

***AVERY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA***

***Newland, North Carolina***

***Financial Statements***

***June 30, 2019***

**YOUNG, MILLER & GILLESPIE, P.A.  
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Spruce Pine, North Carolina 28777**

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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, 2019, 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, 2019, 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 October 22, 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  
October 22, 2019



## ***Management's Discussion and Analysis***

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*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, 2019. 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 \$42,740,804.*
- *The government's total net position increased for the current year by a net of \$6,946,241 primarily due to capital improvements to County properties..*
- *As of the close of the current fiscal year, Avery County's governmental funds reported combined ending fund balances of \$23,864,192 an increase of \$2,199,230 in comparison with the prior year. Approximately 41 percent of this total amount, or \$9,782,526, 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 \$9,782,526, or 26 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.*

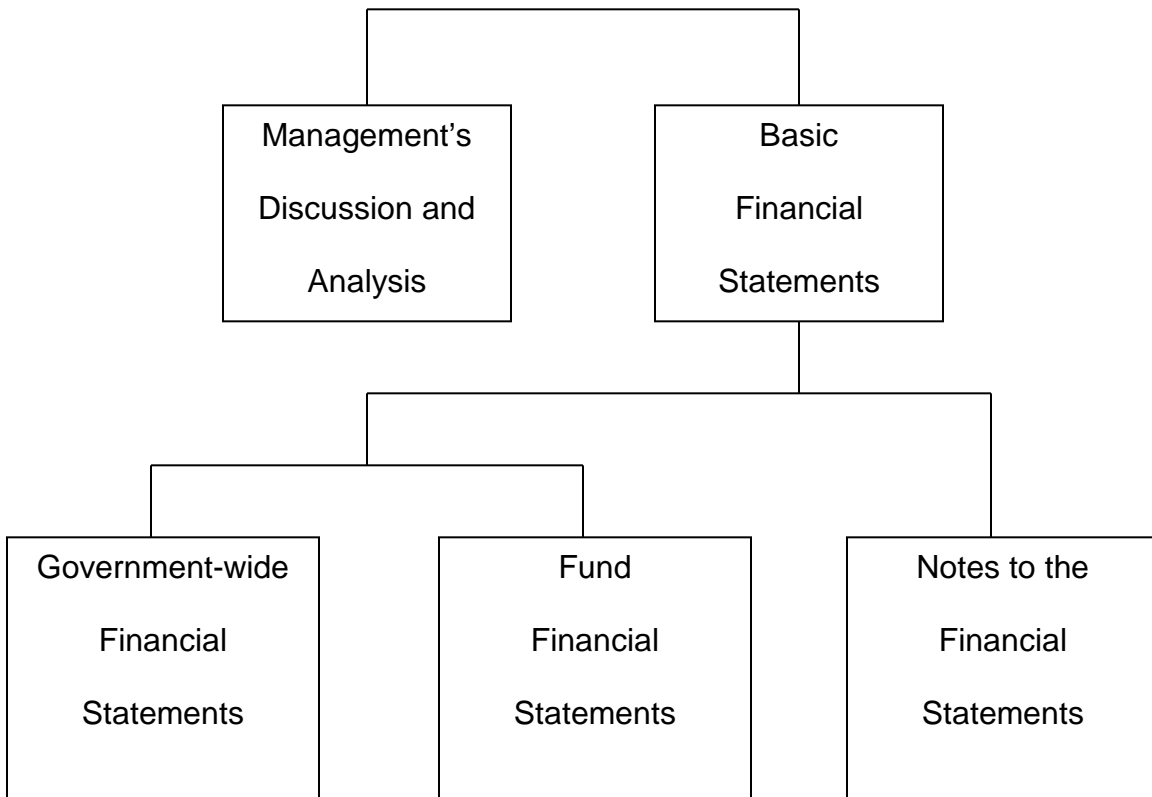
### ***Overview of the Financial Statements***

*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***

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### ***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***

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*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>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>Difference</u>
<i>Current and other assets</i>	\$ 26,358,543	\$ 23,246,595	\$ 3,111,948
<i>Capital assets</i>	27,518,874	22,696,214	4,822,660
<i>Deferred outflows</i>	2,360,534	1,582,815	777,719
<i>Total assets and deferred outflows</i>	<u>\$ 56,237,951</u>	<u>\$ 47,525,624</u>	<u>\$ 8,712,327</u>
<i>Long-term liabilities outstanding</i>	\$ 10,936,639	\$ 7,793,159	\$ 3,143,480
<i>Other liabilities</i>	2,042,370	3,553,809	(1,511,439)
<i>Total liabilities</i>	<u>12,979,009</u>	<u>11,346,968</u>	<u>1,632,041</u>
<i>Deferred Inflows</i>	518,138	384,093	134,045
<i>Net position:</i>			
<i>Net investment in capital assets</i>	27,518,874	22,696,214	4,822,660
<i>Restricted</i>	5,430,126	4,903,229	526,897
<i>Unrestricted</i>	9,791,804	8,195,120	1,596,684
<i>Total net position</i>	<u>\$ 42,740,804</u>	<u>\$ 35,794,563</u>	<u>\$ 6,946,241</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 \$42,740,804 as of June 30, 2019. The County's net position increased by a net of \$6,946,241 for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019. 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 \$9,791,804 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 98.18%,
- Additional revenues due to an increase in sales tax collections and investment earnings.
- Controlled expenditures

## *Management's Discussion and Analysis*

### *Avery County's Changes in Net Position*

**Figure 3**

		<i>Governmental Activities</i>	
		<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
<i>Revenues:</i>			
<i>Program revenues:</i>			
<i>Charges for services</i>	\$	2,589,912	\$ 2,508,173
<i>Operating grants and contributions</i>		2,757,693	2,755,615
<i>Capital grants and contributions</i>		2,400,696	172,959
<i>General revenues:</i>			
<i>Property taxes</i>		21,844,801	20,893,764
<i>Other taxes</i>		6,915,116	5,643,356
<i>Investment earnings</i>		535,796	400,979
<i>Other</i>		152,064	156,260
<i>Total revenues</i>		<u>37,196,078</u>	<u>32,531,106</u>
 <i>Expenses:</i>			
<i>General government</i>		3,827,848	3,754,447
<i>Public safety</i>		11,686,353	10,881,468
<i>Transportation</i>		959,960	838,891
<i>Environmental protection</i>		2,408,120	1,974,141
<i>Economic and physical development</i>		343,549	339,206
<i>Human services</i>		4,665,336	4,411,227
<i>Cultural and recreation</i>		558,511	563,266
<i>Education</i>		5,691,172	5,958,582
<i>Interest on long-term debt</i>		128,188	148,621
<i>Total expenses</i>		<u>30,269,037</u>	<u>28,869,849</u>
<i>Increase in net position</i>		6,927,041	3,661,257
<i>Net position, beginning</i>		35,794,563	35,363,713
<i>Prior period adjustment</i>		19,200	(3,230,407)
<i>Net position, beginning, as restated</i>		<u>35,813,763</u>	<u>32,133,306</u>
 <i>Net position, ending</i>	 \$	 <u>42,740,804</u>	 \$ <u>35,794,563</u>

## ***Management's Discussion and Analysis***

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### ***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 \$2,199,230.*

***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 \$9,782,526 while total general fund balance reached \$12,448,280. 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 26% percent of total General Fund expenditures and transfers to other funds, while total fund balance represents 33% percent of that same amount.*

*At June 30, 2019, the governmental funds of Avery County reported a combined fund balance of \$23,864,192, 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 \$350,698. 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, 2019, total \$27,518,874 (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:

- Vehicles and related equipment for use in various functions of government
- Construction in progress of the new pool and the high school renovations.

### **Avery County's Capital Assets (net of depreciation)**

**Figure 4**

	<i>Governmental Activities</i>		<i>Governmental Activities</i>	
	<u>2019</u>		<u>2018</u>	<u>Difference</u>
<i>Land</i>	\$ 4,257,066	\$	3,871,635	\$ 385,431
<i>Construction in progress</i>	6,717,205		2,251,084	4,466,121
<i>Buildings</i>	13,486,181		13,864,165	(377,984)
<i>Improvements other than buildings</i>	974,563		928,679	45,884
<i>Machinery and equipment</i>	898,445		857,976	40,469
<i>Vehicles and motorized equipment</i>	1,185,414		922,675	262,739
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 27,518,874</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>22,696,214</b>	<b>\$ 4,822,660</b>

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, 2019 Avery County had total debt outstanding of \$11,251,894. Of this, \$2,678,679 is debt secured by deeds of trust, \$397,102 is a pension obligation, \$651,685 is accrued vacation liability, \$2,850,369 is for local government employee's retirement system, and \$4,674,059 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*

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### ***Budget Highlights for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2020***

*Total budgeted revenues are projected to increase \$599,560 or 2.0 percent from the 2018-19 budgeted revenues. The increase is primarily attributed to increases in ad valorem taxes and sales taxes, partially offset by NC State Department of Transportation reimbursements.*

*Budgeted General Fund appropriations are expected to increase \$599,560 or 2.0 percent from the 2018-19 budget. The majority of the increase is due to increased debt service payments attributable to the addition and renovation of the Avery County High School. The increase was partially offset by reduced capital expenditures in the Transportation and Solid Waste Departments.*

### ***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, 2019**

	<b>Primary Government</b>	<b>Component Unit</b>
	<b>Governmental</b>	<b>Avery County</b>
	<b>Activities</b>	<b>Airport</b>
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 22,664,116	\$ 108,598
Receivables (net)	912,373	132,419
Due from other governments	2,660,657	-
Due from component unit	-	-
Inventories	-	-
Prepaid items	102,033	-
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	19,364	-
Capital assets:		
Land, improvements, and construction in progress	10,974,271	-
Other capital assets, net of depreciation	16,544,603	2,830,026
Total capital assets	<u>27,518,874</u>	<u>2,830,026</u>
Total assets	<u>53,877,417</u>	<u>3,071,043</u>
<b>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	2,360,534	-
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	1,598,927	85,061
Accrued interest payable	128,188	-
Total pension liability	397,102	-
Net pension liability	2,850,369	-
Long-term liabilities:		
Due within one year	443,443	-
Due in more than one year	7,560,980	-
Total liabilities	<u>12,979,009</u>	<u>85,061</u>
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>	<u>518,138</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>NET POSITION</b>		
Net investment in capital assets	27,518,874	2,830,026
Restricted for:		
Stabilization by State Statute	2,779,639	132,419
Register of Deeds	91,110	-
Fire Protection	2,153,665	-
Emergency Telephone System	405,712	-
Unrestricted (deficit)	9,791,804	23,537
Total net position	<u>\$ 42,740,804</u>	<u>\$ 2,985,982</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, 2019**

