

***TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT
AND
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017***

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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 years ended December 31, 2018 and 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 27, 2019.

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.

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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 black ink that reads "CLO Prof LLC". The signature is written in a cursive, somewhat stylized font.

Chamberlain, South Dakota
September 27, 2019



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, 2018 and 2017, 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 an opinion 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 opinion.

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Opinion

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, 2018 and 2017, 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.

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 5-11 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 Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated September 27, 2019, 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 27, 2019

**TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

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, 2018. Please read it in conjunction with the Water District's financial statements, which begin on page 12.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- During 2018, the Water District's net capital assets decreased by \$700,766, or 3.03% as a result of water system improvements, equipment purchases & disposals, and depreciation expense. During 2017 net capital assets increased by \$17,927, or 0.08% as a result of water system improvements, equipment purchases & disposals, and depreciation expense.
- For the 2018 fiscal year, water sales for the District were \$2,906,160, a decrease of \$259,567, or 8.20% from 2017, while operating expenses were \$2,493,857, a decrease of \$457, or 0.02% from 2017. For the 2017 fiscal year, water sales were \$3,165,727, an increase of \$647,898, or 25.73% from 2016, while operating expenses were \$2,494,314, an increase of \$497,533, or 24.92% from 2016.
- The Water District had an increase of \$252,908 in net position in the 2018 fiscal year and an increase of \$580,650 in net position in the 2017 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 12 through 13) provide information about the activities of the Water District as a whole and present a longer-term view of the Water District's finances.

**TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017**

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.

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, 2018 AND 2017**

THE WATER DISTRICT AS A WHOLE

The Water District's combined net position changed from 2017 to 2018 – increasing from \$9.70 million to \$9.95 million, for a \$253 thousand, or 2.61% increase in net position. From 2016 to 2017, combined net position increased from \$9.12 million to \$9.70 million, for a \$581 thousand, or 6.37% 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>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Current and other assets	\$ 4,607,339	\$ 4,923,501	\$ 4,320,883
Capital assets	<u>22,410,178</u>	<u>23,110,944</u>	<u>23,093,017</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 27,017,517</u>	<u>\$ 28,034,445</u>	<u>\$ 27,413,900</u>
Long-term debt outstanding	\$ 16,437,547	\$ 16,920,171	\$ 16,968,799
Other liabilities	<u>629,017</u>	<u>1,416,229</u>	<u>1,327,706</u>
Total liabilities	17,066,564	18,336,400	18,296,505
Invested in capital assets, net of debt	5,489,031	5,835,230	5,561,544
Restricted for debt service & reserves	221,832	719,629	557,579
Restricted for retirement	195,396	230,094	211,029
Unrestricted (deficit)	<u>4,044,694</u>	<u>2,913,092</u>	<u>2,787,243</u>
Total net position	<u>9,950,953</u>	<u>9,698,045</u>	<u>9,117,395</u>
Total liabilities and net position	<u>\$ 27,017,517</u>	<u>\$ 28,034,445</u>	<u>\$ 27,413,900</u>

Net position of the Water District increased by 2.61% (\$9.95 million compared to \$9.70 million) in 2018. In 2017, net position increased by 6.37% (\$9.70 million compared to \$9.12 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 \$1,131,602, or 38.85% (\$4.04 million compared to \$2.91 million) in 2018 and increased by \$125,849, or 4.52% (\$2.91 million compared to \$2.79 million) in 2017.

**TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017**

**Table 2
Changes in Net Position**

	Business-type Activities		
	2018	2017	2016
Revenues			
Program revenues:			
Water sales	\$ 2,906,160	\$ 3,165,727	\$ 2,517,829
Rent	62,319	63,441	65,511
Other operating revenue	196,972	247,982	284,786
Nonoperating revenues:			
Interest income	49,001	55,664	13,523
Total revenues	3,214,452	3,532,814	2,881,649
Expenses			
Operating expenses:			
Cost of sales & service	819,230	833,225	594,711
Administrative	429,920	371,442	337,673
Depreciation	1,244,707	1,289,647	1,064,397
Nonoperating expenses:			
Interest expense	467,687	457,850	304,967
Total expenses	2,961,544	2,952,164	2,301,748
Net Income	252,908	580,650	579,901
Net Change in Net Position	252,908	580,650	579,901
Net Position - Beginning of Year	9,698,045	9,117,395	8,537,494
Net Position - End of Year	\$ 9,950,953	\$ 9,698,045	\$ 9,117,395

In 2018, the total revenues of the Water District decreased by \$318,362, or 9.01%. In 2017, the total revenues increased by \$651,165, or 22.60%. The total cost of all programs and services increased by \$9,380, or 0.32% in 2018, compared to an increase of \$650,416, or 28.26% in 2017.

**TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017**

The Water District's revenues from its operating activities (see Table 2) decreased by \$311,699, or 8.96% in 2018 compared to an increase of \$609,024, or 21.23% in 2017 (\$3,165,451 in 2018, \$3,477,150 in 2017, and \$2,868,126 in 2016) while operating expenses decreased by \$457, or 0.02% in 2018 and increased by \$497,533, or 24.92% in 2017.

THE WATER DISTRICT'S FUNDS

As the Water District completed the year, it reported a fund balance of \$9,950,953, which was more than \$9,698,045 in 2017, which was more than \$9,117,395 in 2016. 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 \$542,941 this year, 95.2% of that being in water system improvements. The District added capital assets in the amount of \$1,306,574 in 2017.
- As shown in Note 5 to the financial statements, the Water District made principal payments during 2018 of \$1,012,024 and acquired \$0 in new debt. As a result, the Water District's net debt decreased by \$1,012,024. In 2017, the Water District made principal payments of \$818,665 and acquired \$1,057,184 in new debt.
- During 2018 and 2017, the Water District also received \$60,890 and \$58,841, 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.

CAPITAL ASSET AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

Capital Assets

At the end of 2018, the Water District had \$44,210,416 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 \$530,716, or 1.22%. At the end of 2017, the Water District had \$43,679,700 invested in capital assets, representing a net increase of \$1,286,511, or 3.03%.

**TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017**

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

	Business-type Activities		
	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Land	\$ 645,247	\$ 645,247	\$ 645,247
Buildings	402,800	402,800	402,800
Equipment	659,348	645,447	627,043
Water system	<u>42,503,021</u>	<u>41,986,206</u>	<u>40,718,099</u>
	44,210,416	43,679,700	42,393,189
Less depreciation	<u>21,800,238</u>	<u>20,568,756</u>	<u>19,300,172</u>
Totals	<u>\$ 22,410,178</u>	<u>\$ 23,110,944</u>	<u>\$ 23,093,017</u>

Major additions included:

2018: Water system improvements.

2017: Water system improvements.

The Water District's fiscal year 2019 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 \$800,500. All of this cost will be paid through internal funding.

Debt

At year-end, the Water District had \$16.92 million in bonds and notes outstanding, versus \$17.93 million last year and \$17.69 million in 2016 – a decrease of \$1,012,024, or 5.64% in 2018 and an increase of \$238,519, or 1.35% in 2017 – as shown in Table 4.

**Table 4
Outstanding Debt at Year-end**

	Business-type Activities		
	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Loans payable	\$ 16,921,147	\$ 17,388,171	\$ 16,859,652
Refunding bonds payable	–	545,000	835,000
Totals	<u>\$ 16,921,147</u>	<u>\$ 17,933,171</u>	<u>\$ 17,694,652</u>

***TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017***

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,
2018 2017

ASSETS

CURRENT ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,206,018	\$ 3,559,050
Accounts receivable	247,616	343,500
Inventory	183,479	183,452
Prepaid expenses	36,303	34,096
<i>Total Current Assets</i>	2,673,416	4,120,098

RESTRICTED NONCURRENT ASSETS

Restricted assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	55,721	390,650
Certificates of deposits	166,111	164,965
Retirement plan deposit	195,396	230,094
<i>Total Noncurrent Assets</i>	417,228	785,709

Capital assets

Land	645,247	645,247
Buildings	402,800	402,800
Equipment	659,348	645,447
Water system	42,503,021	41,986,206
<i>Total Property, Plant and Equipment</i>	44,210,416	43,679,700
Less accumulated depreciation	21,800,238	20,568,756
<i>Net Property, Plant and Equipment</i>	22,410,178	23,110,944

OTHER NONCURRENT ASSETS

Certificates of deposits	1,500,000	--
Loan origination fees, net of amortization	15,001	16,000
Other noncurrent assets	1,694	1,694
<i>Total Other Noncurrent Assets</i>	1,516,695	17,694
	\$ 27,017,517	\$ 28,034,445

LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION

CURRENT LIABILITIES

Accounts payable	\$ 41,434	\$ 227,854
Accrued interest	64,110	77,378
Unearned revenues	39,710	93,698
Current maturities of long-term debt	483,600	1,013,000
Other current liabilities	163	4,299
<i>Total Current Liabilities</i>	629,017	1,416,229

NONCURRENT LIABILITIES

Loans payable	16,437,547	16,920,171
<i>Total Noncurrent Liabilities</i>	16,437,547	16,920,171

NET POSITION

Net investment in capital assets	5,489,031	5,835,230
Restricted for debt service and reserves	221,832	719,629
Restricted for retirement	195,396	230,094
Unrestricted	4,044,694	2,913,092
<i>TOTAL NET POSITION</i>	\$ 9,950,953	\$ 9,698,045

