**CLEARWATER COUNTY** 

Consolidated Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

#### MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL REPORTING

To the Reeve and Members of Council of Clearwater County

The integrity, relevance and comparability of the data in the accompanying consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of management.

The consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of management, prepared in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards. They necessarily include some amounts that are based on the best estimates and judgments of management.

To assist in its responsibility, management maintains accounting, budget and other controls to provide reasonable assurance that transactions are appropriately authorized, that assets are properly accounted for and safeguarded, and that financial records are reliable for preparation of consolidated financial statements.

Metrix Group LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants, have been appointed by County Council to express an opinion on the County's consolidated financial statements.

Rick Emmons, CLGM Chief Administrative Officer

Murray Hagan, B.Comm, CPA, CA

Chief Financial Officer



#### **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**

To the Reeve and Council of Clearwater County

#### Opinion

We have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements of Clearwater County (the County), which comprise the consolidated statement of financial position as at December 31, 2019, and the consolidated statements of operations and accumulated surplus, changes in net financial assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion, the accompanying consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of the County as at December 31, 2019, the consolidated results of its operations, changes in its net financial assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

#### Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the County in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the consolidated financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with those requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, but does not include the consolidated financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. The Annual Report is expected to be made available to us after the date of this auditors' report. Our opinion on the consolidated financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the consolidated financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the consolidated financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

# Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Consolidated Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these consolidated financial statements in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.



## Independent Auditors' Report to the Reeve and Council of Clearwater County (continued)

In preparing the consolidated financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the County's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the County or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the County's financial reporting process.

## Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Consolidated Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these consolidated financial statements. As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 County's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the County's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditors' report to the related disclosures in the consolidated financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the County to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the consolidated financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the consolidated financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

METRIX GROUP LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants

Edmonton, Alberta June 9, 2020

#### CLEARWATER COUNTY Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

## As at December 31, 2019

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	2019	2018
FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents (Note 2)	\$ 69,775,141	\$ 62,257,922
Accounts receivable (Note 3)	6,192,080	
Land held for resale	4,611,048	4,769,753
Investments (Note 4)	49,233,715	48,347,267
	129,811,984	120,269,710
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 5)	3,879,932	6,186,325
Deferred revenue (Note 6)	18,803,996	
Long-term debt (Note 7)	2,229,147	
Landfill closure and post-closure costs (Note 8)	3,516,872	
	28,429,947	28,124,268
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS	101,382,037	92,145,442
NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS		
Tangible capital assets (Note 9)	340,651,695	343,415,585
Inventories for consumption (Note 10)	4,749,590	
Prepaid expenses	646,772	
	346,048,057	347,604,730
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS (NOTE 11) (Schedule 1)	\$ 447,430.094	\$ 439,750,172

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ON BEHALF OF COUNCIL: Reeve Timothy Hoven Deputy Reeve Mic. Swanson e

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## CLEARWATER COUNTY Consolidated Statement of Operations and Accumulated Surplus For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

	2019 (Budget) <i>(Note 21)</i>	2019 (Actual)	2018 (Actual)
REVENUE Net municipal taxes (Schedule 2) User fees and sale of goods Investment income Well drilling taxes Other Penalties on taxes Government transfers for operating (Schedule 3) Fines Rentals Licenses and permits Developer levies	$ \begin{array}{cccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	<ul> <li>\$ 45,401,740</li> <li>3,433,459</li> <li>2,424,712</li> <li>2,256,295</li> <li>944,475</li> <li>829,955</li> <li>803,494</li> <li>317,506</li> <li>258,225</li> <li>56,742</li> <li>25,192</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>\$ 46,258,782</li> <li>2,654,287</li> <li>1,908,775</li> <li>3,058,519</li> <li>996,067</li> <li>328,944</li> <li>2,111,351</li> <li>280,590</li> <li>247,002</li> <li>62,427</li> <li>58,213</li> </ul>
EXPENSES Legislative Administration (Note 3) Assessment Fire, ambulance, and protective services Public works - general Roads, streets, walks and lighting Facilities Water supply and distribution Wastewater treatment and disposal Waste management Airport Family and community support services Agricultural services Land use planning, zoning and development Parks and recreation Culture Amortization	53,711,263 655,263 4,066,224 748,099 2,985,427 2,481,969 11,689,130 1,553,688 120,730 358,298 2,673,178 68,000 895,337 2,520,390 1,885,601 2,974,648 667,081 19,500,000	56,751,795 552,001 4,884,661 612,145 2,951,258 2,253,151 10,088,080 977,287 94,648 301,719 2,279,243 38,376 849,193 2,214,154 1,720,027 1,791,786 448,848 20,106,782	57,964,957 562,426 4,128,250 456,451 2,896,100 1,712,974 9,882,122 811,157 87,676 153,568 2,498,545 150,602 672,433 2,203,184 1,417,216 2,727,036 577,812 20,147,897
ANNUAL SURPLUS (DEFICIT) BEFORE OTHER REVENUE	<u>55,843,063</u> (2,131,800)	52,163,359 4,588,436	51,085,449 6,879,508
OTHER REVENUE (EXPENSES) Government transfers for capital (Schedule 3) Contributed tangible capital assets Loss on disposal of tangible capital assets	12,026,333 - -	3,713,349 14,833 (636,696)	3,226,956 - (2,189,134)
	12,026,333	3,091,486	1,037,822
ANNUAL SURPLUS	9,894,533	7,679,922	7,917,330
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	439,750,172	439,750,172	431,832,842
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS, END OF YEAR	\$ 449,644,705	\$ 447,430,094	\$ 439,750,172