<b>Functions/Programs</b>	<b>Program Revenues</b>		<b>Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position</b>			<b>Component</b>
	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>Charges for Services</b>	<b>Operating Grants and Contributions</b>	<b>Capital Grants and Contributions</b>	<b>Governmental Activities</b>	<b>Primary Government Unit</b>
<b>Primary government:</b>						
<i>Governmental Activities:</i>						
General government	\$ 3,827,848	\$ 243,397			\$ (3,584,451)	
Public safety	11,686,353	1,758,640	130,940		(9,796,773)	
Transportation	959,960	215,811	248,681	413,696	(81,772)	
Environmental protection	2,408,120	309,439	28,533		(2,070,148)	
Economic and physical development	343,549	21,133	6,116		(316,300)	
Human services	4,665,336	270	2,343,423		(2,321,643)	
Cultural and recreation	558,511	41,222		187,000	(330,289)	
Education	5,691,172			1,800,000	(3,891,172)	
Interest on long-term debt	128,188	-	-	-	(128,188)	
Total governmental activities	\$ 30,269,037	\$ 2,589,912	\$ 2,757,693	\$ 2,400,696	\$ (22,520,736)	
<b>Component units:</b>						
Airport	295,849	31,631	63,771	630,153		
	\$ 295,849	\$ 31,631	\$ 63,771	\$ 630,153		429,706
<b>General revenues:</b>						
<i>Taxes:</i>						
Property taxes, levied for general purpose					21,844,801	-
Local option sales tax					5,985,472	-
Other taxes and licenses					929,644	-
Investment earnings, unrestricted					535,796	-
Gain on disposal of assets					-	-
Miscellaneous, unrestricted					152,064	2,850
Total general revenues, special items, and transfers					29,447,777	2,850
Change in net position					6,927,041	432,556
Net position-beginning, as previously reported					35,794,563	2,553,426
Prior period adjustment					19,200	-
Net position, beginning					35,813,763	2,553,426
Net position-ending					\$ 42,740,804	\$ 2,985,982

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

**Avery County, North Carolina**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**Governmental Funds**  
**June 30, 2019**

	<i>General</i>	<i>High School Renovation Project</i>	<i>Other Nonmajor Governmental Funds</i>	<i>Total Governmental Funds</i>
<b>ASSETS</b>				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 10,431,196	\$ 8,470,832	\$ 3,762,088	\$ 22,664,116
Receivables, net	638,046	-	116,866	754,912
Due from other governments	2,453,257	-	207,400	2,660,657
Prepaid assets	102,023	-	-	102,023
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	19,364	-	-	19,364
Total assets	<u>\$ 13,643,886</u>	<u>\$ 8,470,832</u>	<u>\$ 4,086,354</u>	<u>\$ 26,201,072</u>

**LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES, AND FUND BALANCES**

*Liabilities:*

Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 557,560	\$ 1,010,434	\$ 30,933	\$ 1,598,927
Total liabilities	<u>557,560</u>	<u>1,010,434</u>	<u>30,933</u>	<u>1,598,927</u>

Deferred Inflows of Resources:	<u>638,046</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>99,907</u>	<u>737,953</u>
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*Fund balances:*

*Restricted:*

Stabilization by State statute	2,555,280	-	224,359	2,779,639
Register of Deeds	91,110	-	-	91,110
Fire Protection	-	-	2,153,665	2,153,665
Emergency Telephone System	-	-	405,712	405,712

*Committed:*

Tax revaluation	19,364	-	-	19,364
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*Assigned:*

For Capital Outlay projects	-	7,460,398	1,171,778	8,632,176
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Unassigned	9,782,526	-	-	9,782,526
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Total fund balances	<u>12,448,280</u>	<u>7,460,398</u>	<u>3,955,514</u>	<u>23,864,192</u>
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Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fund balances	<u>\$ 13,643,886</u>	<u>\$ 8,470,832</u>	<u>\$ 4,086,354</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	737,953
Net pension liability	(2,850,369)
Total pension liability	(397,102)
Contributions to pension plan in the current year are not current resources and therefore are deferred outflows of resources	689,393
Contributions to OPEB are not current resources and therefore are deferred outflows of resources	
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds.	27,518,874
Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and therefore are deferred in the funds.	(5,325,743)
Law Enforcement Officer retirement deferred inflows and outflows	18,705
Pension related deferrals	1,573,947
Healthcare plan related deferrals	(439,649)
Interest receivable is not available to pay for current period expenditures and therefore not reported in the funds	157,470
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>(2,806,867)</u>
Net position of governmental activities	<u>\$ 42,740,804</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, 2019**

	<b>General Fund</b>	<b>High School Renovation Fund</b>	<b>Other Non- major Governmental Funds</b>	<b>Total Governmental Funds</b>
<b>REVENUES</b>				
<i>Ad valorem taxes</i>	\$ 19,072,646	\$ -	\$ 2,771,075	\$ 21,843,721
<i>Local option sales taxes</i>	5,985,473	-	-	5,985,473
<i>Other taxes and licenses</i>	588,094	-	-	588,094
<i>Unrestricted intergovernmental</i>	180,680	-	-	180,680
<i>Restricted intergovernmental</i>	2,495,035	1,800,000	592,422	4,887,457
<i>Permits and fees</i>	417,916	-	-	417,916
<i>Sales and services</i>	2,331,958	-	-	2,331,958
<i>Investment earnings</i>	528,541	-	1,901	530,442
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	469,612	-	-	469,612
<i>Total revenues</i>	<u>32,069,955</u>	<u>1,800,000</u>	<u>3,365,398</u>	<u>37,235,353</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
<i>Current:</i>				
<i>General government</i>	3,539,503	-	-	3,539,503
<i>Public safety</i>	7,904,352	-	3,041,717	10,946,069
<i>Transportation</i>	822,652	-	-	822,652
<i>Environmental protection</i>	2,229,447	-	-	2,229,447
<i>Economic and physical development</i>	334,656	-	-	334,656
<i>Human services</i>	4,489,208	-	-	4,489,208
<i>Cultural and recreational</i>	494,078	-	-	494,078
<i>Intergovernmental:</i>				
<i>Education</i>	5,691,172	-	-	5,691,172
<i>Capital outlay</i>	983,360	1,685,015	3,228,899	5,897,274
<i>Debt service:</i>				
<i>Principal</i>	443,443	-	-	443,443
<i>Interest</i>	148,621	-	-	148,621
<i>Total expenditures</i>	<u>27,080,492</u>	<u>1,685,015</u>	<u>6,270,616</u>	<u>35,036,123</u>
<i>Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures</i>	<u>4,989,463</u>	<u>114,985</u>	<u>(2,905,218)</u>	<u>2,199,230</u>
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>				
<i>Transfers to other funds</i>	(10,842,570)	-	-	(10,842,570)
<i>Transfers from other funds</i>	-	7,345,413	3,497,157	10,842,570
<i>Total other financing sources and uses</i>	<u>(10,842,570)</u>	<u>7,345,413</u>	<u>3,497,157</u>	<u>-</u>
<i>Net change in fund balance</i>	(5,853,107)	7,460,398	591,939	2,199,230
<i>Fund balances-beginning</i>	18,301,387	-	3,363,575	21,664,962
<i>Fund balances-ending</i>	<u>\$ 12,448,280</u>	<u>\$ 7,460,398</u>	<u>\$ 3,955,514</u>	<u>\$ 23,864,192</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, 2019**

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

Net changes in fund balances - total governmental funds	\$ 2,199,230
<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>	4,849,184
<i>Revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds.</i>	6,433
<i>In the statement of activities, the loss on the disposal of assets is reported, whereas in the governmental funds, the loss decreases 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>	(45,723)
<i>Net contributions to the pension plan in the current year are not included in the statement of activities</i>	733,428
<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>(1,258,955)</u>
<i>Total changes in net position of governmental activities</i>	<u>\$ 6,927,041</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, 2019*

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance With Final Positive (Negative)
<i>Revenues:</i>				
<i>Ad valorem taxes</i>	\$ 18,607,456	\$ 18,652,456	\$ 19,072,646	\$ 420,190
<i>Local option sales tax</i>	5,175,750	5,175,750	5,985,473	809,723
<i>Other taxes and licenses</i>	480,000	570,000	588,094	18,094
<i>Unrestricted intergovernmental</i>	258,900	138,000	180,680	42,680
<i>Restricted intergovernmental</i>	2,159,105	2,251,635	2,495,035	243,400
<i>Permits and fees</i>	330,500	333,600	417,916	84,316
<i>Sales and services</i>	2,409,600	2,260,622	2,331,958	71,336
<i>Investment earnings</i>	175,000	296,900	528,541	231,641
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	42,000	310,046	469,612	159,566
<i>Total revenues</i>	<u>29,638,311</u>	<u>29,989,009</u>	<u>32,069,955</u>	<u>2,080,946</u>
<i>Expenditures:</i>				
<i>Current:</i>				
<i>General government</i>	3,741,804	3,847,604	3,508,345	339,259
<i>Public safety</i>	8,860,978	8,968,880	8,179,673	789,207
<i>Transportation</i>	1,423,355	1,448,132	1,291,380	156,752
<i>Environmental protection</i>	2,458,918	2,515,936	2,319,693	196,243
<i>Economic and physical development</i>	376,688	381,688	339,920	41,768
<i>Human services</i>	4,924,558	4,962,367	4,497,672	464,695
<i>Cultural and recreational</i>	522,550	591,750	538,400	53,350
<i>Intergovernmental:</i>				
<i>Education</i>	5,691,172	5,699,382	5,691,172	8,210
<i>Debt service:</i>				
<i>Principal retirement</i>	443,443	443,443	443,443	-
<i>Interest and other charges</i>	148,623	148,621	148,621	-
<i>Total expenditures</i>	<u>28,592,089</u>	<u>29,007,803</u>	<u>26,958,319</u>	<u>2,049,484</u>
<i>Revenues over (under) expenditures</i>	<u>1,046,222</u>	<u>981,206</u>	<u>5,111,636</u>	<u>(4,130,430)</u>
<i>Other financing sources (uses):</i>				
<i>Transfers (to) from other funds</i>	(1,046,222)	(10,962,252)	(10,961,892)	(360)
<i>Fund balance appropriated</i>	-	9,981,046		9,981,046
<i>Total other financing sources (uses)</i>	<u>(1,046,222)</u>	<u>(981,206)</u>	<u>(10,961,892)</u>	<u>9,980,686</u>
<i>Revenues and other financing sources over expenditures and other financing uses</i>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>(5,850,256)</u>	<u>\$ 5,850,256</u>
<i>Fund balances:</i>				
<i>Beginning of year, July 1</i>			18,301,387	
<i>A legally budgeted Tax Revaluation Fund is consolidated into the General Fund for reporting purposes:</i>				
<i>Transfers in from General Fund</i>			119,322	
<i>Labor and Fringe Benefits</i>			(122,173)	
<i>Fund Balance, Ending (Exhibit 4)</i>			<u>\$ 12,448,280</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, 2019**