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

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

	<i>YEARS ENDED</i>	
	<i>DECEMBER 31,</i>	
	<i>2018</i>	<i>2017</i>
<i>Operating Revenues:</i>		
Water sales	\$ 2,906,160	\$ 3,165,727
Rent	62,319	63,441
Other	196,972	247,982
<i>Total Operating Revenue</i>	<u>3,165,451</u>	<u>3,477,150</u>
<i>Operating Expenses:</i>		
Cost of sales and service	819,230	833,225
Administration	429,920	371,442
Depreciation	1,244,707	1,289,647
<i>Total Operating Expenses</i>	<u>2,493,857</u>	<u>2,494,314</u>
<i>Operating Income</i>	<u>671,594</u>	<u>982,836</u>
<i>Nonoperating Revenues:</i>		
Interest income	49,001	55,664
Interest expense	(467,687)	(457,850)
<i>Total Nonoperating Revenue</i>	<u>(418,686)</u>	<u>(402,186)</u>
<i>Net Change in Net Position</i>	252,908	580,650
<i>Net Position - Beginning of Year</i>	<u>9,698,045</u>	<u>9,117,395</u>
<i>Net Position - End of Year</i>	<u><u>\$ 9,950,953</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 9,698,045</u></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>2018</i>	<i>2017</i>
<i>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:</i>		
Cash received from customers	\$ 2,948,056	\$ 3,165,727
Cash paid to suppliers	(750,695)	(585,567)
Cash paid to employees	(656,547)	(644,219)
Other receipts	259,291	311,423
	<u>1,800,105</u>	<u>2,247,364</u>
<i>NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES</i>		
<i>CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES:</i>		
Purchase of capital assets	(542,942)	(1,306,574)
Principal paid on capital debt	(1,012,024)	(818,665)
New borrowings	--	1,057,184
Interest expense paid	(480,955)	(457,850)
	<u>(2,035,921)</u>	<u>(1,525,905)</u>
<i>NET CASH USED IN CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES</i>		
<i>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:</i>		
Purchase of certificates of deposit	(1,501,146)	(7,645)
Interest received	49,001	55,664
	<u>(1,452,145)</u>	<u>48,019</u>
<i>NET CASH PROVIDED (USED) BY INVESTING ACTIVITIES</i>		
<i>NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</i>		
	(1,687,961)	769,478
<i>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, at Beginning of Year</i>	<u>3,949,700</u>	<u>3,180,222</u>
<i>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, at End of Year</i>	<u>\$ 2,261,739</u>	<u>\$ 3,949,700</u>
<i>RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING INCOME TO NET</i>		
<i>CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES:</i>		
Operating income	\$ 671,594	\$ 982,836
Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation	1,243,707	1,288,647
Amortization	1,000	1,000
(Increase) decrease in:		
Accounts receivable	95,884	202,975
Inventory	(27)	(19,396)
Prepaid expenses	(2,207)	2,765
Retirement deposit	34,698	(19,065)
(Decrease) in:		
Accounts payable - trade	(186,420)	(104,201)
Deferred revenues	(53,988)	(88,157)
Other current liabilities	(4,136)	(40)
	<u>\$ 1,800,105</u>	<u>\$ 2,247,364</u>

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

**TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017**

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, 2018 AND 2017**

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, 2018 and 2017, 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, 2018 AND 2017**

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 2018 and 2017 \$0 and \$0 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, 2018 AND 2017**

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>2018</i>	<i>2017</i>
Reserve deposit required by USDA	\$ 221,832	\$ 208,950
Funds on deposit with fiscal agent for the purpose of interest and principal payments on 2010 Bonds	--	346,665
	\$ 221,832	\$ 555,615

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, 2018 AND 2017

3. CAPITAL ASSETS:

The following is a summary of changes in capital assets for the year ended December 31, 2018:

	<i>Balance</i> <i>January 1,</i> <i>2018</i>	<i>Additions</i>	<i>Deletions</i>	<i>Balance</i> <i>December 31,</i> <i>2018</i>
Land	\$ 645,247	\$ --	\$ --	\$ 645,247
Buildings	402,800	--	--	402,800
Equipment	645,447	26,126	(12,225)	659,348
Water System	41,986,206	516,815	--	42,503,021
Total, being depreciated	<u>43,679,700</u>	<u>542,941</u>	<u>(12,225)</u>	<u>44,210,416</u>
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Buildings	134,237	13,643	--	147,880
Equipment	556,861	36,467	(12,225)	581,103
Water System	19,877,658	1,193,597	--	21,071,255
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>20,568,756</u>	<u>1,243,707</u>	<u>(12,225)</u>	<u>21,800,238</u>
Net Capital Assets	<u>\$ 23,110,944</u>	<u>\$ (700,766)</u>	<u>\$ --</u>	<u>\$ 22,410,178</u>