## CLEARWATER COUNTY Consolidated Statement of Changes in Net Financial Assets For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

	2019 (Budget) <i>(Note 21)</i>	2019 (Actual)	2018 (Actual)
ANNUAL SURPLUS	\$ 9,894,533	\$ 7,679,922	\$ 7,917,330
Purchase of tangible capital assets Contributed tangible capital assets Increase in land held for resale Proceeds on disposal of tangible capital assets Amortization of tangible capital assets Loss on disposal of tangible capital assets	(43,253,161) - - 19,500,000 -	(18,719,842) (14,833) - 755,087 20,106,782 636,696	(20,357,296) - 3,146,432 707,762 20,147,897 2,189,134
	(23,753,161)	2,763,890	5,833,929
Acquisition of supplies inventory Acquisition of prepaid expenses	-	(1,134,461) (72,756)	(49,902) (51,408)
		(1,207,217)	(101,310)
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET FINANCIAL ASSETS	(13,858,628)	9,236,595	13,649,949
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	92,145,442	92,145,442	78,495,493
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ 78,286,814	\$101,382,037	\$ 92,145,442

## CLEARWATER COUNTY

## **Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows**

For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

	2019	2018
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b> Annual surplus Non-cash items included in annual surplus	\$ 7,679,922	\$ 7,917,330
Loss on disposal of tangible capital assets Contributed tangible capital assets Amortization of tangible capital assets	 636,696 (14,833) 20,106,784	 2,189,134 - 20,147,897
	28,408,569	30,254,361
Changes in non-cash working capital balances: Accounts receivable Prepaid expenses Accounts payable and accrued liabilities Land held for resale Deferred revenue Inventories for consumption Provision for landfill closure and post-closure costs Deposit liabilities	 (1,297,313) (72,756) (2,306,394) 158,705 2,829,920 (1,134,461) 137,750	(690,126) (51,408) 479,562 595,813 10,521,053 (49,902) 377,327 4,750
	 26,724,020	41,441,430
<b>CAPITAL ACTIVITIES</b> Purchase of tangible capital assets Proceeds on disposal of tangible capital assets	 (18,719,842) 755,087 (17,964,755)	 (20,357,296) 707,762 (19,649,534)
FINANCING ACTIVITIES Long-term debt principal repayments	 (355,598)	(341,770)
INVESTING ACTIVITIES Purchase of investments	 (886,448)	(39,990,321)
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS DURING THE YEAR	7,517,219	(18,540,195)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	 62,257,922	80,798,117
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF YEAR	\$ 69,775,141	\$ 62,257,922

## CLEARWATER COUNTY Consolidated Schedule of Changes in Accumulated Surplus For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

	L	Inrestricted Surplus	Restricted Surplus	Equity in Tangible Capital Assets	e 2019	2018
BALANCE, BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$	1,050,304	\$ 95,284,283	\$343,415,585	\$439,750,172	\$431,832,842
Annual surplus		7,679,922	-	-	7,679,922	7,917,330
Unrestricted funds designated for future use		(16,367,549)	16,367,549	-	-	-
Current year funds used for tangible capital assets		(12,144,244)	-	12,144,244	-	-
Restricted surplus used for tangible capital assets		-	(6,590,431	) 6,590,431	-	-
Disposal of tangible capital assets		1,391,783	-	(1,391,783)	-	-
Amortization		20,106,782	-	(20,106,782)	-	-
BALANCE, END OF YEAR	\$	1,716,998	\$105,061,401	\$340,651,695	\$447,430,094	\$439,750,172

## CLEARWATER COUNTY Consolidated Schedule of Property and Other Taxes For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

	2019 (Budget) <i>(Note 21)</i>	2019 (Actual)	2018 (Actual)
TAXATION Real property taxes Linear property taxes	\$ 32,228,295 34,527,672	\$ 32,125,440 34,579,744	\$ 33,357,532 32,783,405
	66,755,967	66,705,184	66,140,937
Less revenue sharing: County of Wetaskiwin Town of Rocky Mountain House Village of Caroline	815,025 750,000 50,000	765,161 750,000 50,000	815,025 750,000 50,000
	1,615,025	1,565,161	1,615,025
Taxes after revenue sharing	65,140,942	65,140,023	64,525,912
<b>REQUISITIONS</b> Alberta School Foundation Fund Westview Lodge Designated industrial property Red Deer Catholic Regional Division No. 39	18,535,042 605,919 400,634 199,372 19,740,967	18,518,763 608,297 400,576 210,647 19,738,283	17,289,335 586,481 191,942 199,372 18,267,130
NET MUNICIPAL TAXES	\$ 45,399,975	\$ 45,401,740	\$ 46,258,782

		2019 (Budget) <i>(Note 21)</i>	2019 (Actual)	2018 (Actual)
TRANSFERS FOR OPERATING Provincial government	\$	642,990	\$ 803,494	\$ 2,111,351
TRANSFERS FOR CAPITAL Provincial government	_	12,026,333	3,713,349	3,226,956
TOTAL GOVERNMENT TRANSFERS	\$	12,669,323	\$ 4,516,843	\$ 5,338,307

## CLEARWATER COUNTY Consolidated Schedule of Segmented Information For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

