

***TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016***

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**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 Directors
Tripp County Water User District
Winner, South Dakota

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 business-type activities of the Tripp County Water User District of Winner, South Dakota, (District) as of and for the year ended December, 2017, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated September 4, 2018.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Tripp County Water User District'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 the Tripp County Water User District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Tripp County Water User District'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 the Tripp County Water User District'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 District'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. As required by South Dakota Codified Law 4-11-11, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "CLO Prof LLC".

Chamberlain, South Dakota
September 4, 2018



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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR PROGRAM
AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE**

To the Board of Directors
Tripp County Water User District
Winner, South Dakota

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

We have audited the Tripp County Water User District, South Dakota's compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of the Tripp County Water User District, South Dakota's major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2017. Tripp County Water User District, South Dakota'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 federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of its federal awards applicable to its federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on compliance for each of the Tripp County Water User District, South Dakota'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)*. Those standards and the Uniform Guidance require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the Tripp County Water User District, South Dakota'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 Tripp County Water User District, South Dakota's compliance.

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

In our opinion, the Tripp County Water User District, South Dakota, 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 December 31, 2017.

Report on Internal Control over Compliance

Management of the Tripp County Water User District, South Dakota, 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 Tripp County Water User District, South Dakota's internal control over compliance with the types of requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each major federal program to determine the auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing an 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 Tripp County Water User District, South Dakota'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 a 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 a 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 material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. 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.

Purpose of this Report

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. However, as required by South Dakota Codified Law 4-11-11, this report and our report on compliance for each major federal program are matters of public record and their distribution is not limited.



Chamberlain, South Dakota
September 4, 2018

**TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

Section I - Summary of Auditor's Results

Financial Statements:

Type of report the auditor issued on whether the financial statements auditor were prepared in accordance with GAAP: **Unmodified**

Internal control over financial reporting:

Material weakness(es) identified: _____ yes X no

Significant deficiencies identified: _____ yes X none reported

Noncompliance material to financial statements noted?
_____ yes X no

Federal Awards:

Internal control over major programs:

Material weakness(es) identified? _____ yes X no

Significant deficiencies identified? _____ yes X none reported

Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major programs: **Unmodified**

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a):
_____ yes X no

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016
(CONTINUED)**

Section I - Summary of Auditor's Results (continued)

Identification of Major Programs:

| <u>CFDA Number(s)</u> | <u>Name of Federal Program or Cluster</u> |
|-----------------------|--|
| 66.468 | Capitilization Grants for Drinking Water State Revolving Funds |

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between type A and type B programs:

\$ 750,000

Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee? Yes X No

Section II -Financial Statement Findings

There are no findings which are required to be reported in accordance with Government Auditing Standards.

Section III -Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs

There are no findings or questioned costs relating to federal award programs which are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a).



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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

**To the Board of Directors
Tripp County Water User District
Winner, South Dakota**

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the business-type activities of the Tripp County Water User District, South Dakota, as of and for the years ended December 31, 2017 and 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Tripp County Rural Water User District, South Dakota'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 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.

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 District'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, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the business-type activities of the Tripp County Rural Water User District, South Dakota, as of December 31, 2017 and 2016, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Prior Period Financial Statements

The financial statements of Tripp County Water User District as of December 31, 2016 and 2015, were audited by other auditors whose report dated July 10, 2017, expressed an unmodified opinion on those documents.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis on pages 9–15 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 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.

Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Tripp County Rural Water User District, South Dakota's basic financial statements. The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is presented for purposes of additional analysis as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, and is also not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is the responsibility of management and was 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. In our opinion, Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is 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 September 4, 2018, on our consideration of the Tripp County Rural Water User District, South Dakota's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Tripp County Rural Water User District, South Dakota's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Tripp County Rural Water User District, South Dakota's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



Chamberlain, South Dakota
September 4, 2018

**TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

Our discussion and analysis of Tripp County Water User District's financial performance provides an overview of the Water District's financial activities for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2017. Please read it in conjunction with the Water District's financial statements, which begin on page 16.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- During 2017, the Water District's net capital assets increased by \$17,927, or 0.08% as a result of water system improvements and equipment purchases and disposals. During 2016 capital assets increased by \$2,974,504, or 14.78% as a result of water system improvements and equipment purchases and disposals.
- For the 2017 fiscal year, water sales for the District were \$3,165,727, an increase of \$647,898, or 25.73% from 2016, while operating expenses were \$2,494,314, an increase of \$498,433, or 24.96% from 2016. For the 2016 fiscal year, water sales were \$2,517,829, a decrease of \$19,395, or 0.76% from 2015, while operating expenses were \$1,996,781, an increase of \$71,871, or 3.73% from 2015.
- The Water District had an increase of \$580,650 in net position in the 2017 fiscal year and an increase of \$579,901 in net position in the 2016 fiscal year.

