & Disabled TAP	DOT 16 CL		-	52,537	-	-
Work First Program	DOT 16 CL		-	6,249	-	-
Rural General Public Transportation	DOT 16 CL		-	53,841	-	-
Total N.C. Department of Transportation			-	112,627	-	-
<u>N.C. Department of Administration</u>						
County Aid - Veterans Service Office			-	2,175	-	-
Total N.C. Department of Administration			-	2,175	-	-
<u>N.C. Department of Environmental Quality</u>						
Soil and water grant			-	29,021	-	-
<u>N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services</u>						
Pesticide Environmental Grant			-	15,302	-	-
<u>N.C. Office of State Budget and Management</u>						
Public School Building Capital Fund - Lottery			-	147,876	-	-
Total State assistance			-	536,790	-	85,621
Total assistance			\$ 2,130,541	\$ 608,003	-	\$ 836,741

Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal and State Financial Awards:

AVERY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AND STATE AWARDS
For the Year Ended June 30, 2018

<u>Grantor/Pass-through Grantor/Program Title</u>	<u>Federal CFDA Number</u>	<u>State Pass-Through Grantor's Number</u>	<u>Federal (Direct & Pass-Through) Expenditures</u>	<u>State Expenditures</u>	<u>Passed Through to Subrecipients</u>	<u>Local Expenditures</u>
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Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal and State Financial Awards:

1 Basis of Presentation

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal and State awards includes the federal and State grant activity of Avery County under the programs of the federal government and the State of North Carolina for the year ended June 30, 2018. The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 US Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and the Audit Requirements for Federal Awards and the State Single Audit Implementation Act. Some amounts presented in this schedule may differ from amounts presented in, or used in the preparation of the financial statements. Because this Schedule presents only a limited portion of the operations of Avery County, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, changes in net position, or cash flows of Avery County. The County provides no amounts to subrecipients.

2 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Expenditures reported in the SEFSA are reported on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in the Uniform Guidance, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement. Avery County has elected not to use the 10 percent de minimus indirect cost rate as allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

3 Child Care Cluster

The following are clustered by the NC Department of Health and Human Services and are treated separately for state audit requirement purposes:
 Subsidized Child Care