	General Government	Community Services	Emergency & Protective Services	Transportation Services	Planning & Development	Recreation & Culture	Environmental Services	Agricultural Services	Total
REVENUE Net municipal taxes User fees and sales of goods All other Investment income Oil well drilling taxes Government transfers	\$ 45,401,740 568,577 1,090,417 2,258,079 2,256,295 312,313 51,887,421	\$ - - - - -	\$ - 3,600 1,035,192 - - 268,380 1,307,172	\$ - 391,048 86,886 - - - - 477,934	\$ - 1,125,613 205,532 - - - 1,331,145	\$ - 7,706 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	\$ - 978,038 3,600 166,633 - - - 1,148,271	\$ - 358,512 10,833 - 222,801 592,146	\$ 45,401,740 3,433,094 2,432,460 2,424,712 2,256,295 803,494 56,751,795
EXPENSES Salaries, wages and benefits Contract and general services Materials, goods and supplies Transfers to individuals/organizations Bad debts - provision for allowances Transfers to other governments Interest on long-term debt Transfers to local boards & agencies Other expenses	3,254,700 1,541,715 204,709	122,679 542 2,792 528,575 - 38,376 99,394 95,211 - - - - - - - - - 	1,953,409 305,121 692,729 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	4,168,560 6,529,223 2,620,735 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	818,262 621,099 12,708 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	182,856 12,419 11,506 2,033,852 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	1,315,850 828,189 285,800 - - 106,214 - 139,556 2,675,609	1,211,629 506,881 491,513 4,130 - - - - 2,214,153	13,027,945 10,345,189 4,322,492 2,600,787 1,277,491 146,409 99,394 95,211 141,659 32,056,577
NET REVENUE (DEFICIT) BEFORE AMORTIZATION Amortization	45,570,654 393,189	(887,569) 17,509	(1,644,087) 317,154	(12,840,584) 18,258,486	(120,924)	(2,232,927) 69,454	(1,527,338) 739,951	(1,622,007) 184,290	24,695,218 20,106,782
NET REVENUE (DEFICIT)	\$ 45,177,465	\$ (905,078)	\$ (1,961,241)	\$(31,099,070)	\$ (247,673)	\$ (2,302,381)	\$ (2,267,289)	\$ (1,806,297)	\$ 4,588,436

## CLEARWATER COUNTY Consolidated Schedule of Segmented Information For The Year Ended December 31, 2018

	General Government	Community Services	Emergency & Protective Services	Transportation Services	Planning & Development	Recreation & Culture	Environmental Services	Agricultural Services	Total
Well drilling taxes User fees and sales of goods Government transfers	3,058,519 588,362 510,075	\$ - - -	- - 1,349,966	\$ - 392,636 - 359,288	\$ - 256,440 - 253,016	\$- - 10,516 16,800 420	\$ - 1,082,417 - 5,400	\$- 323,916 234,510 12,220	\$ 46,258,782 3,058,519 2,654,287 2,111,351 1,973,243
All other Investment income	462,915 1,908,775	-	879,984 						1,908,775
	52,787,428	-	2,229,950	751,924	509,456	27,736	1,087,817	570,646	57,964,957
EXPENSES Salaries, wages and benefits Contracted and general services Materials, goods and utilities Transfers to individuals/organizations Bad debts - provision for allowances Other expenses Transfers to other governments Interest on long-term debt Transfers to local boards & agencies	3,008,552 1,133,928 188,002 46,450 964,464 4,899 1,785 - - - - -	94,514 - 2,810 377,199 - 150,602 113,247 84,663 823,035	1,769,726 548,004 578,369 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	3,720,977 5,882,822 2,802,454 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	789,207 403,654 23,402 - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -	165,918 7,666 12,885 3,118,380 - - - - 3,304,849	1,275,637 791,500 273,992 - 398,660 - - 2,739,789	1,158,124 478,586 556,439 10,035 - - - 2,203,184	11,982,655 9,246,160 4,438,353 3,552,064 964,464 403,559 152,387 113,247 84,663 30,937,552
NET REVENUE (DEFICIT) BEFORE AMORTIZATION	47,439,348	(823,035)	(666,149)	(11,654,329)	(706,807)	(3,277,113)	(1,651,972)	(1,632,538)	27,027,405
Amortization	354,259	23,487	324,771	18,099,696	78,867	61,705	1,031,865	173,247	20,147,897
NET REVENUE (DEFICIT)	\$ 47,085,089	\$ (846,522)	\$ (990,920)	\$(29,754,025)	\$ (785,674)	\$ (3,338,818)	) \$ (2,683,837)	\$ (1,805,785)	\$ 6,879,508

Clearwater County (the "County") is a municipality in the Province of Alberta, Canada and operates under the provisions of the *Municipal Government Act*, R.S.A., 2000, c. M-26, as amended.

## 1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

These consolidated financial statements are the representations of the County management prepared in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards. Significant aspects of the accounting policies adopted by the County are as follows:

(a) Reporting Entity

These consolidated financial statements include the assets, liabilities, non-financial assets, revenues, expenses and accumulated surplus of the County which comprises all the organizations that are owned or controlled by the County and are, therefore, accountable to the County for the administration of their financial affairs and resources.