USING THIS ANNUAL REPORT

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements. The Statements of Net Position and the Statements of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position (on pages 16 through 18) provide information about the activities of the Water District as a whole and present a longer-term view of the Water District's finances.

REPORTING THE WATER DISTRICT AS A WHOLE

One of the most important questions asked about the Water District's finances is, "Is the Water District as a whole better off or worse off as a result of the year's activities?" The Statements of Net Position and the Statements of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position report information about the Water District as a whole and about its activities in a way that helps answer this question. These statements include all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when cash is received or paid.

**TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

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

In the Statements of Net Position and the Statements of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position, the Water District only has one type of activity.

- Business-type activities – The Water District charges a fee to customers to help it cover all of the cost of operating the water distribution system.

REPORTING THE WATER DISTRICT'S SIGNIFICANT FUNDS

Because the Water District only has one fund (a proprietary fund), no fund statements were presented in the financial reports. The proprietary fund uses the following approach in its financial statement presentation.

- Proprietary funds – When the Water District charges customers for the services it provides, these services are generally reported in proprietary funds. Proprietary funds are reported in the same way that all activities are reported in the Statements of Net Position and the Statements of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position.

**TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

THE WATER DISTRICT AS A WHOLE

The Water District's combined net position changed from 2016 to 2017 – increasing from \$9.12 million to \$9.69 million, for a \$570 thousand, or 6.25% increase in net position. From 2015 to 2016, combined net position increased from \$8.54 million to \$9.12 million, for a \$580 thousand, or 6.79% increase. Our analysis below will focus on the net position (Table 1) and changes in net position (Table 2) of the Water District's business-type activities.

Table 1
Net Position

| | Business-type Activities | | |
|--|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2015</u> |
| Current and other assets | \$ 4,923,501 | \$ 4,320,883 | \$ 4,010,744 |
| Capital assets | 23,110,944 | 23,093,017 | 20,118,513 |
| Total assets | <u>\$ 28,034,445</u> | <u>\$ 27,413,900</u> | <u>\$ 24,129,257</u> |
| Long-term debt outstanding | \$ 16,920,171 | \$ 16,968,799 | \$ 13,981,635 |
| Other liabilities | 1,416,229 | 1,327,706 | 1,610,128 |
| Total liabilities | <u>18,336,400</u> | <u>18,296,505</u> | <u>15,591,763</u> |
| Invested in capital assets, net of debt | 5,835,230 | 5,561,544 | 5,658,740 |
| Restricted | 719,629 | 557,579 | 582,367 |
| Restricted for retirement | 230,094 | 211,029 | - |
| Unrestricted (deficit) | 2,913,092 | 2,787,243 | 2,296,387 |
| Total net position | <u>9,698,045</u> | <u>9,117,395</u> | <u>8,537,494</u> |
| Total liabilities and net position | <u>\$ 28,034,445</u> | <u>\$ 27,413,900</u> | <u>\$ 24,129,257</u> |

Net position of the Water District increased by 6.36% (\$9.70 million compared to \$9.12 million) in 2017. In 2016, net position increased by 6.79% (\$9.12 million compared to \$8.54 million). Unrestricted net position – the part of net position that can be used to finance day-to-day operations without constraints established by debt covenants, enabling legislation, or other legal requirements – increased by \$125,849, or 4.52% (\$2.91 million compared to \$2.79 million) in 2017 and increased by \$490,856, or 21.38% (\$2.79 million compared to \$2.30 million) in 2016.

**TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

| Table 2 | | | | |
|--|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Changes in Net Position | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | Business-type | | |
| | | Activities | | |
| | | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2015</u> |
| Revenues | | | | |
| Program revenues: | | | | |
| Water sales | | \$ 3,165,727 | \$ 2,517,829 | \$ 2,537,224 |
| Rent | | 63,441 | 65,511 | 64,161 |
| Other operating revenue | | 247,982 | 284,786 | 308,972 |
| Nonoperating revenues: | | | | |
| Interest income | | 55,664 | 13,523 | 11,841 |
| Total revenues | | <u>3,532,814</u> | <u>2,881,649</u> | <u>2,922,198</u> |
| Expenses | | | | |
| Operating expenses: | | | | |
| Cost of sales & service | | 833,225 | 594,711 | 596,971 |
| Administrative | | 371,442 | 337,673 | 337,249 |
| Depreciation | | 1,289,647 | 1,064,397 | 990,690 |
| Nonoperating expenses: | | | | |
| Interest expense | | 457,850 | 304,967 | 265,820 |
| Transfer to/(from) restrictive reserves | | 170,318 | 186,241 | (5,194) |
| Total expenses | | <u>3,122,482</u> | <u>2,487,989</u> | <u>2,185,536</u> |
| Excess of revenues over expenses | | 410,332 | 393,660 | 736,662 |
| Increase/(Decrease) in restricted net position | | <u>170,318</u> | <u>186,241</u> | <u>(5,194)</u> |
| Increase/(Decrease) in net position | | 580,650 | 579,901 | 731,468 |
| Total Net Position - Beginning | | 9,117,395 | 8,537,494 | 7,806,026 |
| Total Net Position - Ending | | <u>\$ 9,698,045</u> | <u>\$ 9,117,395</u> | <u>\$ 8,537,494</u> |

**TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

In 2017, the total revenues of the Water District increased by \$651,165, or 22.60%. In 2016, the total revenues decreased by \$40,549, or 1.39%. The total cost of all programs and services increased by \$650,416, or 28.26% in 2017, compared to an increase of \$111,018, or 5.07% in 2016.