	<u>Pension Trust Fund</u>	<u>Agency Funds</u>
	<u>June 30, 2019</u>	<u>June 30, 2019</u>
<b>Assets</b>		
<i>Current assets:</i>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 141,766	\$ 22,577
<b>Total assets</b>	<u>\$ 141,766</u>	<u>\$ 22,577</u>
<b>Liabilities and Net Position</b>		
<i>Liabilities:</i>		
Miscellaneous liabilities	\$ -	\$ 22,577
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>22,577</u>
<i>Net position</i>	<u>141,766</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total liabilities and net position</b>	<u>\$ 141,766</u>	<u>\$ 22,577</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, 2019*

	<u><i>Pension Trust Fund</i></u>
<i>Additions:</i>	
<i>Employer contributions</i>	\$ 654
<i>Investment income</i>	<u>7,421</u>
<i>Total additions</i>	8,075
 <i>Deductions:</i>	
<i>Withdrawals and transfers out</i>	<u>5,191</u>
<i>Total deductions</i>	5,191
 <i>Change in net position</i>	2,884
 <i>Net position, beginning</i>	<u>138,882</u>
<i>Net position, ending</i>	<u><u>\$ 141,766</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, 2019**

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**(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, 2019**

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*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 high school renovation project fund was established to construct a major addition to the Avery County High School.*

*The County reports the following fund types:*

**Avery County, North Carolina**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2019**

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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 two legally annually budgeted funds. The Emergency Telephone System Fund and the Fire District Fund are reported as nonmajor special revenue funds.

In addition, the County reported four non-major capital fund types for the year. The Agriculture Building Project Fund, the Pool Renovation Project Fund, and the Ag Building Community Room Project Fund are all 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)

**Avery County, North Carolina**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2019**

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*capital grants and contributions, including special assessments. Internally dedicated 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*

**Avery County, North Carolina**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2019**

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*adopted for the capital projects fund and the capital reserve fund, which is a special 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*

**Avery County, North Carolina**  
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value. Money market investments that have a remaining maturity at the time of purchase of 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

**Avery County, North Carolina**  
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agreements and all sales tax reimbursement requirements have been met. The properties 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**  
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*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 by State Statute - North Carolina G.S. 159-8 prohibits units of government from budgeting or spending a portion of their fund balance. This is one of several statutes enacted by the North Carolina State Legislature in the 1930's that were designed to improve and maintain the fiscal health of local government units. Restricted by State statute (RSS), is calculated at the end of each fiscal year for all annually budgeted funds. The calculation in G.S. 159-8(a) provides a formula for determining what portion of fund balance is available for appropriation. The amount of fund balance not available for appropriation is what is known as "restricted by State statute". Appropriated fund balance in any fund shall not exceed the sum of cash and investments minus the sum of liabilities, encumbrances, and deferred revenues arising from cash receipts, as those figures stand at the close of the fiscal year next preceding the budget. Per GASB guidance, RSS is considered a resource upon which a restriction is "imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation." RSS is reduced by inventories*

**Avery County, North Carolina**  
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*35-J-56 and prepaids as they are classified as nonspendable. Outstanding encumbrances are included within RSS. RSS is included as a component of restricted net position and restricted fund balance on the face of the balance sheet.*

*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.*

*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, North Carolina**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
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*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*

**Avery County, North Carolina**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
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*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.*

**(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 \$18,876,612 consists of several elements as follows:*

**Avery County, North Carolina**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2019**

<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>	\$ 42,515,685
<i>Less Accumulated Depreciation</i>	<u>(14,996,811)</u>
<i>Net capital assets</i>	27,518,874
<i>Net pension liability is recorded in the government wide statements</i>	(2,850,369)
<i>Total pension liability is recorded in government wide statements</i>	(397,102)
<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>	157,470
<i>Liabilities for revenue deferred but earned and therefore recorded in the fund statements but not the government-wide</i>	737,953
<i>Deferrals related to other post employment benefits</i>	(439,649)
<i>Deferrals related to pension fund</i>	1,592,652
<i>Contributions to the pension plan in the current year</i>	689,393
<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>	(651,683)
<i>Bonds, leases, and installment financing</i>	(2,678,680)
<i>Other post-employment health benefits</i>	(4,674,059)
<i>Accrued interest payable</i>	<u>(128,188)</u>
<i>Total adjustment</i>	<u>\$ 18,876,612</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*

*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 \$4,727,811 as follows:*

<i>Description</i>	<i>Amount</i>
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**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2019**

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<i>Capital outlay expenditures recorded in the fund statements but capitalized as assets in the statement of activities</i>	\$5,897,274
<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>	(1,048,090)
<i>Gain (loss) on the sale and disposal of fixed assets</i>	(45,723)
<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>	443,444
<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>	(505,094)
<i>Difference in interest expense between fund statements (modified accrual) and government-wide statements (full accrual)</i>	(20,433)
<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 06/30/18</i>	1,079
<i>Increase in accrued interest on taxes receivable for 6/30/19</i>	5,354
	<hr/>
<i>Total adjustment</i>	<u>\$ 4,727,811</u>

**(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,*

**Avery County, North Carolina**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2019**

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, 2019, the County's deposits had a carrying value of \$3,247,681 and a bank balance of \$4,898,277. This includes \$164,343 in fiduciary funds. Of the bank balance, \$500,000 was covered by federal depository insurance and \$4,398,277 was covered by collateral held under the Pooling Method. The County maintains a petty cash fund of \$500.

At June 30, 2019, the carrying amount of deposits for the Avery County Airport Authority was \$108,598 and the bank balance was \$109,053. All of the bank balance was covered by federal depository insurance.

At June 30, 2019, the carrying amount of deposits for the Avery County Fire Commission was \$2,065,970 and the bank balance was \$2,080,720. Of the bank balance, \$250,000 was covered by federal depository insurance and the remainder was covered by collateral held under the Pooling method.

**Investments**

At June 30, 2019, 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-Government Portfolio	Fair Value Level 1	17,514,808	17,514,808	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, 2019.

**Avery County, North Carolina**  
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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, 2019 were as follows:

	Accounts	Taxes and Related Accrued Interest	Due from Other Governments	Total
Governmental Activities:				
General	\$ -	\$ 951,820	\$ 2,453,257	\$ 3,405,077
Other Governmental	16,959	146,573	207,400	370,932
Total receivables	16,959	1,098,393	2,660,657	3,776,009
Allowance for doubtful accounts	-	(202,979)	-	(202,979)
Total-governmental activities	\$ 16,959	\$ 895,414	\$ 2,660,657	\$ 3,573,030

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

<b>Fund</b>	<b>June 30, 2019</b>
General	
Fund:	
Property taxes	\$ 176,115
Special Revenue Fund:	
Total	\$ 202,979

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

Town of Banner Elk – Building note	\$ 666,667
Local option sales and related tax	976,329
NC DHHS operating funds	109,860
NC DOT operating and capital funds	71,587
NC DMV Motor Vehicle tax	95,560
NC E-911 fees	16,959
Sales tax refunds	212,849
Capital grant – pool project	187,000
SRO	164,899
Miscellaneous	158,947
Total	\$ 2,660,657



**Avery County, North Carolina**  
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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.

**Capital Assets**

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

	Beginning Balances	Increases	Transfers/ (Decreases)	Ending Balances
<i>Governmental activities:</i>				
<i>Capital assets not being depreciated:</i>				
Land	\$ 3,871,635		\$ 385,431	\$ 4,257,066
Construction in progress	2,251,082	4,820,133	(354,010)	6,717,205
Total capital assets not being depreciated	6,122,717	4,820,133	31,421	10,974,271
<i>Capital assets being depreciated:</i>				
Buildings	19,277,404	-	(153,512)	19,123,892
Other improvements	2,646,001	82,785	55,742	2,784,528
Equipment	4,992,109	301,650	-	5,293,759
Vehicles and motor equipment	3,996,333	558,955	(216,053)	4,339,235
Total capital assets being depreciated	30,739,597	943,390	(313,823)	31,541,414
<i>Less accumulated depreciation for:</i>				
Buildings	5,258,860	378,850	-	5,637,710
Other improvements	1,699,449	111,843	1,327	1,809,965
Equipment	4,134,133	261,181	-	4,395,314
Vehicles and motor equipment	3,073,658	296,217	216,053	3,153,822
Total accumulated depreciation	14,166,100	1,048,091	217,380	14,996,811
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	16,573,497			16,544,603
Governmental activity capital assets, net	\$ 22,696,214			\$ 27,518,874
General government	\$ 218,857			
Public safety	422,364			
Economic and Physical Development	7,788			
Environmental Protection	143,553			
Human services	85,731			
Transportation	113,275			
Cultural and recreational	56,523			
Total depreciation expense	\$ 1,048,091			

**Construction commitments**

The government has no active construction projects with outstanding commitments as of June 30, 2019.