Rocky Mountain House Airport Commission	50.0%
Clearwater Regional Fire Rescue Services	47.5%
Clearwater Regional Emergency Management Agency	67.0%
The Rocky Mountain Regional Solid Waste Authority	63.3%

The County accounts for government partnerships using the proportionate consolidation method. Under this method, the County's proportionate share of assets, liabilities, non-financial assets, revenues, expenses and accumulated surplus are included in the consolidated financial statements. The consolidated financial statements include the County's share of the The Rocky Mountain Regional Solid Waste Authority. Condensed financial information is provided in *Note 20*.

The schedule of taxes levied includes requisitions for education and senior foundations that are not part of the municipal reporting entity.

The financial statements exclude trust assets that are administered for the benefit of external parties. Interdepartmental and organizational transactions and balances are eliminated.

Effective April 1, 2020, a new Clearwater Regional Fire Rescue Services agreement was signed by Clearwater County, the Town of Rocky Mountain House and the Village of Caroline. Clearwater County's proportionate share of operations under this new agreement is 75.75%.

The agreement between Clearwater County, the Town of Rocky Mountain House and the Village of Caroline governing the Rocky Mountain Regional Solid Waste Authority was terminated March 31, 2020. A new agreement is currently under negotiation between the three parties.

(b) Basis of Accounting

The consolidated financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are accounted for in the period in which the transactions or events occurred that gave rise to the revenues. Expenses are recognized in the period the goods and services are acquired and a liability is incurred or transfers are due.

Funds from external parties and earnings thereon restricted by agreement or legislation are accounted for as deferred revenue until used for the purpose specified.

Government transfers are recognized in the consolidated financial statements as revenue in the period in which the events giving rise to the transfer occurred, providing the transfers are authorized, any eligibility criteria have been met by the municipality, and reasonable estimates of the amounts can be made.

## 1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

(c) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and temporary investments include items that are readily convertible to known amounts of cash, are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value, and have a maturity of 90 days or less at acquisition.

#### (d) Investments

Investments are recorded at amortized cost. Where there has been a loss in value that is other than a temporary decline, the investment is written down to recognize the loss.

Investment income is reported as revenue in the period earned. When required by the funding government or related act, investment income earned on deferred revenue is added to the investment, and forms part of the deferred revenue balance.

#### (e) Land Held for Resale

Land held for resale is recorded at the lower of cost or net realizable value. Cost includes costs for land acquisition and improvements required to prepare the land for servicing such as clearing, stripping, and levelling charges. Related development costs incurred to provide infrastructure such as water and wastewater services, roads, sidewalks, and street lighting are recorded as tangible capital assets under their respective function.

## (f) Inventories for Consumption

Inventories held for consumption are valued at the lower of cost and net realizable value with cost determined by the average cost method for gravel and sign inventory and the first-in first-out method for shop inventory.

## (g) Tangible Capital Assets

Tangible capital assets are recorded at cost which includes all amounts that are directly attributable to acquisition, construction, development or betterment of the asset. The cost, less residual value, of the tangible capital assets is amortized on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives as follows:

Buildings	10 - 50 years
Engineered structures	
Roadway systems	3- 80 years
Water systems	45 - 75 years
Wastewater systems	34 - 75 years
Cell development	10 - 15 years
Machinery and equipment	5 - 40 years
Vehicles	10 - 25 years

One-half of the annual amortization is charged in the year of acquisition and in the year of disposal. Assets under construction are not amortized until the asset is available for productive use.

Tangible capital assets received as contributions are recorded at fair value at the date of receipt and also are recorded as revenue.

Works of art for display are not recorded as tangible capital assets but are disclosed.

Leases are classified as capital or operating leases. Leases which transfer substantially all the benefits and risks incidental to ownership are accounted for as capital leases. All other leases are accounted for as operating leases and the related lease payments are charged to expenses.

## 1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

(h) Tax Revenue

Property tax revenue is based on assessed value determined in accordance with the *Municipal Government Act*. Tax rates are established annually. Taxation revenues are recorded at the time tax notices are issued. Assessments are subject to appeal.

Construction and borrowing costs associated with local improvement projects are recovered through annual special property tax assessments during the period of the related borrowings. These levies are collectible from property owners for work performed by the County and are recognized as revenue in the year they are levied.

#### (i) Requisition Over-levy and Under-levy

Over-levies and under-levies arise from the difference between the actual school tax originally levied on behalf of the province and the levy after all adjustments have been processed throughout the year. If the difference is an over-levy or over-collection, the overage is accrued as a liability and property tax revenue is reduced in the following year. If the difference is an under-levy or under-collection, the underage is accrued as a receivable and reflected as property tax revenue in the following year.

(j) Pensions

The County participates in two multi-employer defined benefit pension plans. Contributions for current and past service pension benefits are recorded as expenses in the year in which they become due. See *Note 15* for details of these pension plans.

(k) Contaminated Sites

Contaminated sites are a result of contamination being introduced into air, soil, water or sediment of a chemical, organic or radioactive material or live organism that exceeds an environmental standard. The liability is recorded net of any expected recoveries. A liability for remediation of a contaminated site is recognized when a site is not in productive use and is management's estimate of the cost of post-remediation including operation, maintenance and monitoring.

(I) Use of Estimates

The preparation of the consolidated financial statements in conformity with Canadian public sector accounting standards requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the consolidated financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the period. Where measurement uncertainty exists, the consolidated financial statements have been prepared within reasonable limits of materiality. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

The County has used estimates to determine an allowance for doubtful accounts, accrued liabilities, and the useful lives of tangible capital assets.