The following is a summary of changes in capital assets for the year ended December 31, 2017:

	<i>Balance</i> <i>January 1,</i> <i>2017</i>	<i>Additions</i>	<i>Deletions</i>	<i>Balance</i> <i>December 31,</i> <i>2017</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	<u>42,393,189</u>	<u>1,306,574</u>	<u>(20,063)</u>	<u>43,679,700</u>
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	<u>19,300,172</u>	<u>1,288,647</u>	<u>(20,063)</u>	<u>20,568,756</u>
Net Capital Assets	<u>\$ 23,093,017</u>	<u>\$ 17,927</u>	<u>\$ --</u>	<u>\$ 23,110,944</u>

**TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017**

4. LOAN ORIGINATION FEES:

Amortization expense of \$1,000 and \$1,000 has been charged to operations for the years ending December 31, 2018 and 2017, respectively.

5. LONG-TERM DEBT:

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

	<i>Debt</i> <u>12/31/2017</u>	<i>Retired</i> <u></u>	<i>Additions</i> <u></u>	<i>Debt</i> <u>12/31/2018</u>	<i>Due Within</i> <u>One Year</u>
Bonds Payable:					
USDA FMHA Loans	\$ 3,527,596	\$ 72,514	\$ --	\$ 3,455,082	\$ 75,625
State of SD - Revolving Fund	13,860,575	394,510	--	13,466,065	407,975
2010 Bond Indebtedness	<u>545,000</u>	<u>545,000</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>	<u>--</u>
<i>Total Debt</i>	<u>\$17,933,171</u>	<u>\$ 1,012,024</u>	<u>\$ --</u>	<u>\$16,921,147</u>	<u>\$ 483,600</u>

**TRIPP COUNTY WATER USER DISTRICT
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2018 AND 2017**

5. LONG-TERM DEBT: (continued)

	2018	2017
USDA-FMHA #17 4.875% , due in monthly installments of \$3,141. Due November, 2035.	\$ 428,636	\$ 444,992
USDA-FMHA #18 4.5% , due in monthly installments of \$1,148. Due January, 2043.	200,637	205,269
USDA-FMHA #20 4.375% , due in monthly installments of \$2,368. Due June, 2044.	433,065	442,310
USDA-FMHA #22 4.125% , due in monthly installments of \$1,088. Due December, 2045.	210,960	215,217
USDA-FMHA #23 4.125% , due in monthly installments of \$10,741. Due June, 2048.	2,181,784	2,219,808
State of SD-Revolving Fund #C462434-01 2.5% , due in quarterly installments of \$41,364. Due October, 2034.	2,176,383	2,285,717
State of SD-Revolving Fund #C462434-02 0.0% , due in monthly installments of \$1,096. Due October, 2034.	70,117	74,499
State of SD-Revolving Fund SRF Loan 2.25% , due in quarterly installments of \$135,2046. Due October, 2046.	11,219,565	11,500,359
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%	—	545,000
	16,921,147	17,933,171
Less Current Portion	(483,600)	(1,013,000)
Long-Term Debt	\$16,437,547	\$16,920,171

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, 2018 AND 2017**

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>
2019	\$ 483,600	\$ 452,000	\$ 957,000
2020	496,400	438,100	950,100
2021	509,500	424,500	933,500
2022	523,100	408,900	926,900
2023	537,000	391,300	928,300
2024-2048	<u>14,371,547</u>	<u>4,868,081</u>	<u>19,239,628</u>
	<u>\$ 16,921,147</u>	<u>\$ 6,982,881</u>	<u>\$ 23,935,428</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>2018</i>	<i>2017</i>
Restricted for Debt Service	BankWest	\$ --	\$ 390,650
Restricted for Debt Service	USDA	\$ 221,832	\$ 164,965
Restricted for Retirement	NTCA	\$ 195,396	\$ 230,094

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, 2018 AND 2017**

7. RETIREMENT PLAN: (continued)

Contribution Information:	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Contribution requirements (total of employee and employer contribution)	\$ 84,366	\$ 82,701	\$ 71,107	\$ 62,060	\$ 50,009
Water District contribution	\$ 66,657	\$ 64,642	\$ 52,370	\$ 44,303	\$ 35,741
Percent of covered payroll	12.85%	12.85%	12.85%	12.85%	11.08%
Employee contribution	\$ 17,709	\$ 18,059	\$ 18,737	\$ 17,757	\$ 14,268
Contribution deficiency (excess)	-	-	-	-	-

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 27, 2019 the date on which these financial statements were completed.