**Avery County, North Carolina**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2019**

***Discretely presented component units***

*Activity for the Avery County Airport for the year ended June 30, 2019, was as follows:*

	<i>Beginning Balance</i>	<i>Additions</i>	<i>Transfers</i>	<i>Ending Balance</i>
<i>Capital assets not being depreciated:</i>				
Land	\$ 112,000	-	-	\$ 112,000
Construction in progress	1,252,090	533,996	-	1,786,086
<b>Total capital assets not being depreciated</b>	<b>1,364,090</b>	<b>533,996</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,898,086</b>
<i>Capital assets being depreciated:</i>				
Equipment	11,978	-	-	11,978
Building improvements	16,960	-	-	16,960
Leasehold improvements	2,868,899	-	-	2,868,899
Fuel storage facility	202,034	106,011	-	308,045
<b>Total capital assets being depreciated</b>	<b>3,099,871</b>	<b>106,011</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,205,882</b>
<i>Less accumulated depreciation for:</i>				
Equipment	11,978	-	-	11,978
Building improvements	7,005	1,192	-	8,197
Leasehold improvements	1,955,625	204,794	-	2,160,419
Fuel storage facility	74,504	18,844	-	93,348
<b>Total accumulated depreciation</b>	<b>2,049,112</b>	<b>224,830</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,273,942</b>
<b>Total capital assets being depreciated, net</b>	<b>1,050,759</b>			<b>931,940</b>
<b>Avery County Airport capital assets, net</b>	<b>\$2,414,849</b>			<b>\$2,830,026</b>

**Payables**

*Payables at the government-wide level at June 30, 2019, were as follows:*

	<i>Vendors</i>	<i>Salaries and Benefits</i>	<i>Accrued Interest</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Governmental Activities:</i>				
General	\$ 461,437	\$ 96,123	\$ -	\$ 557,560
Other Governmental	1,041,367	-	-	1,041,367
<b>Total-governmental activities</b>	<b>\$ 1,502,804</b>	<b>\$ 96,123</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 1,598,927</b>

**(B) Liabilities**

**(1) Pension Plan Obligations**

**a. Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System**

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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](http://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, 2019, was 8.50% of compensation for law enforcement officers and 7.89% 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**  
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expected to finance the costs of benefits earned by employees during the year. Contributions to the pension plan from the County were \$634,110 for the year ended June 30, 2019.

*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, 2019, the County reported a liability of \$2,850,369 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension asset was measured as of June 30, 2018. The total pension liability used to calculate the net pension asset was determined by an actuarial valuation as of December 31, 2017. The total pension liability was then rolled forward to the measurement date of June 30, 2018 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, 2019, the County’s proportion was .12015%, which was an increase of .00512% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2017.

For the year ended June 30, 2019, the County recognized pension expense of \$821,597. At June 30, 2019, the County reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 439,744	\$ 14,756
Changes of assumptions	756,378	
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	391,271	-
Changes in proportion and differences between County contributions and proportionate share of contributions	40,190	38,880
County contributions subsequent to the measurement date	689,393	-
Total	<u>\$ 2,316,976</u>	<u>\$ 53,636</u>

\$689,393 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, 2020. Other amounts reported as deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

*Avery County, North Carolina  
Notes to Financial Statements  
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**Year ended June 30:**

2020	\$	766,456
2021		496,031
2022		88,311
2023		223,150
Thereafter		-

*Actuarial Assumptions. The total pension liability in the December 31, 2017 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, 2019 are summarized in the following table:*

*Avery County, North Carolina  
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<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
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 7.0%. 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 7.0 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 (6.0 percent) or 1-percentage-point higher (8.0 percent) than the current rate:*

	<u>1% Decrease (6.0%)</u>	<u>Discount Rate (7.0%)</u>	<u>1% Increase (8.0%)</u>
County's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset)	\$ 6,846,833	\$ 2,850,369	\$ (489,139)

*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**

**Avery County, North Carolina**  
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**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 valuation date), the Separation Allowance’s membership consisted of:

Retirees receiving benefits	1
Terminated plan members entitled to but not yet receiving benefits	0
Active plan members	<u>28</u>
Total	<u><u>29</u></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, 2017 valuation. The total pension liability was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	2.5 percent
Salary increases	3.50 to 7.35 percent, including inflation and productivity factor
Discount rate	2.64 percent

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.

**Avery County, North Carolina**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
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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 \$ 10,588 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, 2019, the County reported a total pension liability of \$397,102. The total pension liability was measured as of December 31, 2018 based on a December 31, 2017 actuarial valuation. The total pension liability was rolled forward to December 31, 2018 utilizing update procedures incorporating the actuarial assumptions. For the year ended June 30, 2019, the County recognized pension expense of \$44,035.

	<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 23,992	\$ 7,877
Changes of assumptions	19,448	16,858
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	-	-
Total	\$ 43,440	\$ 24,735

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  
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**Year ended June 30:**

2020	\$	4,388
2021		4,388
2022		4,680
2023		3,862
2024		1,387
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 3.64 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 (2.64 percent) or 1-percentage-point higher (4.64 percent) than the current rate:*

	<u>1% Decrease (2.64%)</u>	<u>Discount Rate (3.64%)</u>	<u>1% Increase (4.64%)</u>
County's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset)	\$ 432,270	\$ 397,102	\$ 365,173

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

<b>Total Pension Liability</b>	<b>\$ 355,311</b>
<b>Changes for the year:</b>	
<i>Service Cost at End of Year</i>	28,586
<i>Interest</i>	11,061
<i>Change in benefit terms</i>	0
<i>Difference between expected and actuarial Experience</i>	29,196
<i>Changes of assumptions and other inputs</i>	(16,484)
<i>Benefit payments</i>	(10,588)
<i>Other</i>	<u>0</u>
<b>Net changes</b>	<b>\$41,791</b>
<b>Total Pension Liability as of June 30, 2019</b>	<b>\$397,102</b>

*Changes of assumptions. Changes of assumptions and other inputs reflect a change in the discount rate from 3.16 percent at June 30, 2017 to 3.64 percent at June 30, 2018.*

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

*Avery County, North Carolina  
Notes to Financial Statements  
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*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, 2017 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, 2019 were \$63,836 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, 2018, 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, 2018, with an actuarial valuation date of December 31, 2017. 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:*

*Avery County, North Carolina  
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	<u>LGERS</u>	<u>LEOSSA</u>	<u>Total</u>
Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability (Asset)	\$ 2,850,369	\$ 397,102	\$ 3,247,471
Proportion of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	12.01500%	n/a	
Total Pension Liability	-	\$ -	\$ -
Pension Expense	\$ 821,597	\$ 44,035	\$ 865,632

*At June 30, 2019, 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>
<b><u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u></b>			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 439,744	\$ 23,992	\$ 463,736
Changes of assumptions	756,378	19,448	775,826
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	391,271	-	391,271
Changes in proportion and differences between County contributions and proportionate share of contributions	40,190	-	40,190
County contributions (LGERS, ROD)/benefit payments and administration costs (LEOSSA) subsequent to the measurement date	689,393	-	689,393
<b><u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u></b>			
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 14,756	\$ 7,877	\$ 22,633
Changes of assumptions	-	16,858	16,858
Changes in proportion and differences between County contributions and proportionate share of contributions	38,880	-	38,880

***(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 \$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.*

**Avery County, North Carolina**  
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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, 2019, the HCB Plan membership consisted of the following:*

	2019
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	180
	199

**Total OPEB Liability**

*The County's total OPEB liability of \$4,674,059 was measured as of June 30, 2018 and was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date.*

**Actuarial assumptions and other inputs**

*The total OPEB liability in the June 30, 2018 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions and other inputs, applied to all periods included in the measurement unless otherwise specified:*

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

*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  
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**Changes in the Total OPEB Liability**

	<b>Total OPEB Liability</b>
<b>Balance at July 1/2018</b>	4,590,515
<b>Changes for the year</b>	
Service cost	234,221
Interest	161,545
Changes of benefit terms	-
Differences between expected and actual experience	(11,767)
Changes in assumptions or other inputs	(194,033)
Benefit payments	(106,422)
<b>Net changes</b>	<u>83,544</u>
<b>Balance at 6/30/2019</b>	4,674,059

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

*The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2018 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 (2.89 percent) or 1-percentage-point higher (4.89 percent) than the current discount rate:*

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Discount Rate (2.89%)</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
Total OPEB liability	\$ 5,296,392	\$ 4,674,059	\$ 4,145,582

*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	\$ 4,176,536	\$ 4,674,059	\$ 4,145,582

*Avery County, North Carolina  
Notes to Financial Statements  
For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2019*

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

*For the year ended June 30, 2019, the County recognized OPEB expense of \$334,291. At June 30, 2019, 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	\$ -	\$ 10,425
Changes of assumptions	118	429,342
Benefit payments and administrative costs made subsequent to the measurement date	-	
Total	<u>\$ 118</u>	<u>\$ 439,767</u>

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

2020	\$ (61,475)
2021	(61,475)
2022	(61,475)
2023	(61,475)
2024	(61,475)
Thereafter	(132,274)

*(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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**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2019**

*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>	\$ 439,744	\$ 14,756
<i>LEO</i>	23,992	7,877
<i>Changes of assumptions – LGERS</i>	756,378	-
<i>LEO</i>	19,448	16,858
<i>Opeb - Changes of assumptions</i>		429,342
<i>Opeb - difference between projected and actual investment earnings</i>	118	10,425
<i>Pensions - difference between projected and actual investment earnings</i>	391,271	
<i>Pensions - change in proportion and difference between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions</i>	40,190	38,880
<i>Contributions to pension plan in 2018-2019 fiscal year</i>	689,393	
<i>Total</i>	<u>\$ 2,360,534</u>	<u>\$ 518,138</u>

**(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, 2019, 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, 2019 that may have an unfavorable outcome are covered by the County's liability insurance.*



**Avery County, North Carolina**  
**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.

In the event of a default, the County agrees to pay to the Purchaser, on demand, interest on any and all amounts due and owing by the County under these Agreements.

For Avery County, the future minimum payments as of June 30, 2019 are:

<b><u>Year</u></b> <b><u>Ending</u></b> <b><u>June 30</u></b>	<b><u>General</u></b> <b><u>Long-Term</u></b> <b><u>Debt</u></b>	<b><u>Interest</u></b> <b><u>Due and</u></b> <b><u>Payable</u></b>
2020	443,443	126,188
2021	443,443	103,754
2022	443,443	81,321
2023	443,443	58,888
2024	443,443	32,247
2025-2026	<u>461,464</u>	<u>10,485</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,678,679</b>	<b>\$ 412,883</b>

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At June 30, 2019, the County had a legal debt margin of \$ 299,359,924.