#### (m) New Accounting Standards not yet Adopted

Effective for fiscal years beginning on or after April 1, 2021, *PS 3280 Asset Retirement Obligations* provides guidance on how to account for and report liabilities for retirement of tangible capital assets.

Effective for fiscal years beginning on or after April 1, 2022, *PS 3400 Revenue* provides guidance on how to account for and report revenue, and specifically, it addresses revenue arising from exchange transactions and unilateral transactions.

## 2. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2019	2018
Notice on demand accounts Operating bank accounts High interest savings account Cash on hand	\$ 54,935,569 9,528,181 5,310,891 500	\$ 48,900,960 13,131,237 225,225 500
	<u>\$</u> 69,775,141	\$ 62,257,922

The above amounts include grant funding of \$18,803,996 (2018 - \$15,974,076) which is externally restricted per *Note 6*.

#### 3. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

	 2019	 2018
Taxes and grants in place of taxes Trade and other Goods and Services Tax	\$ 3,622,017 1,943,799 626,264	\$ 1,292,376 3,086,782 515,610
	\$ 6,192,080	\$ 4,894,768
Taxes and grants in place of taxes consist of the following:		
Current taxes Tax arrears	\$ 4,766,066 1,688,712	\$ 1,952,675 895,275
	6,454,778	2,847,950
Less: Allowance for doubtful accounts	 (2,832,761)	 (1,555,574)
	\$ 3,622,017	\$ 1,292,376

Administration expenses reported on the Consolidated Statement of Operations include a provision for bad debts in the amount of \$1,277,491 (2018 - \$964,464).

## 4. INVESTMENTS

	2019	2018
Government and corporate bonds Guaranteed Investment Certificates Rocky Mountain House Co-op Association Limited Alberta Capital Finance Authority shares Muniserp Pension Assets	\$ 24,037,736 25,188,409 7,500 70	\$ 23,968,095 24,226,836 7,500 70 144,766
	\$ 49,233,715	\$ 48,347,267

Guaranteed Investment Certificates bear interest at 2.22% - 3.10% per annum, maturing between June and September 2020. The stated coupon interest rates on government and corporate bonds are between 2.10% - 3.40% per annum, maturing between April 2021 - June 2027. The market value of the government and corporate bonds at December 31, 2019 was \$24,873,563 (2018 - \$24,168,523).

## 5. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES

	 2019	 2018
Trade payables and accrued liabilities Accrued wages and benefits Deposit	\$ 2,645,003 1,225,679 9,250	\$ 4,953,654 1,218,721 13,950
	\$ 3,879,932	\$ 6,186,325

## 6. DEFERRED REVENUE

Deferred revenue is comprised of the following amounts which have been received from third parties for a specified purpose. Additions are comprised of both contributions and interest earned during the year. These amounts are recognized as revenue in the period in which the related costs are incurred.

	2018	Additions	Revenue Recognized	2019
Municipal Sustainability Initiative Alberta Community Partnership Program Other Strategic Transportation Infrastruct Program	\$ 15,796,004	\$ 3,251,614	\$ (1,130,285) <b>\$</b>	17,917,333
	- 146,638	1,350,000 433,900	(796,523) (274,563)	553,477 305,975
	ture 31,434	1,100,000	(1,104,223)	27,211
	\$ 15,974,076	\$ 6,135,514	\$ (3,305,594) <b>\$</b>	18,803,996

## 7. LONG-TERM DEBT

	2019	2018
Alberta Capital Finance Authority debenture repayable in semi-annual installments of \$227,808 including interest at 4.006% maturing in 2025.	\$ 2,229,147	\$ 2,584,745

Principal and interest payments are due as follows:

	 Principal	Interest	Total
2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 Thereafter	\$ 369,986 384,956 400,532 416,738 433,600 223,335	\$ 85,631 70,661 55,085 38,879 22,017 4,473	\$ 455,617 455,617 455,617 455,617 455,617 227,808
	\$ 2,229,147	\$ 276,746	\$ 2,505,893

Interest on long-term debt amounted to \$99,394 (2018 - \$113,247).

The County's total cash payments for interest in 2019 were \$100,019 (2018 - \$113,847).

## 8. LANDFILL CLOSURE AND POST CLOSURE COSTS

Alberta environmental law requires closure and post-closure care of landfill sites, which includes final covering and landscaping, pumping of ground water and leachates from the site, and ongoing environmental monitoring, site inspections and maintenance.

The estimated total liability is based on the sum of discounted future cash flows for closure and post-closure activities for 25 years after closure using a discount rate of 3.16% (2018 - 3.26%) and assuming annual inflation of 2.00% (2018 - 2.00%).

The accrued liability portion is based on the cumulative capacity used at year end compared to the estimated total landfill capacity. The total capacity of the site is estimated at 3.333 million cubic metres. The estimated used capacity of the landfill site is 2.162 (2018 - 2.136) million cubic metres. The existing landfill is expected to reach capacity in approximately the year 2042.