The Water District's revenues from its operating activities (see Table 2) increased by \$609,024, or 21.23% in 2017 compared to a decrease of \$42,231, or 1.45% in 2016 (\$3,477,150 in 2017, \$2,868,126 in 2016, and \$2,910,357 in 2015) while operating expenses increased by \$504,052, or 25.24% in 2017 and increased by \$71,871, or 3.73% in 2016.

THE WATER DISTRICT'S FUNDS

As the Water District completed the year, it reported a fund balance of \$9,698,045, which was more than \$9,117,395 in 2016, which was more than \$8,537,494 in 2015. The following events that caused changes in fund balances should be noted:

- As shown in Note 3 to the financial statements, the Water District added capital assets in the amount of \$1,306,574 this year, 97.9% of that being in water system improvements. The District added capital assets in the amount of \$15,443,232 in 2016.
- As shown in Note 5 to the financial statements, the Water District made principal payments during 2017 of \$818,665 and acquired \$1,057,184 in new debt. As a result, the Water District's net debt increased by \$238,519. In 2016, the Water District made principal payments of \$479,093 and acquired \$10,692,816 in new debt.
- During 2017 and 2016, the Water District also received \$58,841 and \$100,558, respectively, in "Tap Fees" from new hook-ups from its members, which is included as a component of other operating revenue on the statement of changes in net position.

**TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

CAPITAL ASSET AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

Capital Assets

At the end of 2017, the Water District had \$43,679,700 invested in a broad range of capital assets, including land, buildings, equipment, and the water distribution system. (See Table 3). This amount represents a net increase of capital assets owned by the Water District (including additions and deductions) of \$1,286,511, or 3.03%. At the end of 2016, the Water District had \$42,393,189 invested in capital assets, representing a net increase of \$4,019,186, or 10.47%.

Table 3
Capital Assets at Year-end
(Net of Depreciation)

| | Business-type Activities | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2015</u> |
| Land | \$ 645,247 | \$ 645,247 | \$ 645,247 |
| Buildings | 402,800 | 402,800 | 402,800 |
| Equipment | 645,447 | 627,043 | 615,402 |
| Water system | 41,986,206 | 40,718,099 | 28,955,503 |
| Construction in progress | - | - | 7,755,051 |
| | <u>43,679,700</u> | <u>42,393,189</u> | <u>38,374,003</u> |
| Less depreciation | <u>20,568,756</u> | <u>19,300,172</u> | <u>18,255,490</u> |
| Totals | <u><u>\$ 23,110,944</u></u> | <u><u>\$ 23,093,017</u></u> | <u><u>\$ 20,118,513</u></u> |

Major additions included:

2017: Water system improvements.

2016: Water system improvements.

The Water District's fiscal year 2018 capital plans consist of continuing internal upgrade projects including replacing meters and meter pits and upgrading towers and storage tanks. The total expected cost for these projects is approximately \$643,555. All of this cost will be paid through internal funding.

**TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

Debt

At year-end, the Water District had \$17.93 million in bonds and notes outstanding, versus \$17.69 million last year and \$7.48 million in 2015 – an increase of \$238,519, or 1.35% in 2017 and an increase of \$10,213,723, or 136.53% in 2016 – as shown in Table 4.

Table 4
Outstanding Debt at Year-end

| | Business-type Activities | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2015</u> |
| Loans payable | \$ 17,388,171 | \$ 16,859,652 | \$ 6,360,929 |
| Refunding bonds payable | 545,000 | 835,000 | 1,120,000 |
| Totals | <u>\$ 17,933,171</u> | <u>\$ 17,694,652</u> | <u>\$ 7,480,929</u> |

More detailed information about the Water District’s long-term liabilities is presented in Note 5 to the financial statements.

ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR’S BUDGETS AND RATES

The Water District’s Board of Directors has approved the budget for the next fiscal year. Also, water rates have been set to provide adequate cash flow to fund operating expenses as well as debt obligations.

CONTACTING THE WATER DISTRICT’S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, customers, investors, and creditors with a general overview of the Water District’s finances and to show the Water District’s accountability for the money it receives. If you have any questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the Water District office at 1052 West 1st Street, Winner, SD 57580.

**TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
STATEMENTS OF NET POSITION**

**DECEMBER 31,
2017 2016**

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS

| | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 3,559,050 | \$ 2,786,189 |
| Accounts receivable | 343,500 | 546,475 |
| Inventory | 183,452 | 164,056 |
| Prepaid expenses | 34,096 | 36,861 |
| <i>Total Current Assets</i> | 4,120,098 | 3,533,581 |

NONCURRENT ASSETS

| | | |
|--------------------------------|---------|---------|
| Restricted assets | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 390,650 | 394,033 |
| Investments | 164,965 | 163,546 |
| Retirement plan deposit | 230,094 | 211,029 |
| <i>Total Noncurrent Assets</i> | 785,709 | 768,608 |

Capital assets

| | | |
|--|------------|------------|
| Land | 645,247 | 645,247 |
| Buildings | 402,800 | 402,800 |
| Equipment | 645,447 | 627,043 |
| Water system | 41,986,206 | 40,718,099 |
| <i>Total Property, Plant and Equipment</i> | 43,679,700 | 42,393,189 |
| Less accumulated depreciation | 20,568,756 | 19,300,172 |
| <i>Net Property, Plant and Equipment</i> | 23,110,944 | 23,093,017 |

OTHER NONCURRENT ASSETS

| | | |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|
| Loan origination fees, net of amortization | 16,000 | 17,000 |
| Other noncurrent assets | 1,694 | 1,694 |
| <i>Total Other Noncurrent Assets</i> | 17,694 | 18,694 |
| | \$ 28,034,445 | \$ 27,413,900 |

*The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are
an integral part of this statement.*

DECEMBER 31,
2017 2016

LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION

CURRENT LIABILITIES

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Accounts payable | \$ 227,854 | \$ 332,055 |
| Accrued interest | 77,378 | 83,604 |
| Unearned revenues | 93,698 | 181,855 |
| Current maturities of long-term debt | 1,013,000 | 725,853 |
| Other current liabilities | 4,299 | 4,339 |
| <i>Total Current Liabilities</i> | 1,416,229 | 1,327,706 |

NONCURRENT LIABILITIES

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------|------------|
| Loans payable | 16,920,171 | 16,423,799 |
| Bonds payable | -- | 545,000 |
| <i>Total Noncurrent Liabilities</i> | 16,920,171 | 16,968,799 |

NET POSITION

| | | |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| Net investment in capital assets | 5,835,230 | 5,561,544 |
| Restricted for debt service and reserves | 719,629 | 557,579 |
| Restricted for retirement | 230,094 | 211,029 |
| Unrestricted | 2,913,092 | 2,787,243 |
| <i>Total Net Position</i> | 9,698,045 | 9,117,395 |
| | \$ 28,034,445 | \$ 27,413,900 |

TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION

| | <i>YEARS ENDED</i> | |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| | <i>DECEMBER 31,</i> | |
| | <i>2017</i> | <i>2016</i> |
| <i>Operating Revenues:</i> | | |
| Water sales | \$ 3,165,727 | \$ 2,517,829 |
| Rent | 63,441 | 65,511 |
| Other | 247,982 | 284,786 |
| <i>Total Operating Revenue</i> | <u>3,477,150</u> | <u>2,868,126</u> |
| <i>Operating Expenses:</i> | | |
| Cost of sales and service | 833,225 | 594,711 |
| Administration | 371,442 | 337,673 |
| Depreciation | 1,289,647 | 1,064,397 |
| <i>Total Operating Expenses</i> | <u>2,494,314</u> | <u>1,996,781</u> |
| <i>Operating Income</i> | <u>982,836</u> | <u>871,345</u> |
| <i>Nonoperating Revenues:</i> | | |
| Interest income | 55,664 | 13,523 |
| Interest expense | (457,850) | (304,967) |
| <i>Total Nonoperating Revenue</i> | <u>(402,186)</u> | <u>(291,444)</u> |
| <i>Change in Net Position</i> | 580,650 | 579,901 |
| <i>Net Position - Beginning of Year</i> | <u>9,117,395</u> | <u>8,537,494</u> |
| <i>Net Position - End of Year</i> | <u>\$ 9,698,045</u> | <u>\$ 9,117,395</u> |

*The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are
an integral part of this statement.*

**TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**

| | <i>YEARS ENDED</i> | |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| | <i>DECEMBER 31,</i> | |
| | <i>2017</i> | <i>2016</i> |
| CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES: | | |
| Cash received from customers | \$ 3,165,727 | \$ 2,268,026 |
| Cash paid to suppliers | (585,567) | (551,167) |
| Cash paid to employees | (644,219) | (651,678) |
| Other receipts | 311,423 | 350,297 |
| | <u>2,247,364</u> | <u>1,415,478</u> |
| NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES | | |
| CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES: | | |
| Purchase of capital assets | (1,306,574) | (4,401,510) |
| Principal paid on capital debt | (818,665) | (479,093) |
| New borrowings | 1,057,184 | 3,713,972 |
| Interest expense paid | (457,850) | (256,108) |
| | <u>(1,525,905)</u> | <u>(1,422,739)</u> |
| NET CASH (USED) IN CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES | | |
| CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES: | | |
| Purchase of certificates of deposit | (7,645) | (1,923) |
| Interest received | 55,664 | 13,523 |
| | <u>48,019</u> | <u>11,600</u> |
| NET CASH PROVIDED BY INVESTING ACTIVITIES | | |
| NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS | | |
| | 769,478 | 4,339 |
| CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, at Beginning of Year | <u>3,180,222</u> | <u>3,175,883</u> |
| CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, at End of Year | <u>\$ 3,949,700</u> | <u>\$ 3,180,222</u> |
| RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING INCOME TO NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES: | | |
| Operating income | \$ 982,836 | \$ 871,345 |
| Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net cash provided by operating activities: | | |
| Depreciation | 1,288,647 | 1,064,397 |
| Amortization | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| (Increase) decrease in: | | |
| Accounts receivable | 202,975 | (72,306) |
| Inventory | (19,396) | (28,248) |
| Prepaid expenses | 2,765 | 6,706 |
| Retirement deposit | (19,065) | (211,029) |
| Increase (decrease) in: | | |
| Accounts payable - trade | (104,201) | (38,050) |
| Deferred revenues | (88,157) | (177,498) |
| Other current liabilities | (40) | (839) |
| | <u>\$ 2,247,364</u> | <u>\$ 1,415,478</u> |
| NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES | | |

*The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are
an integral part of this statement.*

**TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES:

Reporting Entity: The Tripp County Water User District (the District) was created in 1972 for the purpose of financing, constructing, maintaining and operating a rural water distribution system. The District was organized under the authority of Chapter 46A-9-16 of the South Dakota Codified Laws of 1967, as amended, as a water user district.

The District operates under the direction of a Board of Directors who are elected by the members of the district and provides safe drinking water to its members throughout South central South Dakota.

Basis of Presentation: Enterprise funds may be used to report any activity for which a fee is charged to external users for goods or service. Activities are required to be reported as enterprise funds if any one of the following criteria is met:

1. The activity is financed with debt that is secured solely by a pledge of the net revenues from fees and charges of the activity. Debt that is secured by a pledge of net revenues from fees and charges and the full faith and credit of related primary government or component unit – even if that government is not expected to make any payments – is not payable solely from fees and charges of the activity. (Some debt may be secured, in part, by a portion of its own proceeds but should be considered as payable “solely” from the revenues of the activity.)
2. Laws or regulations require that the activity’s cost of providing services, including capital costs (such as depreciation of debt service), be recovered with fees and charges, rather than with taxes or similar revenues.
3. The pricing policies of the activity establish fees and charges designed to recover its costs, including capital costs (such as depreciation or debt service).

Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting: Measurement focus is a term used to describe “how” transactions are recorded within the various financial statements. Basis of accounting refers to “when” revenues and expenditures or expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements, regardless of the measurement focus.

The financial statements are presented using the economic resources measurement focus, applied on the accrual basis of accounting. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues and related assets are recorded when earned (usually when the right to receive cash vests); and expenses and related liabilities are recorded when an obligation is incurred (usually when the obligation to pay cash in the future vests).

Deposits, Investments and Cash Equivalents: For the purpose of the District’s Statement of Cash Flows, the District considers all highly liquid debt instruments with original maturities of three months or less to be cash equivalents. Various restrictions on deposits and investments are imposed by statutes. These restrictions are summarized below:

Deposits – The District’s deposits are made in qualified public depositories as defined by SDCL 4-6A-1. Qualified depositories are required by SDCL 4-6A-3 to maintain at all times, segregated from their other assets, eligible collateral having a value equal to at least 100 percent of the public deposit accounts which exceed deposit insurance such as the FDIC and NCUA. In lieu of pledging eligible securities, a qualified public depository may furnish irrevocable standby letters of credit issued by federal home loan banks accompanied by written evidence of that bank’s public debt rating which may not be less than “AA” or better, or a qualified public depository may furnish a corporate surety bond of a corporation authorized to do business in South Dakota.

**TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

1. **SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES:** (continued)

Deposits, Investments and Cash Equivalents: (continued)

Investments - In general, SDCL 4-5-6 permits District funds to be invested only in (a) securities of the United States and securities guaranteed by the United States government either directly or indirectly; or (b) repurchase agreements fully collateralized by securities described in (a) above; or in shares of open-end, no-load funds administered by an investment company whose investments are in securities described in (a) above and repurchase agreements described in (b) above. Also, SDCL 4-5-9 requires investments to be in the physical custody of the political subdivision or deposited in a safekeeping account with any bank or trust company designated by the political subdivision as its fiscal agent.

The District's cash and cash equivalents consisted only of checking and savings accounts, and money market accounts. At December 31, 2017 and 2016, investments classified in the financial statements consist entirely of certificates of deposits whose terms to maturity at date of acquisition exceeds three months. These accounts are insured or collateralized in the District's name.