**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, 2019:

**Avery County, North Carolina**  
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<b>Governmental activities:</b>	<i>Balance</i> <i>July 1, 2018</i>	<i>Increases</i>	<i>Decreases</i>	<i>Balance</i> <i>June 30, 2019</i>	<i>Current</i> <i>Portion</i>
<i>Installment purchase</i>	\$ 3,122,122	-	443,443	2,678,679	443,443
<i>Other post employment benefits</i>	4,590,515	83,544	-	4,674,059	-
<i>Total pension liability – LEO</i>	355,311	41,791	-	397,102	-
<i>Vacation pay obligation</i>	523,964	127,721	-	651,685	-
<i>Net pension liability – LGERS</i>	1,913,778	936,591	-	2,850,369	-
<b>Total governmental activities</b>	<b>\$10,505,690</b>	<b>1,189,647</b>	<b>443,443</b>	<b>\$11,251,894</b>	<b>\$, 443,443</b>

**b. Interfund Balances and Activity**

*Transfers to/from other funds at June 30, 2019, consist of the following:*

<i>From the General fund to provide funding for construction project capital funds</i>	<i>(\$10,842,570)</i>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u><u>(\$10,842,570)</u></u></b>

**(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, 2019. 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).*

**Avery County, North Carolina**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2019**

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*Each of the four participants appoints three members of the thirteen-member board of trustees 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 \$335,000 to the College for operating purposes and \$20,000 for capital outlay during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019. 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, 2019. 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, 2019. In accordance with the intergovernmental agreement between the participating governments, the County appropriated \$343,251 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, 2019. 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 \$9,360 to the Council during the fiscal year ending June 30, 2019.*

**(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, 2019, 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) 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.*

**(7) 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:*

<b>Total fund balance-Governmental Funds</b>	<b>\$23,864,192</b>
<b>Less:</b>	
<i>Prepaid assets</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Stabilization by State Statute</i>	<i>2,779,639</i>
<i>Register of Deeds fund</i>	<i>91,110</i>
<i>Fire Protection</i>	<i>2,153,665</i>
<i>Construction projects</i>	<i>8,632,176</i>
<i>Emergency Telephone System</i>	<i>405,712</i>
<i>Tax Revaluation</i>	<i>19,364</i>
<i>Working Capital/ Fund Balance Policy</i>	<i>9,782,526</i>
<i>Remaining Fund Balance</i>	<i>-0-</i>

**(8) SUBSEQUENT EVENTS**

*Management has evaluated subsequent events through October 22, 2019, the date which the financial statements were available to be issued.*

**(9) CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES/RESTATEMENT**

*During the year under audit, an item was noted that had not been added to the government wide financial statements as a fixed asset. This resulted in an increase to overall government wide net assets of \$19,200.*

**Avery County, North Carolina**  
**Schedule of Changes in Total Pension Liability**  
**Law Enforcement Officers' Special Separation Allowance**  
**June 30, 2019**

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
Beginning balance	\$ 355,311	\$ 316,101	\$ 311,362
Service Cost	28,586	22,566	22,162
Interest on the total pension liability	11,061	11,941	10,737
Changes of benefit terms	-	-	-
Differences between expected and actual experience in the measurement of the total pension liability	29,196	(12,403)	-
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	(16,464)	30,626	(6,950)
Benefit payments	(10,588)	(13,520)	(21,210)
Other changes	-	-	-
Ending balance of the total pension liability	<u>\$ 397,102</u>	<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, 2019**

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
Total pension liability	\$ 397,102	\$ 355,311	\$ 316,101
Covered payroll	1,235,352	1,091,700	1,018,758
Total pension liability as a percentage of covered payroll	32.14%	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**

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>
<b>Total OPEB Liability</b>		
Service cost	\$ 234,221	\$ 254,700
Interest	161,545	138,061
Changes of benefit terms	-	-
Differences between expected and actual experience	(11,767)	154
Changes of assumptions	(194,033)	(333,486)
Benefit payments	(106,422)	(110,524)
<b>Net change in total OPEB liability</b>	<u>83,544</u>	<u>(61,095)</u>
<b>Total OPEB liability - beginning</b>	<u>4,590,515</u>	<u>4,641,610</u>
<b>Total OPEB liability - ending</b>	<u>4,674,059</u>	<u>4,590,515</u>
<b>Plan fiduciary net position</b>		
Contributions - employer	-	-
Net investment income	-	-
Benefit payments	-	-
Administrative expense	-	-
<b>Net change in plan fiduciary net position</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Plan fiduciary net position - beginning</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Plan fiduciary net position - ending</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>County's net OPEB liability - ending</b>	<u>\$ 4,674,059</u>	<u>\$ 4,590,515</u>
<b>Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total OPEB liability</b>	0.00%	0.00%
<b>Covered payroll</b>	6,643,106	6,643,106
<b>County's net OPEB liability as a percentage of covered payroll</b>	70.36%	69.10%

See the accompanying Independent Auditor's Report.

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

**Local Government Employees Retirement System**

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
County's proportion of the net pension liability (asset) (%)	0.120150	0.125270	0.124910	0.120510	0.074390	0.072600
County's proportion of the net pension liability (asset) (\$)	2,850,369	1,913,778	2,635,729	540,842	(703,390)	914,816
County's covered-employee payroll	7,509,908	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	0.380	0.261	0.377	0.077	(0.103)	0.14
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the total pension liability	0.9200	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 Six Fiscal Years**

**Local Government Employees Retirement System**

	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
Contractually required contribution	634,110	625,074	554,547	478,437	498,107	484,976
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	634,110	625,074	554,547	478,437	498,107	484,976
County's covered-employee payroll	8,371,534	7,509,908	7,334,668	6,992,585	6,995,484	6,829,415
Contributions as a percentage of covered-employee payroll	0.0757	0.0832	0.0756	0.0684	0.0712	0.0710



## 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, 2019

(With Comparative Actual Amounts for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018)

	2019		Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	2018
	Budget	Actual		Actual
<b>Revenues:</b>				
<i>Ad valorem taxes:</i>				
Taxes	\$	\$ 19,012,522	\$	\$ 17,998,063
Penalties and interest		138,164		129,742
Refunds and releases		(78,040)		(34,218)
Total		<u>18,652,456</u>		<u>18,093,587</u>
<i>Local option sales taxes:</i>				
Article 39 one percent		2,942,576		2,320,894
Article 40 one-half of one percent		1,344,845		1,147,894
Article 42 one-half of one percent		1,473,577		1,161,792
Article 44 one-half of one percent		68		312
Video programming distribution		49,877		38,962
Medicaid Hold Harmless payment		174,530		126,397
Total		<u>5,175,750</u>		<u>4,796,251</u>
<i>Other taxes and licenses:</i>				
Real estate transfer tax		545,455		677,924
White goods disposal tax		3,555		-
Scrap tire disposal tax		24,978		24,173
Solid waste disposal		14,106		12,657
Total		<u>570,000</u>		<u>714,754</u>
<i>Unrestricted intergovernmental:</i>				
Payments in lieu of taxes		179,999		171,003
Food stamp tax reimbursement		681		416
Total		<u>138,000</u>		<u>171,419</u>
<i>Restricted intergovernmental:</i>				
State and federal grants		2,466,224		2,689,068
Court facilities fees		20,477		23,666
ABC bottle tax		8,334		7,949
Total		<u>2,251,635</u>		<u>2,720,683</u>
<i>Licenses and permits:</i>				
Inspection fees and building permits		193,679		158,624
Register of deeds		176,027		229,511
Marriage licenses		7,140		7,440
Officer fees		7,150		7,317
Gun permits		1,235		2,125
IV D fees		75		0
Fingerprint fees		3,340		3,790
Concealed weapons fees		29,270		27,485
Total		<u>333,600</u>		<u>436,292</u>
<i>Sales and services:</i>				
Election department		-		15,688
Transportation and related fees		878,188		157,794
Rents, concessions and fees		26,400		26,409
Recreation fees		41,222		29,561
Jail fees		13,738		13,810
Tax assessor fees		252		181

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, 2019

(With Comparative Actual Amounts for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018)

	2019		Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	2018
	Budget	Actual		Actual
Emergency medical service		1,041,473		1,045,700
Solid waste fees		316,466		338,598
Civil process fees		11,696		13,809
Electronic management program		1,118		1,440
Civil license revocations		1,405		1,731
Total	2,260,622	2,331,958	71,336	1,644,721
Investment earnings	296,900	528,541	231,641	381,775
Miscellaneous:				
Sales of fixed assets		33,399		10,345
Donations		5,149		22,087
Restitution fees		1,442		1,658
Drug fund		-		17,623
School resource officer		98,233		96,230
Inmate housing reimbursement		266,844		236,748
Other		64,545		70,916
Total	310,046	469,612	159,566	455,607
Total revenues	29,989,009	32,069,955	2,080,946	29,415,089
<b>Expenditures:</b>				
General government -				
Governing body:				
Salaries and employee benefits		159,743		149,474
Other operating expenditures		103,942		111,282
Capital outlay		640		-
Total	289,026	264,325	24,701	260,756
Administration:				
Salaries and employee benefits		173,282		149,102
Other operating expenditures		18,061		21,281
Capital outlay		1,739		1,520
Total	201,307	193,082	8,225	171,903
Elections:				
Salaries and employee benefits		164,834		155,072
Other operating expenditures		60,738		47,676
Capital outlay		4,186		120,536
Total	279,728	229,758	49,970	323,284
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, 2019

(With Comparative Actual Amounts for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018)

	2019		Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	2018
	Budget	Actual		Actual
Salaries and employee benefits		306,607		263,981
Other operating expenditures		50,508		54,023
Capital outlay		32,121		13,985
Total	461,745	389,236	72,509	331,989
Tax listing and supervisor:				
Salaries and employee benefits		519,786		263,700
Other operating expenditures		114,606		84,731
Capital outlay		9,715		4,398
Total	695,591	644,107	51,484	352,829
Tax collections:				
Salaries and employee benefits		-		115,364
Other operating expenditures		-		6,474
Total	-	-	-	121,838
Tax mapping:				
Salaries and employee benefits		-		82,963
Operating expenditures		-		21,444
Capital outlay		-		19,838
Total	-	-	-	124,245
Register of Deeds:				
Salaries and employee benefits		190,788		176,281
Other operating expenditures		382,043		457,487
Capital outlay		6,127		7,787
Total	604,660	578,958	25,702	641,555
Public Buildings:				
Salaries and employee benefits		375,745		371,776
Other operating expenditures		612,706		612,020
Capital outlay		124,795		135,634
Total	1,206,879	1,113,246	93,633	1,119,430
Legal and auditing:				
Contracted services	98,900	88,148	10,752	96,666
Facilities fees:				
Operating expenditures		7,485		8,122
Total	9,768	7,485	2,283	8,122
Total general government	3,847,604	3,508,345	339,259	3,552,617

## 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, 2019

(With Comparative Actual Amounts for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018)