	 2019	2018
County's share of estimated closure costs County's share of estimated post-closure costs	\$ 2,331,901 3,088,919	\$ 2,283,228 2,988,224
Estimated total County's share of liability	\$ 5,420,820	\$ 5,271,452
Percentage of liability accrued	64.88%	64.10%
Amount accrued	\$ 3,516,872	\$ 3,379,122
Estimated liability still to be accrued	\$ 1,903,948	\$ 1,892,330

## 9. TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS

ANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS	2019 Net Book Value	2018 Net Book Value
Engineered structures Roadways and bridges Wastewater systems All other Water systems	\$ 240,027,364 10,211,594 11,817,264 5,042,482	\$ 249,584,466 10,426,564 9,428,979 5,137,163
	267,098,704	274,577,172
Land and land improvements Buildings Machinery and equipment Vehicles	43,573,623 16,241,185 12,665,338 1,072,845	42,891,326 12,781,444 12,136,925 1,028,718

**\$ 340,651,695 \$** 343,415,585

	Cost Beginning of Year	Additions	Disposals	Transfers		Cost End of Year
Engineered structures Roadways and bridges Wastewater systems All other Water systems	\$ 626,943,313 12,591,757 16,176,462 5,910,254	\$ 8,156,475 22,367 2,861,586 -	\$ (2,881,423) \$ - (173,400) -		- \$ - -	632,218,365 12,614,124 18,864,648 5,910,254
Machinery and	661,621,786 22,104,887	11,040,428 2,857,716	(3,054,823) (1,402,071)		-	669,607,391 23,560,532
equipment Vehicles Buildings Land	22,104,887 2,473,165 15,581,857 42,891,326	313,650 3,840,584 682,297	(1,402,071) (131,883) (77,121)		- - -	2,654,932 19,345,320 43,573,623
	\$ 744,673,021	\$ 18,734,675	\$ (4,665,898) \$		- \$	758,741,798
	Accumulated Amortization Beginning of Year	Current Amortization	Disposals	Transfers		Accumulated Amortization End of Year
Engineered structures Roadways and bridges Wastewater systems All other Water systems	\$ 377,358,847 2,165,193 6,747,483 773,091	\$ 17,317,875 237,337 299,901 94,681	\$ (2,485,721) \$ - - -		- \$ - -	392,191,001 2,402,530 7,047,384 867,772
	387,044,614	17,949,794	(2,485,721)		-	402,508,687
Machinery, equipment, and furnishings Vehicles Buildings	9,967,962 1,444,447 2,800,413	1,574,564 233,739 348,687	(647,332) (96,099) (44,965)		-	10,895,194 1,582,087 3,104,135
	\$ 401,257,436	\$ 20,106,784	\$ (3,274,117) \$		- \$	418,090,103

Construction of tangible capital assets in progress for 2019 totals \$14,383,817 (2018 - \$11,288,074). These amounts are not being amortized.

10. INVENTORIES FOR CONSUMPTION	2019	2018
Gravel Parts, chemicals, and other	\$ 4,020,179 729,411	\$    3,086,019 529,110
	\$ 4,749,590	\$ 3,615,129
11. ACCUMULATED SURPLUS	2019	2018
<b>11. ACCUMULATED SURPLUS</b> Unrestricted surplus Restricted surplus <i>(Note 12)</i> Equity in tangible capital assets <i>(Schedule 1)</i>	2019 \$ 1,716,998 105,061,401 340,651,695	2018 \$ 1,050,304 95,284,283 343,415,585

#### 12. RESTRICTED SURPLUS

RESTRICTED SURPLUS	2019	2018
Public works - Paving Bridge deficit Tax rate stabilization High speed internet Sewer Vehicles and equipment Public works- Gravel reclamation County facilities - capital Resource roads Fire - capital Work in progress Public works - Gravel Agricultural services Rocky Mountain Regional Solid Waste Authority Disaster Municipal, recreation, and school North Saskatchewan River park Public works - capital West country roads Airport Geographic information system air photos Regional fire	\$ 14,295,046 13,231,477 12,898,394 9,900,000 8,525,697 6,352,995 5,650,493 5,495,266 5,000,000 4,550,017 4,429,655 4,407,553 4,000,000 3,015,964 2,000,000 1,272,437 900,000 800,000 555,723 380,000 152,000 105,547	\$ 14,295,046 8,413,577 12,000,000 8,900,000 8,821,055 6,502,995 5,446,457 3,603,975 5,000,000 7,058,411 3,297,005 4,407,553 4,000,000 2,623,803 2,000,000 1,250,845 700,000
Search and rescue equipment Leslieville Sewer Facility - Operating Rental Income	100,000 90,919 -	100,000 64,273 260,000
Nordegg	(3,047,782) \$105,061,401	(3,897,259) \$ 95,284,283

## 13. CREDIT FACILITY

The County has a demand revolving operating credit facility to a maximum of \$4,920,000 bearing interest at prime less 0.25% per annum. The credit facility was not drawn upon as of December 31, 2019 or 2018.

## 14. CONTINGENCIES

(a) Friends of the Corridor Schools

Wild Rose School Division is planning to replace existing schools in Leslieville and Condor. To augment the essential infrastructure, the Friends of the Corridor Schools, a committee of people working to upgrade schools and educational facilities in the community, was formed (the "Group") and has embarked on a fundraising campaign. In 2019, Clearwater County Council committed to match total funds raised by the Group. As of reporting date of the 2019 financial statements, the Group has raised \$81,355.

(b) Lawsuits

The County is a defendant in various lawsuits. Where the outcome of a claim against the County is considered likely to result in a loss and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated, accrued liabilities have been recorded. Where the resulting potential losses, if any, cannot be determined or the occurrence of future events is unknown, accrued liabilities have not been established.

## 15. PENSION PLANS

(a) Local Authorities Pension Plan

Employees of the County participate in the Local Authorities Pension Plan (LAPP), which is one of the plans covered by the *Public Sector Pension Plans Act*. The LAPP is financed by employer and employee contributions and investment earnings of the LAPP Fund.