Interest Rate Risk: The District does not have a formal investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates.

Credit Risk: State law limits eligible investments of the District as discussed above. The District has no investment policy that would further limit its investment choices.

Concentration Risk: The District places no limit on the amount that may be invested in any one issuer.

Federal Income Taxes: The District qualifies as a political subdivision incorporated under the laws of South Dakota and is not subject to federal income taxes. South Dakota does not levy a state income tax.

Inventory: The District's inventories, consisting of parts, materials and supplies, are stated at the lower of cost or market, using the first-in, first-out method.

Property, Plant and Equipment: Assets in property, plant and equipment are stated at cost. The District provides for depreciation on a straight-line basis at an annual rate which will amortize the undepreciated cost of depreciable property over estimated remaining service lives. The cost of current repairs and minor replacements is charged to appropriate operating expense and clearing accounts, and the cost of renewals and betterments is capitalized. When property, plant and equipment is sold or otherwise disposed of, the asset account and related accumulated depreciation account are relieved, and any gain or loss is included in operations.

**TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

1. **SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES:** (continued)

Property, Plant and Equipment: (continued)

Estimated useful lives for financial reporting purposes are as follows:

| | <u>Years</u> |
|--------------|--------------|
| Vehicles | 3-5 |
| Equipment | 5-12 |
| Buildings | 20-35 |
| Water System | 20-40 |

The District currently capitalizes all property, plant and equipment purchases exceeding \$5,000 that have a useful life exceeding one year.

Unearned Revenues: In November and December of each year the District pre-bills minimum amounts for the year's water usage. These amounts (both collected and uncollected at year-end) are shown as unearned revenues in the accompanying financial statements.

Capitalized Interest: Interest costs are capitalized when incurred by the District on debt where proceeds are used to finance the construction of assets. Interest earned on proceeds, if any, of tax-exempt borrowing arrangements restricted to the acquisition of qualifying assets is offset against interest costs in determining the amount to be capitalized. In 2017 and 2016 \$0 and \$147,960 in construction period interest was capitalized, respectively.

Revenue Recognition: Revenues are recorded based on cycle billings rendered. Unbilled service amounts are not recognized until billed and are considered immaterial. Customer accounts receivable are deemed fully collectable, therefore, no allowance for doubtful accounts has been established.

Operating Revenues and Expenditures: Operating revenues and expenses for the District are those that result from providing services and include all revenues and expenses not related to capital and related financing, noncapital financing, or investing activities.

Net Position: Equity is classified as net position and is displayed in three components:

1. Net investment in capital assets – Consists of capital assets, including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation (if applicable) and reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.
2. Restricted net position – Consists of net position with constraints placed on their use either by (a) external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws and regulations of other governments; or (b) law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
3. Unrestricted net position – All other net positions that do not meet the definition of “restricted” or “invested in capital assets, net of related debt.”

**TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES: (continued)

Application of Net Position: When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the District's policy to use restricted first, then unrestricted resources as needed.

Accumulated Unpaid Vacation and Sick Leave: Employees earn 12 to 18 days of annual leave per calendar year depending upon length of employment. In the event of termination, an employee is reimbursed for only unused accumulated annual leave. Employees are required to use their accumulated annual leave in the year in which it is earned; if not used, the annual leave is lost. Therefore, there is no accrual for annual leave at the end of the calendar year.

Sick leave is accumulated by full-time employees at a rate of 1 day per month of employment, not to exceed 180 days. No cash payment will be made for sick leave upon termination, therefore no accrual is recognized.

Use of Estimates: Management uses estimates and assumptions in preparing financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Those estimates affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual amounts could differ from those estimates.

2. RESTRICTED ASSETS:

Restricted assets consisted of the following at December 31,

| | <i>2017</i> | <i>2016</i> |
|--|-------------|-------------|
| Reserve deposit required by FMHA | \$ 208,950 | \$ 163,546 |
| Funds on deposit with fiscal agent for the purpose of interest and principal payments on 2010 Bonds | 346,665 | 394,033 |
| | \$ 555,615 | \$ 557,579 |

These funds are presented as restricted for debt service and reserves as part of net position on the Statements of Net Position.

**TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

3. CAPITAL ASSETS:

The following is a summary of changes in capital assets:

Year Ended December 31, 2017

| | <i>Beginning Balance</i> | <i>Additions</i> | <i>Deletions</i> | <i>Ending Balance</i> |
|--|------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| Land | \$ 645,247 | \$ -- | \$ -- | \$ 645,247 |
| Buildings | 402,800 | -- | -- | 402,800 |
| Equipment | 627,043 | 27,402 | (8,998) | 645,447 |
| Water System | 40,718,099 | 1,279,172 | (11,065) | 41,986,206 |
| Total, being depreciated | 42,393,189 | 1,306,574 | (20,063) | 43,679,700 |
| Less accumulated depreciation for: | | | | |
| Buildings | 120,578 | 13,659 | -- | 134,237 |
| Equipment | 514,120 | 51,739 | (8,998) | 556,861 |
| Water System | 18,665,474 | 1,223,249 | (11,065) | 19,877,658 |
| Total accumulated depreciation | 19,300,172 | 1,288,647 | (20,063) | 20,568,756 |
| Net Capital Assets | \$ 23,093,017 | \$ 17,927 | \$ -- | \$ 23,110,944 |

4. LOAN ORIGINATION FEES:

Amortization expense of \$1,000 and \$1,000 has been charged to operations for the years ending December 31, 2017 and 2016, respectively.

5. LONG-TERM DEBT:

The following is a summary of changes in long-term debt:

| | <i>Debt 12/31/2016</i> | <i>Retired</i> | <i>Additions</i> | <i>Debt 12/31/2017</i> | <i>Due Within One Year</i> |
|------------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| USDA FMHA Loans | \$ 3,615,842 | \$ 88,246 | \$ -- | \$ 3,433,596 | \$ 94,000 |
| Berkadia Finance | 79,754 | 79,754 | -- | -- | -- |
| State of SD - Revolving Fund | 13,164,056 | 360,665 | 1,057,184 | 13,486,575 | 374,000 |
| 2010 Bond Indebtedness | 835,000 | 290,000 | -- | -- | 545,000 |
| Total Debt | \$ 17,694,652 | \$ 818,665 | \$ 1,057,184 | \$ 16,920,171 | \$ 1,013,000 |

**TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

5. LONG-TERM DEBT: (continued)

| | | 2017 | 2016 |
|--|--|----------------------|----------------------|
| USDA-FMHA #17 | 4.875%, due in monthly installments of \$3,141. Due November, 2035. | \$ 444,992 | \$ 463,733 |
| USDA-FMHA #18 | 4.5%, due in monthly installments of \$1,148. Due January, 2043. | 205,269 | 210,863 |
| USDA-FMHA #20 | 4.375%, due in monthly installments of \$2,368. Due June, 2044. | 442,310 | 453,567 |
| USDA-FMHA #22 | 4.125%, due in monthly installments of \$1,088. Due December, 2045. | 215,217 | 220,410 |
| USDA-FMHA #23 | 4.125%, due in monthly installments of \$10,741. Due June, 2048. | 2,219,808 | 2,267,269 |
| State of SD - Revolving Fund #C462434-01 | 2.5%, due in quarterly installments of \$41,364. Due October, 2034. | 74,499 | 78,881 |
| State of SD - Revolving Fund #C462434-02 | 0.0%, due in monthly installments of \$1,096. Due October, 2034. | 2,285,717 | 2,392,359 |
| State of SD - Revolving Fund SRF Loan | 2.25%, due in quarterly installments of \$135,2046. Due October, 2046. | 11,500,359 | 10,692,816 |
| Berkadia Finance | 5.0%, due in monthly installments of \$1,964. Due July 2020. | -- | 79,754 |
| Water Revenue Refunding Bonds, Series 2010, due in annual installments of \$225,000 to \$545,000, plus interest ranging from 1.0% to 3.25%. Average coupon rate is 2.75% | | <u>545,000</u> | <u>835,000</u> |
| | | 17,933,171 | 17,694,652 |
| Less Current Portion | | <u>(1,013,000)</u> | <u>(725,853)</u> |
| Long-Term Debt | | <u>\$ 16,920,171</u> | <u>\$ 16,968,799</u> |

The State Revolving Fund Loans are secured by real estate, goods and equipment.

The Bonds constitute an absolute and unconditional obligation of the District and shall be payable solely from its gross revenues and amounts held therefore by the Trustee under resolution.

**TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

5. LONG-TERM DEBT: (continued)

The annual requirements to retire debt is as follows:

| <i>Year(s) Ended</i> | <i>Principal</i> | <i>Interest</i> | <i>Total Requirement</i> |
|--------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| 2018 | \$ 1,013,000 | \$ 488,500 | \$ 1,501,500 |
| 2019 | 505,000 | 452,000 | 957,000 |
| 2020 | 512,000 | 438,100 | 950,100 |
| 2021 | 509,000 | 424,500 | 933,500 |
| 2022 | 518,000 | 408,900 | 926,900 |
| 2023-2048 | 14,637,652 | 5,040,800 | 19,678,452 |
| | <u>\$ 17,694,652</u> | <u>\$ 7,252,800</u> | <u>\$ 24,947,452</u> |

6. RESTRICTED NET POSITION:

The following table shows the net position restricted as shown on the Statements of Net Position:

| <i>Description</i> | <i>Restricted by</i> | <i>2017</i> | <i>2016</i> |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Restricted for Debt Service | Bank West | \$ 263,510 | \$ 261,623 |
| Restricted for Debt Service | USDA | \$ 456,119 | \$ 295,956 |
| Restricted for Retirement | NTCA | \$ 219,297 | \$ 211,029 |

7. RETIREMENT PLAN:

The Water District participates in the National Telephone Cooperative Association (NTCA), a cost-sharing, multiple employer defined benefit pension plan. This plan is authorized by SDCL 46A-9-78.