	2019		Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	2018
	Budget	Actual		Actual
Public safety -				
Sheriff's Department:				
Salaries and employee benefits		2,029,796		1,783,302
Other operating expenditures		368,739		365,660
Capital outlay		102,985		186,062
Total	2,901,575	2,501,520	400,055	2,335,024
Jail:				
Salaries and employee benefits		1,297,777		1,223,568
Other operating expenditures		521,771		683,677
Capital outlay		3,530		2,869
Total	1,937,734	1,823,078	114,656	1,910,114
Building inspection:				
Salaries and employee benefits		289,379		280,168
Other operating expenditures		38,451		52,189
Capital outlay		4,856		5,550
Total	404,163	332,686	71,477	337,907
Emergency management:				
Salaries and employee benefits		159,845		146,612
Other operating expenditures		40,753		30,414
Capital outlay		10,428		111,100
Total	243,635	211,026	32,609	288,126
Emergency medical services:				
Salaries and employee benefits		1,750,301		1,600,389
Other operating expenditures		392,704		353,999
Capital outlay		232,137		127,094
Total	2,491,019	2,375,142	115,877	2,081,482
Central dispatch:				
Salaries and employee benefits		807,187		732,348
Other operating expenditures		75,505		73,382
Capital outlay		48,379		-
Total	980,454	931,071	49,383	805,730
OSHA instruction:				
Total	300	-	300	200
Medical examiner:				
Professional services	10,000	5,150	4,850	11,150
Community agency contributions:				
Humane Society		-		19,769
Total	-	-	-	19,769
Total public safety	8,968,880	8,179,673	789,207	7,789,502

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, 2019

(With Comparative Actual Amounts for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018)

	2019		Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	2018
	Budget	Actual		Actual
<i>Public transportation:</i>				
<i>Streets and highways:</i>				
Salaries and employee benefits		562,031		527,329
Other operating expenditures		176,473		174,561
Capital outlay		489,105		29,980
<b>Total public transportation</b>	<b>1,384,361</b>	<b>1,227,609</b>	<b>156,752</b>	<b>731,870</b>
<i>Environmental protection -</i>				
<i>Sanitation:</i>				
Salaries and employee benefits		872,530		826,404
Other operating expenditures		1,022,018		861,185
Capital outlay		201,838		71,606
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,276,276</b>	<b>2,096,386</b>	<b>179,890</b>	<b>1,759,195</b>
<i>Soil conservation service:</i>				
Salaries and employee benefits		116,896		108,962
Other operating expenditures		106,411		123,452
<b>Total</b>	<b>239,660</b>	<b>223,307</b>	<b>16,353</b>	<b>232,414</b>
<b>Total environmental protection</b>	<b>2,515,936</b>	<b>2,319,693</b>	<b>196,243</b>	<b>1,991,609</b>
<i>Economic and physical development -</i>				
<i>Agricultural extension agent:</i>				
Salaries and employee benefits		256,505		170,894
Other operating expenditures		71,565		81,058
Capital outlay		9,923		61,031
<b>Total</b>	<b>366,688</b>	<b>337,993</b>	<b>28,695</b>	<b>312,983</b>
<i>Regional economic development:</i>				
Region D Development Council		-		1,000
W.N.C. Development Association		1,927		7,850
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,000</b>	<b>1,927</b>	<b>13,073</b>	<b>8,850</b>
<b>Total economic and physical development</b>	<b>381,688</b>	<b>339,920</b>	<b>41,768</b>	<b>321,833</b>
<i>Human services -</i>				
<i>Public Health:</i>				
Toe River Health District		343,251		315,788
Vaya Health		89,600		89,600
Alcoholic rehabilitation		8,334		7,949
<b>Total</b>	<b>442,851</b>	<b>441,185</b>	<b>1,666</b>	<b>413,337</b>
<i>Veteran's Service Officer -</i>				
Salaries and employee benefits		29,954		23,734
Other operating expenditures		3,726		3,008
Capital outlay		1,188		-
<b>Total</b>	<b>62,744</b>	<b>34,868</b>	<b>27,876</b>	<b>26,742</b>

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, 2019

(With Comparative Actual Amounts for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018)

	2019		Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	2018
	Budget	Actual		Actual
<i>Social Services:</i>				
Salaries and employee benefits		2,012,957		1,959,296
Other operating expenditures		168,393		173,148
Capital outlay		13,557		38,001
Total	2,404,897	2,194,907	209,990	2,170,445
<i>County participation:</i>				
Medicaid		7,559		32,372
Special assistance		106,818		308,313
Foster care		349,145		298,189
Crisis intervention		213,108		54,344
JOBS program		47,961		48,837
Total	903,887	724,591	179,296	742,055
<i>Senior Citizens:</i>				
Salaries and employee benefits		607,557		555,239
Other operating expenditures		342,054		316,280
Capital outlay		20,896		44,926
Total	1,015,186	970,507	44,679	916,445
<i>Community Based Alternatives</i>				
Operating expenditures	106,065	106,532	(467)	97,469
<i>Aid to the Blind</i>				
	1,737	82	1,655	-
<i>Community agency contributions:</i>				
ADAP - Yellow Mountain		25,000		24,000
Avery Alzheimer's Support		-		1,000
Total	25,000	25,000	-	25,000
Total human services	4,962,367	4,497,672	464,695	4,391,493
<i>Cultural and recreational -</i>				
<i>Parks &amp; recreation:</i>				
Salaries and employee benefits		234,088		210,537
Other operating expenditures		86,813		67,922
Capital outlay		49,996		188,923
Total	423,892	370,897	52,995	467,382
<i>Community agency contributions:</i>				
Shrine Club		2,500		1,000

## 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, 2019

(With Comparative Actual Amounts for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018)

	2019		Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	2018
	Budget	Actual		Actual
Blue Ridge Resource		-		400
Avery Little League		7,500		2,500
Tag Office		20,000		25,000
Avery Chamber of Commerce/other		4,645		5,000
Blue Ridge Partnership for Children		5,000		7,500
YMCA		-		30,000
Drug court		15,000		12,000
Avery Museum		-		19,021
Total	55,000	54,645	355	102,421
Library:				
Contracted services	112,858	112,858	-	112,858
Total cultural and recreational	591,750	538,400	53,350	682,661
Education -				
Public schools - current expense		4,641,552		4,641,552
Public schools - capital outlay		694,620		966,030
Community College - current expense		335,000		333,000
Community College - capital outlay		20,000		18,000
Total education	5,699,382	5,691,172	8,210	5,958,582
Debt service -				
Principal retirement	443,443	443,443		443,444
Interest and fees	148,621	148,621		171,054
Total debt service	592,064	592,064	-	614,498
Total expenditures	28,944,032	26,894,548	2,049,484	26,034,665
Revenue over (under) expenditures	1,044,977	5,175,407	4,130,430	3,380,424
Other financing sources (uses):				
Operating transfers in (out):				
To Revaluation Fund	(119,322)	(119,322)	-	(105,000)
To/From Capital Projects Fund	(10,842,930)	(10,842,570)	360	(686,688)
To component unit - Airport	(63,771)	(63,771)	-	(62,436)
Total operating transfers	(11,026,023)	(11,025,663)	360	(854,124)
Total other financing sources (uses)	(11,026,023)	(11,025,663)	360	(854,124)
Excess of revenues and other sources over (under) expenditures and other uses	(9,981,046)	(5,850,256)	4,130,790	2,526,300
Appropriated fund balance	9,981,046	-	(9,981,046)	-
Excess of revenues, other sources and appropriated fund balance over (under) expenditures and other uses	\$ -	(5,850,256)	(5,850,256)	2,526,300
Fund balances - beginning of year		17,593,785		15,067,485
Fund balances - end of year		\$ 11,743,529		\$ 17,593,785

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, 2019***(With Comparative Actual Amounts for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018)*

	2019		Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	2018
	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>		122,173	(122,173)	121,358
<i>Total expenditures</i>	<u>-</u>	<u>122,173</u>	<u>(122,173)</u>	<u>121,358</u>
<i>Revenues over (under) expenditures</i>	-	(122,173)	(122,173)	(121,358)
<i>Other financing sources (uses):</i>				
<i>Fund balance appropriated</i>	-		-	
<i>Operating transfer in (out) from     General Fund</i>	<u>-</u>	<u>119,322</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>105,000</u>
<i>Total other financing sources (uses)</i>	<u>-</u>	<u>119,322</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>105,000</u>
<i>Excess of revenues and other sources over (under) expenditures</i>	\$ <u>-</u>	\$ <u>(2,851)</u>	\$ <u>(122,173)</u>	\$ <u>(16,358)</u>
<i>Fund balances - beginning of year</i>		<u>24,514</u>		<u>40,872</u>
<i>Fund balances - end of year</i>	\$	<u><u>21,663</u></u>	\$	<u><u>24,514</u></u>

See the accompanying Independent Auditor's Report.



**Avery County, North Carolina**  
**Combining Balance Sheet**  
**Non-major Governmental Funds**  
**June 30, 2019**

	<b>Emergency Telephone System Fund</b>		<b>Fire District Fund</b>		<b>Total Non-major Special Revenue Funds</b>		<b>Pool Renovation Project</b>		<b>Ag Bldg Community Room Project</b>		<b>Total Non-major Governmental Funds</b>	
<b>ASSETS</b>												
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	408,423	\$	2,153,665	\$	2,562,088	\$	-	\$	1,200,000	\$	3,762,088
Accounts receivable, net		16,959		-		16,959		-		-		16,959
Taxes receivable, net		-		99,907		99,907		-		-		99,907
Due from other governments		6,844		12,402		19,246		188,154		-		207,400
Prepaid expenses		-		-		-		-		-		-
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>432,226</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,265,974</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,698,200</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>188,154</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,200,000</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>4,086,354</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES</b>												
<i>Liabilities:</i>												
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$	2,711	\$	-	\$	2,711	\$	25,810	\$	2,412	\$	30,933
Deferred revenue		-		99,907		99,907		-		-		99,907
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>2,711</b>		<b>99,907</b>		<b>102,618</b>		<b>25,810</b>		<b>2,412</b>		<b>130,840</b>
<i>Fund balances:</i>												
<i>Nonspendable:</i>												
Prepaid assets		-		-		-		-		-		-
<i>Restricted:</i>												
Reserved by State statute		23,803		12,402		36,205		188,154		-		224,359
Fire Protection		-		2,153,665		2,153,665		-		-		2,153,665
Emergency Telephone System		405,712		-		405,712		-		-		405,712
<i>Assigned:</i>												
Designated for subsequent year's expenditures		-		-		-		-		-		-
Designated for capital outlay project		-		-		-		(25,810)		1,197,588		1,171,778
Unassigned		-		-		-		-		-		-
<b>Total fund balances</b>		<b>429,515</b>		<b>2,166,067</b>		<b>2,595,582</b>		<b>162,344</b>		<b>1,197,588</b>		<b>3,955,514</b>
<b>Total liabilities and fund balances</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>432,226</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,265,974</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>2,698,200</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>188,154</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>1,200,000</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>4,086,354</b>