The County is required to make current service contributions to the LAPP of 9.39% of pensionable earnings up to the year's maximum pensionable earnings under the Canada Pension Plan and 13.84% on pensionable earnings above this amount. Employees of the County are required to make current service contributions of 8.39% of pensionable earnings up to the year's maximum pensionable earnings and 12.84% on pensionable earnings above this amount.

Total current service contributions by the County to the LAPP in 2019 were \$889,233 (2018 - \$892,783). Total current service contributions by the employees of the County to the LAPP in 2019 were \$807,514 (2018 - \$817,301).

At December 31, 2018 the Plan disclosed an actuarial surplus of \$3.469 billion (2017 - \$4.835 billion).

(b) Alberta Urban Municipalities Association Apex Supplementary Pension Plan

Certain employees of the County are eligible to participate in the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association Apex Supplementary Pension Plan (APEX), a multi-employer pension plan. This plan provides defined pension benefits to employees based on their length of service and rate of pay.

Contributions by the County to APEX in 2019 were \$11,437 (2018 - \$6,421). Contributions by the employees of the County to the APEX in 2019 were \$8,592 (2018 - \$4,824).

## 15. PENSION PLANS (CONT'D)

(c) Alberta Urban Municipalities Association Municipal Supplementary Executive Retirement Plan Certain employees of the County were previously eligible to participate in the Alberta Urban Municipalities Association MuniSERP pension plan, a multi-employer pension plan. This plan provides defined pension benefits to employees based on their length of service and rate of pay. The County ceased participation in this plan during 2018.

Contributions by the County to MuniSERP in 2019 were \$NIL (2018 - \$3,864).

## 16. REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS DISCLOSURE

Disclosure of remuneration and benefits for elected municipal officials, the County Manager and designated officers as required by Alberta Regulation 313/2000 is as follows:

		1	2019 Benefits and		2018
	 Salary		Allowances	Total	 Total
Reeve and Councilors Duncan (Division 1) Laird (Division 2) Lougheed (Division 3) Vandermeer (Division 4) Laing (Division 5) Hoven (Division 6) Swanson (Division 7)	\$ 56,365 49,420 39,128 40,652 43,392 49,135 52,908	\$	7,275 6,921 6,396 4,522 6,614 6,906 7,098	\$ 63,640 56,341 45,524 45,174 50,006 56,041 60,006	\$ 54,795 49,874 43,218 60,061 47,976 51,155 53,998
	\$ 331,000	\$	45,732	\$ 376,732	\$ 361,077
County Manager	\$ 209,223	\$	35,221	\$ 244,444	\$ 252,880

- 1) Salary includes regular base pay, bonuses, overtime, lump sum payments, gross honoraria and any other direct cash remuneration including per diem amounts.
- 2) Employer's share of all employee benefits and contributions or payments made on behalf of employees, including pension, health care, dental coverage, vision coverage, group life insurance, accidental disability and dismemberment insurance, long and short term disability plans, professional memberships and tuition.
- 3) Benefits and allowances include the employer's share of all employee benefits and contributions or payments made on behalf of employees, and the employer's share of the costs of any additional taxable benefits.

## **17. SEGMENTED INFORMATION**

The County provides a wide range of services to its ratepayers. For each reported segment, revenues and expenses represent both amounts that are directly attributable to the segment and amounts that are allocated on a reasonable basis. The accounting policies used in these segments are consistent with those followed in the preparation of the financial statements as disclosed in Note 1.

(a) General Government

General Government is comprised of Council, the office of the CAO and Corporate Services. Corporate Services includes Financial Services, Communications, Assessment, Geographic Information System, and Information Technology Services. Council makes governance decisions regarding service delivery and service levels on behalf of the County in order to balance the needs and wants of the County residents in a financially responsible manner.

(b) Community Services

Community Services consists of seniors' funding, economic development and tourism activities, animal control, shared costs for the airport and special request funding. The Community Services area also provides services mandated by Family and Community Support Services throughout Alberta through a shared funding model between the Province of Alberta, the County, the Town of Rocky Mountain House, and the Village of Caroline.

(c) Emergency and Legislative Services

Emergency and Protective Services is comprised of Fire, Emergency Management, and Municipal Enforcement Services. The regional fire service provides fire suppression along with fire prevention training and education programs. The regional emergency management agency prepares for emergency situations in order to maintain safe communities. the Municipal Enforcement Services provides infrastructure protection, bylaw enforcement and education programs as well as provincial statute enforcement with the authorities granted by the Solicitor General of Alberta.

(d) Transportation Services

Transportation is comprised of services in the Public Works areas. This includes the County's infrastructure (roads and bridges), facilities and maintenance programs, including paving and gravel.

(e) Planning and Development

This area conducts the County's planning and development functions, working with developers to foster sustainable growth within the County. Planning and Development also oversees the ongoing Nordegg development program, as well as the heritage activities, including the Nordegg Museum and Brazeau Collieries Mine Site.

(f) Recreation and Culture

The County contributes to the local recreation programs, libraries and museums in partnership with the Town of Rocky Mountain House, and the Village of Caroline. Through cost-sharing partnerships, the Rocky Mountain House Parks, Recreation and Culture provide recreational and cultural services and activities which promote the well-being of its citizens.

(g) Environmental Services

Environmental Services are comprised of water, wastewater and regional solid waste management collection and recycling.