Employees who retire at or after age 65 are entitled to a retirement benefit, payable monthly for life. The benefit is based on the final average earnings multiplied by a product of 2.168% multiplied by the sum of the accumulated system and participant net contribution percent. Employees may retire at or after age 55 and receive reduced benefits. There are no vesting requirements. The retirement system also provides death benefits.

The National Telephone Cooperative Association issues a stand-alone financial report on an annual basis. Copies are available at the NTCA's service center located in Asheville, NC or can be reviewed at the District's administrative office.

Covered employees are required to contribute 5 percent of their gross salary to the plan. The District is required to contribute an amount equal to 8.4 percent of the employee's gross salary. These provisions are established by the District's Board of Directors and may be amended contingent upon approval by USDA Rural Development.

**TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND 2016**

7. RETIREMENT PLAN: (continued)

| Contribution Information: | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> | <u>2015</u> |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Contribution requirements (total of (employee and employer contribution) | \$ 82,701 | \$ 71,107 | \$ 62,060 |
| Water District contribution | \$ 64,642 | \$ 52,370 | \$ 44,303 |
| Percent of covered payroll | 8.40% | 8.40% | 8.40% |
| Employee contributions | \$ 18,059 | \$ 18,737 | \$ 17,757 |
| Percent of employee contributions | 5.0% | 5.0% | 5.0% |

100% of the contribution requirements were contributed for all years.

In September 2016, the District received correspondence from NTCA informing the District of a plan to increase employer match costs over the next twelve years. In lieu of annual assessment, members of the NTCA plan could pre-fund the entire estimated assessment (surcharge). Pre-funded contributions will be invested with other plan funds and will grow (or lose value) at the same rate as the program's overall investment returns. If funds remain in the District's pre-funding account, surcharge contributions will be paid from that account. At the end of the surcharge period, any assets remaining in the District's pre-funding account may be applied toward future program contributions. The District made the decision to pre-fund the assessment, which is presented on the Statements of Net Positions as retirement plan deposit.

8. RISKS OF LOSS:

Tripp County Water User District is exposed to certain risks of loss, such as fire, casualty, and damage to property. The Water District has purchased adequate commercial insurance to minimize the loss from these occurrences. There have been no settlements exceeding insurance coverage during the preceding fiscal year.

9. CONSTRUCTION LOAN FUNDING FOR SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS AND EXPANSION:

The South Dakota State Board of Water and Natural Resources in October 2014 approved \$11.75 million in funding from the Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund for the District's improvement and expansion project. The thirty-year loan for the project carries a 2.25% annual percentage rate. Repayment began in January 2017.

The project involved major improvements to the District's drinking water distribution mains, service lines, pump stations, and storage capacity. It also involved expanding the distribution system to include 95 new users and installing meter pits to 85 users in areas currently served. The substantial completion date was October 15, 2016, with final costs and loan disbursements completed in 2017.

10. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS – DATE OF MANAGEMENT EVALUATION:

District management has evaluated subsequent events through September 4, 2018 the date on which these financial statements were completed.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

**TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2017**

| <i>FEDERAL GRANTOR/ PROGRAM TITLE</i> | <i>FEDERAL CFDA NUMBER</i> | <i>PASS-THROUGH ENTITY IDENTIFYING NUMBER</i> | <i>FEDERAL EXPENDITURES</i> |
|---|------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Indirect Federal Funding: South Dakota Department of Natural Resources Capitalization Grants for Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Funds | 66.468 | C462434-04 | \$ 1,057,184 |
| GRAND TOTAL | | | \$ 1,057,184 |

NOTE 1: BASIS OF PRESENTATION:

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (the "Schedule") includes the federal award activity of the District under programs of the federal government for the year ended December 31, 2017. The information in this Schedule is presented in accordance with the 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). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the District, it is not intended to, and does not, present the financial position, changes in net position, or cash flows of the District.

NOTE 2: SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES:

Expenditures reported on the Schedule 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 the reimbursement. Negative amounts shown on the Schedule represent adjustments or credits made in the normal course of business to amounts reported as expenditures in prior years. The District has elected not to use the 10% de minimis indirect cost rate as allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

NOTE 3: FEDERAL FUNDED LOAN PROGRAM - LOAN OUTSTANDING:

This represents a major federal financial program. Federally funded loan programs had the following current year disbursement and outstanding loan balance at year end:

| <i>CFDA Number</i> | <i>Grant Programs</i> | <i>Loan Disbursement</i> | <i>Loan Balance</i> |
|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 66.468 | Capitalization Grants | \$ 1,057,184 | \$ 11,500,359 |