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</i>							
<i>Non-major Capital Projects Funds</i>							
	<i>Emergency Telephone System Fund</i>	<i>Fire District Fund</i>	<i>Total Non-major Special Revenue Funds</i>	<i>Agriculture Building</i>	<i>Pool Renovation</i>	<i>Ag Bldg Community Room Project</i>	<i>Total Non-major Governmental Funds</i>
<b>REVENUES</b>							
<i>Ad valorem taxes</i>	\$ -	\$ 2,771,075	\$ 2,771,075	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,771,075
<i>Restricted intergovernmental</i>	203,511	201,911	405,422	-	187,000	-	592,422
<i>Investment earnings</i>	344	1,557	1,901	-	-	-	1,901
<i>Total revenues</i>	203,855	2,974,543	3,178,398	-	187,000	-	3,365,398
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>							
<i>Current:</i>							
<i>Economic and physical development</i>	-	-	-	212,922	-	2,412	215,334
<i>Human services</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Cultural and recreational</i>	-	-	-	-	3,006,064	-	3,006,064
<i>Public safety</i>	124,480	2,924,737	3,049,217	-	-	-	3,049,217
<i>Education</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Total expenditures</i>	124,480	2,924,737	3,049,217	212,922	3,006,064	2,412	6,270,615
<i>Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures</i>	79,375	49,806	129,181	(212,922)	(2,819,064)	(2,412)	(2,905,217)
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)</b>							
<i>Transfers (to) from other funds</i>	-	-	-	146,156	2,151,000	1,200,000	3,497,156
<i>Total other financing sources and uses</i>	-	-	-	146,156	2,151,000	1,200,000	3,497,156
<i>Net change in fund balances</i>	79,375	49,806	129,181	(66,766)	(668,064)	1,197,588	591,939
<i>Fund balances - beginning</i>	350,140	2,116,261	2,466,401	66,766	830,408	-	3,363,575
<i>Fund balances - ending</i>	\$ 429,515	\$ 2,166,067	\$ 2,595,582	\$ -	\$ 162,344	\$ 1,197,588	\$ 3,955,514

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, 2019**  
**(With Comparative Actual Amounts for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018)**

	2019		Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	2017
	Budget	Actual		Actual
<i>Revenues:</i>				
<i>E-911 surcharges</i>	\$	\$ 203,511	\$	\$ 185,457
<i>Investment earnings - surcharges</i>		344		315
<i>Total revenues</i>		<u>203,886</u>		<u>185,772</u>
<i>Expenditures:</i>				
<i>Public safety:</i>				
<i>Public safety expenditures</i>		124,480		147,472
<i>Total expenditures</i>		<u>324,542</u>		<u>147,472</u>
<i>Revenues over (under) expenditures</i>		<u>(120,656)</u>		<u>38,300</u>
<i>Other financing sources (uses):</i>				
<i>Operating transfer in (out):</i>				
<i>Fund balance appropriated</i>		120,656		120,656
<i>Total other financing sources (uses)</i>		<u>120,656</u>		<u>-</u>
<i>Excess of revenues and other sources over (under) expenditures and other uses</i>	\$	<u>-</u>	\$	<u>38,300</u>
<i>Fund balances - beginning of year</i>		<u>350,140</u>		<u>311,840</u>
<i>Fund balances - end of year</i>	\$	<u>429,515</u>	\$	<u>350,140</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, 2019****(With Comparative Actual Amounts for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018)**

	2019		Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)	2018
	Budget	Actual		Actual
<b>Revenues:</b>				
Ad valorem taxes	\$	\$ 2,771,075	\$	\$ 2,612,117
Restricted intergovernmental revenues		201,911		-
Interest and other income		1,557		1,605
Total revenues		<u>2,530,500</u>		<u>2,613,722</u>
<b>Expenditures:</b>				
Public safety:				
Volunteer fire and rescue departments		794,777		735,404
Fire commission		2,129,960		2,074,988
Total expenditures		<u>2,530,500</u>		<u>2,810,392</u>
Excess of revenues and other sources over (under) expenditures and other uses	\$	<u>-</u>	\$	<u>(196,670)</u>
Fund balances - beginning of year		<u>2,116,261</u>		<u>2,312,931</u>
Fund balances - end of year	\$	<u>2,166,067</u>	\$	<u>2,116,261</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, 2019

	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	\$ 1,227,020	903,084	124,582	1,027,666	199,354
Architect/engineering fees	90,051	79,949	4,653	84,602	5,449
Permits, surveys, insurance	24,650	20,950	683	21,633	3,017
Furniture	71,625	3,235	32,017	35,252	36,373
Site prep	514,801	436,262	41,037	477,299	37,502
Feasibility study/plan	40,246	19,754	9,950	29,704	10,542
Contingency	-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditures	<u>1,968,393</u>	<u>1,463,234</u>	<u>212,922</u>	<u>1,676,156</u>	<u>292,237</u>
Revenues over (under) expenditures	(1,968,393)	(1,463,234)	(212,922)	(1,676,156)	292,237
<i>Other financing sources and uses</i>					
Transfers in (out) - general fund	1,968,393	1,530,000	146,156	1,676,156	(292,237)
Total other financing sources	<u>1,968,393</u>	<u>1,530,000</u>	<u>146,156</u>	<u>1,676,156</u>	<u>(292,237)</u>
Revenues and other sources over (under) expenditures	\$ <u>-</u>	\$ <u>66,766</u>	(66,766)	\$ <u>-</u>	\$ <u>-</u>
<i>Fund balances:</i>					
Beginning of year, July 1			<u>66,766</u>		
End of year, June 30			<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, 2019

	Project Authorization	Actual			Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
		Prior Years	Current Year	Total To Date	
<i>Revenues:</i>					
Restricted intergovernmental revenues	\$ 187,000	\$ -	\$ 187,000	\$ 187,000	\$ -
	-	-	-	-	-
Total	<u>187,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>187,000</u>	<u>187,000</u>	<u>-</u>
<i>Expenditures - Cultural and Recreational</i>					
General construction	\$ 2,564,029	154,463	2,734,609	2,889,072	(325,043)
Architect/engineering fees	200,113	678	49,518	50,196	149,917
Permits, surveys, insurance	36,093	14,450	1,877	16,327	19,766
Furniture	13,000	-	11,997	11,997	1,003
Site prep	524,765	-	208,063	208,063	316,702
Total expenditures	<u>3,338,000</u>	<u>169,591</u>	<u>3,006,064</u>	<u>3,175,655</u>	<u>162,345</u>
Revenues over (under) expenditures	(3,151,000)	(169,591)	(2,819,064)	(2,988,655)	162,345
<i>Other financing sources and uses</i>					
Transfers in (out) - general fund	<u>3,151,000</u>	<u>1,000,000</u>	<u>2,151,000</u>	<u>3,151,000</u>	-
Total other financing sources	<u>3,151,000</u>	<u>1,000,000</u>	<u>2,151,000</u>	<u>3,151,000</u>	-
Revenues and other sources over (under) expenditures	\$ <u>-</u>	\$ <u>830,409</u>	(668,064)	\$ <u>162,345</u>	\$ <u>162,345</u>
<i>Fund balances:</i>					
Beginning of year, July 1			<u>830,409</u>		
End of year, June 30			\$ <u>162,345</u>		

Avery County, North Carolina  
 Capital Projects Fund - Ag Building Community Room Project  
 Statement of Revenue, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances--  
 Budget and Actual (Non-GAAP)  
 From Inception and for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2019

	Project Authorization	Prior Years	Actual Current Year	Total To Date	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
<i>Revenues:</i>					
Restricted intergovernmental revenues	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<i>Total</i>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<i>Expenditures - Cultural and Recreational</i>					
General construction	\$ 1,075,000	-	-	-	1,075,000
Architect/engineering fees	60,000	-	2,412	2,412	57,588
Permits, surveys, insurance	30,000	-	-	-	30,000
Furniture	35,000	-	-	-	35,000
Site prep	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Total expenditures</i>	<u>1,200,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,412</u>	<u>2,412</u>	<u>1,197,588</u>
Revenues over (under) expenditures	(1,200,000)	-	(2,412)	(2,412)	1,197,588
<i>Other financing sources and uses</i>					
Transfers in (out) - general fund	1,200,000	-	1,200,000	1,200,000	-
<i>Total other financing sources</i>	<u>1,200,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,200,000</u>	<u>1,200,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Revenues and other sources over (under) expenditures	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	1,197,588	<u>\$ 1,197,588</u>	<u>\$ 1,197,588</u>
<i>Fund balances:</i>					
Beginning of year, July 1			-		
End of year, June 30			<u>\$ 1,197,588</u>		

See the accompanying independent Auditors' report.

**Avery County, North Carolina**  
**Combining Statement of Changes in Assets and Liabilities**  
**Agency Funds**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2019**

	<u>Balance</u> <u>July 1,</u> <u>2018</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deductions</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>June 30,</u> <u>2019</u>
<b>Social Services -</b>				
Assets:				
Cash and investments	\$ 26,127	\$ 121,295	\$ (132,013)	\$ 15,409
Liabilities:				
Miscellaneous liabilities	\$ 26,127	\$ 121,295	\$ (132,013)	\$ 15,409
<b>Motor Vehicle Tax -</b>				
Assets:				
Taxes receivable	\$ -	\$ 258,018	\$ (258,018)	\$ -
Liabilities:				
Intergovernmental payables	\$ -	\$ 258,018	\$ (258,018)	\$ -
<b>Fines and Forfeitures -</b>				
Assets:				
Cash and investments	\$ -	\$ 96,501	\$ (96,501)	\$ -
Liabilities:				
Intergovernmental payables - Board of Education	\$ -	\$ 96,501	\$ (96,501)	\$ -
Total intergovernmental payables	\$ -	\$ 96,501	\$ (96,501)	\$ -
<b>Deed of Trust Fee Fund</b>				
Assets:				
Cash and investments	\$ -	\$ 5,409	\$ (5,409)	\$ -
Liabilities:				
Intergovernmental payables - State of NC	\$ -	\$ 5,409	\$ (5,409)	\$ -
<b>Inmate Trust Fund</b>				
Assets:				
Cash and investments	\$ 8,454	\$ 92,634	\$ (93,920)	\$ 7,168
Liabilities:				
Miscellaneous liabilities	\$ 8,454	\$ 92,634	\$ (93,920)	\$ 7,168
<b>Totals - All Agency Funds</b>				
Assets:				
Cash and investments	\$ 34,581	\$ 315,839	\$ (327,843)	\$ 22,577
Taxes receivable	-	258,018	(258,018)	-
Total assets	\$ 34,581	\$ 573,857	\$ (585,861)	\$ 22,577
Liabilities:				
Miscellaneous liabilities	\$ 34,581	\$ 213,929	\$ (225,933)	\$ 22,577
Intergovernmental payables - Town Motor Vehicles	-	258,018	(258,018)	-
Intergovernmental payables - Board of Education	-	96,501	(96,501)	-
Intergovernmental payables - State of North Carolina	-	5,409	(5,409)	-
Total liabilities	\$ 34,581	\$ 573,857	\$ (585,861)	\$ 22,577

See the accompanying Independent Auditor's report.