(h) Agricultural Services and Landcare

Agricultural Services and Landcare administers programs that strengthen relationships in the rural areas as well as relationships with urban communities. This includes vegetation and pest management, environmental stewardship programs, educational workshops, specialized equipment rental, cattle data management and awards such as Century Farms, Farm Family, and Rural Beautification.

## **18. DEBT LIMITS**

Section 276(2) of the *Municipal Government Act* requires that debt and debt limits, as defined by Alberta Regulation 255/00, for the County be disclosed as follows:

	2019	2018
Total debt limit Total debt	\$ 85,127,693 (2,229,147)	\$ 86,947,436 (2,584,745)
Amount of debt limit unused	\$ 82,898,546	\$ 84,362,691
Debt servicing limit Service on debt	\$ 14,187,949 (455,617)	\$ 14,491,239 (455,617)
Amount of debt servicing limit unused	\$ 13,732,332	\$ 14,035,622

The debt limit is calculated at 1.5 times revenue of the County (as defined in Alberta Regulation 255/00) and the debt servicing limit is calculated at 0.25 times such revenue. Incurring debt beyond these limits requires approval by the Minister of Municipal Affairs. These thresholds are guidelines used by Alberta Municipal Affairs to identify municipalities, which could be at financial risk if further debt is acquired. The calculation taken alone does not represent the financial stability of the County. Rather, the financial statements must be interpreted as a whole.

## **19. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

The County's financial instruments consist of cash and cash equivalents, investments, accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued liabilities, and long-term debt. It is management's opinion that the County is not exposed to significant market or currency risk arising from these financial instruments. The following analysis provides information about the County's risk exposure and concentration as of December 31, 2019.

(a) Credit risk

Credit risk arises from the possibility that customers may experience financial difficulty and be unable to fulfill their obligations. The County is exposed to the credit risk associated with fluctuations in the oil and gas industry as a significant portion of the property taxes outstanding relate to linear property and are receivable from companies in the oil and gas industry. The large number and diversity of customers minimizes the County's credit risk.

(b) Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. Interest rate risk arises when the County invests in interest-bearing financial instruments. The County is directly exposed to interest risk on its fixed income securities and long-term debt.

(c) Other price risk

Other price risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. The County is exposed to price risk on its investments in fixed income securities.

Unless otherwise noted, the carrying value of the financial instruments approximates their fair value.

## 20. GOVERNMENT PARTNERSHIP

The County's financial statements include its share of operations 2019 - 63.3% (2018 - 63.3%) of The Rocky Mountain Regional Solid Waste Authority. Condensed financial information of the Authority is as follows:

		2019	2018
FINANCIAL ASSETS Cash and temporary investments Receivables Goods and Services Tax recoverable	\$	12,339,454 239,539 9,812	\$ 10,738,336 625,044 -
		12,588,805	11,363,380
FINANCIAL LIABILITIES Accounts payable and accrued liabilities Deferred revenue Landfill closure and post-closure costs	_	450,007 - 5,560,115	381,331 5,053 5,342,334
		6,010,122	5,728,718
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS		6,578,683	 5,634,662
NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS Tangible capital assets Prepaid expenses and deposits		3,189,964 23,757 3,213,721	3,714,862 21,987 3,736,849
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS	\$	9,792,404	\$ 9,371,511
REVENUE Municipal requisition Sales and user charges Investment income Other Government transfers Gain on disposal of tangible capital assets	\$	2,982,172 1,178,098 263,444 129,853 - 4,826 4,558,393	\$ 3,217,262 1,293,615 199,078 133,712 58,796 - 4,902,463
<b>EXPENSES</b> Salaries and benefits Amortization of tangible capital assets Landfill closure and post-closure provision All other	_	1,960,292 612,229 217,781 1,347,198 4,137,500	1,866,922 1,077,532 596,548 1,165,430 4,706,432
ANNUAL SURPLUS	\$	420,893	\$ 196,031

## 21. BUDGET FIGURES

The budget figures are presented for information purposes only. The 2019 budget, prepared by the County, reflects all municipal activities including capital projects, debt repayments, and reserve transfers. The reconciliation below is provided to encompass these items.

		2019 Original		2019 Final	2019
		(Budget)	_	(Budget)	 (Actual)
Annual surplus	\$	12,218,724	\$	9,894,533	\$ 7,679,922
Add back (deduct): Amortization expense Purchase of tangible capital assets Net transfers from reserves to fund capital projects Net transfers from reserves to fund operations Net transfers to reserve for future purchases Principal debt repayments	s	19,500,000 (42,411,427) 14,613,701 1,000,000 (4,565,400) (355,598)		19,500,000 (43,253,161) 16,407,779 2,310,000 (4,503,553) (355,598)	20,106,782 (18,719,842) (6,590,431) 13,180,862 (16,367,549) (355,598)
Results of Operations	\$	-	\$	-	\$ (1,065,854)

## 22. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

These financial statements were approved by Council.

## 23. COMPARATIVE FIGURES

Certain comparative figures have been reclassified to conform with the current year's financial statement presentation.

## 24. SUBSEQUENT EVENT

On March 11, 2020, the COVID-19 outbreak was declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization and on March 17, 2020 the Province of Alberta declared a public health emergency. Many businesses and individuals in a vast array of sectors may experience an economic loss due to COVID-19 which may have a financial effect on the County. An estimate of the potential financial impact cannot be made at this time.