**AVERY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**  
**General Fund**  
**Schedule of Ad Valorem Taxes Receivable**  
**June 30, 2019**

	<i>Uncollected Balance June 30, 2018</i>	<i>Additions</i>	<i>Collections and Credits</i>	<i>Uncollected Balance June 30, 2019</i>
2018 - 2019	\$	\$ 18,997,153	\$ 18,650,869	\$ 346,284
2017 - 2018	356,292	-	177,389	178,903
2016 - 2017	133,943	-	50,096	83,847
2015 - 2016	92,930	-	42,423	50,507
2014 - 2015	64,307	-	23,237	41,070
2013 - 2014	48,190	-	6,233	41,957
2012 - 2013	24,277	-	834	23,443
2011 - 2012	22,965	-	9,565	13,400
2010 - 2011	15,090	-	(7,230)	22,320
2009 - 2010	17,725	-	5,298	12,427
2008 - 2009	35,188	-	35,188	-
	<u>\$ 810,907</u>	<u>\$ 18,997,153</u>	<u>\$ 18,993,902</u>	<u>\$ 814,158</u>
<i>Less: allowance for uncollectible accounts:</i>				
<i>General Fund</i>				<u>(176,115)</u>
<i>Ad valorem taxes receivable - net</i>				
<i>General Fund</i>				<u>\$ 638,043</u>
<b>Reconciliation with revenues:</b>				
<i>Ad valorem taxes - General Fund</i>				<u>\$ 19,072,646</u>
<i>Reconciling items:</i>				
<i>Interest collected</i>				(138,164)
<i>Discounts allowed</i>				24,232
<i>Taxes written off</i>				35,188
<i>Total reconciling items</i>				<u>(78,744)</u>
<i>Total collections and credits</i>				<u>\$ 18,993,902</u>

**AVERY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**  
**Analysis of Current Tax Levy**  
**County-Wide Levy**  
**For the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2019**

	<u>County-wide</u>		<u>Total Levy</u>			
			<u>Property Valuation</u>	<u>Rate</u>	<u>Amount of Levy</u>	<u>Property excluding Registered Motor Vehicles</u>
<i>Original levy:</i>						
<i>Property taxed at current   year's rate</i>	\$ 3,969,227,520	0.4800	\$ 19,052,292	\$ 18,122,316	\$ 929,976	
<i>Penalties</i>	-		17,435	17,435	-	
<i>Total</i>	<u>3,969,227,520</u>		<u>19,069,727</u>	<u>18,139,751</u>	<u>929,976</u>	
 <i>Discoveries:</i>						
<i>Current year taxes</i>	1,138,542	0.4800	5,465	5,465	-	
<i>Total</i>	<u>1,138,542</u>		<u>5,465</u>	<u>5,465</u>	<u>-</u>	
 <i>Abatements</i>	<u>(16,258,125)</u>		<u>(78,039)</u>	<u>(78,039)</u>	<u>(78,039)</u>	
<i>Total property valuations</i>	<u>3,954,107,937</u>					
 <i>Net levy</i>			18,997,153	18,067,177	851,937	
 <i>Uncollected taxes at June 30, 2019</i>			<u>346,284</u>	<u>346,284</u>	<u>-</u>	
 <i>Current year's taxes collected</i>			\$ <u>18,650,869</u>	\$ <u>17,720,893</u>	\$ <u>851,937</u>	
 <i>Current year's collection percentage</i>			<u>98.18%</u>	<u>98.08%</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, 2019, 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 October 22, 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  
October 22, 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, 2019. 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, 2019.

### **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  
October 22, 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, 2019. 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, 2019.

### **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  
October 22, 2019

**AVERY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**  
**Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2019**

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**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, 2019 are:

<u>Program Name</u>	<u>CFDA #s</u>
Medical Assistance Program	93.778-1

- H. The major State programs for Avery County for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019 are:

*Public School Building Fund Lottery Proceeds*

- 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**

*N/A*

**AVERY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AND STATE AWARDS**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2019**

<u>Grantor/Pass-through Grantor/Program Title</u>	<u>Federal CFDA Number</u>	<u>State Pass-Through Grantor's Number</u>	<u>Federal (Direct &amp; Pass-Through) Expenditures</u>	<u>State Expenditures</u>	<u>Passed Through to Subrecipients</u>	<u>Local Expenditures</u>
<b>Federal Grants:</b>						
<b>Cash Programs:</b>						
<b><u>U.S. Department of Health &amp; Human Services</u></b>						
<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		\$ 94,940	\$ 16,755	\$ -	\$ -
<i>Special Programs for the Aging-Title III C</i>						
<i>Nutrition Services</i>						
	93.045		34,999	6,176	-	-
<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		202,444	-	-	108,899
<i>Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Block Grant</i>						
	93.568		112,094	-	-	-
<i>Crisis Intervention Payments</i>						
	93.568		72,898	-	-	-
<i>Adoption Foster Care</i>						
	93.658		365,085	42,999	-	208,421
<i>Permanency Planning</i>						
	93.645		4,602	-	-	1,534
<i>Family Preservation</i>						
	93.556		13,495	-	-	-
<i>Child Support Enforcement</i>						
	93.563		86,878	-	-	44,755
<i>In-Home Service - SSBG</i>						
	93.667		83,740	-	-	27,955
<i>NC Health Choice</i>						
	93.767		40,978	21	-	-
<i>Independent Living - LINKS</i>						
	93.674		10,881	1,681	-	-
<i>IV-E Adoption Subsidy</i>						
	93.659		1,105	-	-	1,105
<i>Division of Medical Assistance:</i>						
<i>Administration:</i>						
<i>Title XIX - Medicaid</i>						
	93.778		543,821	1,483	-	203,440
<b><u>Subsidized Child Care Cluster:</u></b>						
<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 &amp; Human Resources</i>						
			<u>1,747,960</u>	<u>69,115</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>596,109</u>
<b><u>U.S. Department of Agriculture</u></b>						
<i>Passed through Region D Council of Governments:</i>						
<i>Nutrition Program for the Elderly</i>						
	10.570		<u>20,793</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
<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		201,956	-	-	201,956
<i>Total U.S. Department of Agriculture</i>						
			<u>222,749</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>201,956</u>
<b><u>U.S. Department of Transportation</u></b>						
<i>Passed through N.C. Dept. of Transportation</i>						
<i>Public Transportation Programs:</i>						
<i>Formula Grants for Rural Areas</i>						
	20.509		160,564	10,034	-	30,110
<i>Formula Grants for Rural Areas - Capital</i>						
	20.509		367,730	45,965	-	45,965
<i>Total U.S. Department of Transportation</i>						
			<u>528,294</u>	<u>58,996</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>76,075</u>
<b><u>U.S. Department of Homeland Security</u></b>						
<i>Passed through N.C. Dept. of Public Safety</i>						
<i>Emergency Management Performance</i>						
	97.042		41,397	-	-	-

**AVERY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AND STATE AWARDS**  
**For the Year Ended June 30, 2019**

<u>Grantor/Pass-through Grantor/Program Title</u>	<u>Federal CFDA Number</u>	<u>State Pass-Through Grantor's Number</u>	<u>Federal (Direct &amp; Pass-Through) Expenditures</u>	<u>State Expenditures</u>	<u>Passed Through to Subrecipients</u>	<u>Local Expenditures</u>
Total U.S. Department of Homeland Security			41,397	-	-	-
Total federal assistance			2,540,400	128,111	-	874,140
<b>STATE GRANTS</b>						
<b>Cash Programs:</b>						
<b><u>N.C. Department of Health and Human Resources:</u></b>						
<i>Passed-through Region D Council of Governments:</i>						
Senior Center Operations			-	10,693	-	-
<i>Division of Social Services:</i>						
State Child Welfare			-	33,300	-	-
Foster Care			-	634	-	-
Energy Assistance Private Grants			-	851	-	-
SFHF Maximization			-	16,683	-	16,683
State Foster Care Benefits Program			-	10,623	-	10,623
<i>North Carolina Department of Public Safety</i>						
Juvenile Service Landship			-	16,619	-	-
PASS			-	13,065	-	-
Juvenile Non-Det			-	10,000	-	-
Project Challenge			-	27,374	-	-
Teen Leadership Development			-	5,000	-	-
Juvenile Services Operational			-	2,321	-	-
Governors Crime Commission			-	119,888	-	-
Total N.C. Department of Health and Human Resources			-	267,051	-	27,306
<b><u>N.C. Department of Transportation:</u></b>						
Elderly & Disabled TAP	DOT 16 CL		-	52,537	-	-
Work First Program	DOT 16 CL		-	6,219	-	-
Rural General Public Transportation	DOT 16 CL		-	53,314	-	-
Total N.C. Department of Transportation			-	112,070	-	-
<b><u>N.C. Department of Administration</u></b>						
County Aid - Veterans Service Office			-	2,216	-	-
Total N.C. Department of Administration			-	2,216	-	-
<b><u>N.C. Department of Environmental Quality</u></b>						
Aquatics grant			-	187,000	-	-
Soil and water grant			-	25,505	-	-
			-	212,505	-	-
<b><u>N.C. Office of State Budget and Management</u></b>						
Public School Building Capital Fund - Lottery			-	1,800,000	-	-
Total State assistance			-	2,393,842	-	27,306
Total assistance			\$ 2,540,400	\$ 2,521,953	-	\$ 901,446

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

**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, 2019. 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.

**AVERY COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AND STATE AWARDS**  
*For the Year Ended June 30, 2019*

<u>Grantor/Pass-through Grantor/Program Title</u>	<u>Federal CFDA Number</u>	<u>State Pass-Through Grantor's Number</u>	<u>Federal (Direct &amp; Pass-Through) Expenditures</u>	<u>State Expenditures</u>	<u>Passed Through to Subrecipients</u>	<u>Local Expenditures</u>
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**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 minimis 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