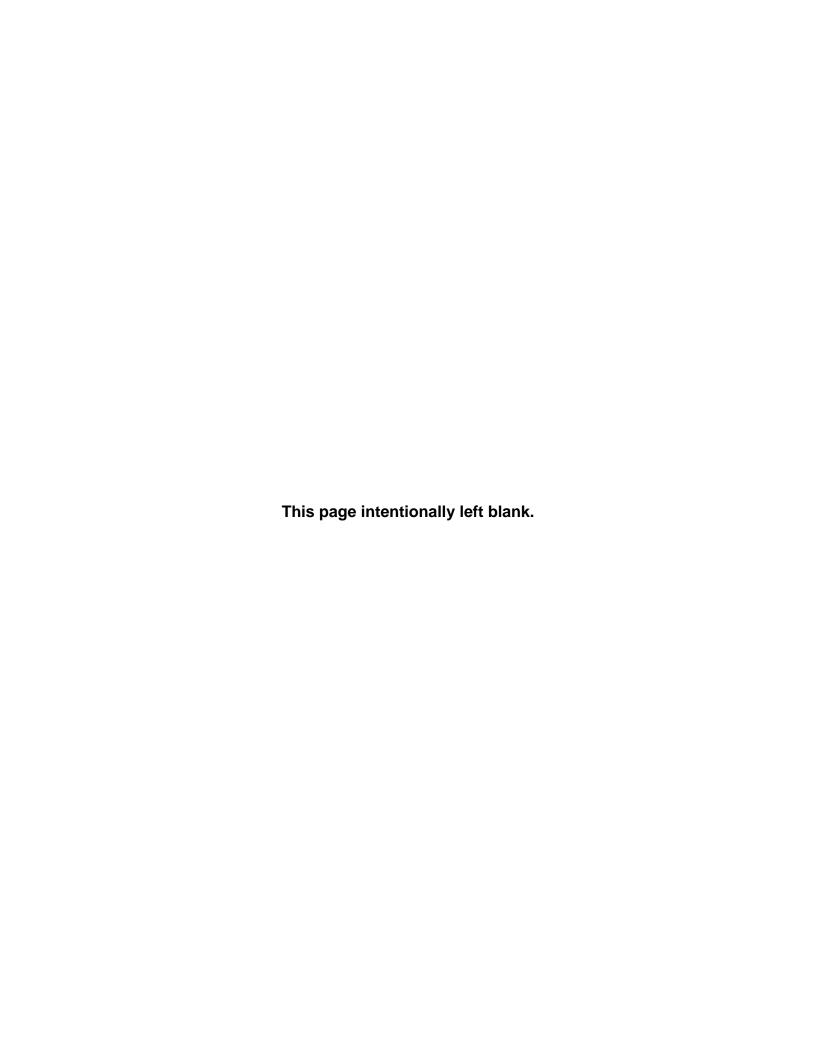




### HURON SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT HURON COUNTY

#### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

IIILE	PAGE
Independent Auditor's Report	1
Prepared by Management:	
Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis) For the Year Ended December 31, 2019	5
Notes to the Financial Statements - For the Year Ended December 31, 2019	6
Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis) For the Year Ended December 31, 2018	11
Notes to the Financial Statements - For the Year Ended December 31, 2018	12
Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by Government Auditing Standards	17
Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings (Prepared by Management)	19





One Government Center, Suite 1420 Toledo, Ohio 43604-2246 (419) 245-2811 or (800) 443-9276 NorthwestRegion@ohioauditor.gov

#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Huron Soil and Water Conservation District Huron County 8 Fair Road Norwalk, Ohio 44857

To the Board of Supervisors:

#### Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the cash balances, receipts and disbursements by fund type, and related notes of Huron Soil and Water Conservation District, Huron County, Ohio (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018.

#### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for preparing and fairly presenting these financial statements in accordance with the financial reporting provisions the Ohio Department of Agriculture permits; this responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to preparing and fairly presenting financial statements free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to opine on these financial statements based on our audit. We audited in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the financial audit standards in the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*. Those standards require us to plan and perform the audit to reasonably assure the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit requires obtaining evidence about financial statement amounts and disclosures. The procedures selected depend on our judgment, including assessing the risks of material financial statement misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In assessing those risks, we consider internal control relevant to the District's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not to the extent needed to opine on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of management's accounting policies and the reasonableness of their significant accounting estimates, as well as our evaluation of the overall financial statement presentation.

We believe the audit evidence we obtained is sufficient and appropriate to support our audit opinions.

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Huron Soil and Water Conservation District Huron County Independent Auditor's Report Page 2

#### Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

As described in Note 2 of the financial statements, the District prepared these financial statements using the accounting basis permitted by the financial reporting provisions of the Ohio Department of Agriculture, which is an accounting basis other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP), to satisfy requirements.

Although the effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory accounting basis and GAAP are not reasonably determinable, we presume they are material.

Though the District does not intend these statements to conform to GAAP, auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America require us to include an adverse opinion on GAAP. However, the adverse opinion does not imply the amounts reported are materially misstated under the accounting basis the Ohio Department of Agriculture permits. Our opinion on this accounting basis is in the *Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting* paragraph below.

#### Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the *Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles* paragraph, the financial statements referred to above do not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of the District as of December 31, 2019 and 2018, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the years then ended.

#### Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the cash balances, receipts and disbursements for each fund of Huron Soil and Water Conservation District, Huron County, Ohio as of and for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018 in accordance with the financial reporting provisions the Ohio Department of Agriculture permits, described in Note 2.

#### **Emphasis of Matter**

As discussed in Note 10 to the financial statements, the financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures may impact subsequent periods of the District. We did not modify our opinion regarding this matter.

Huron Soil and Water Conservation District Huron County Independent Auditor's Report Page 3

#### Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated September 22, 2020, on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. That report describes the scope of our internal control testing over financial reporting and compliance, and the results of that testing, and does not opine on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Keith Faber Auditor of State

Columbus, Ohio

September 22, 2020

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Huron County Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis) For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

	District Fund	Special Fund	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts			
Grants			
Local Government	\$1,000	\$180,000	\$181,000
State Government	20,000	137,787	157,787
Gifts and Contributions	12,653		12,653
Sale of Products/Materials	10,424		10,424
Rentals	72,866		72,866
Farm Harvest Income	81,375		81,375
All Other Revenue	4,846	1,606	6,452
Total Cash Receipts	203,164	319,393	522,557
Cash Disbursements			
Salaries		175,330	175,330
Supplies	3,353	627	3,980
Equipment	66,836		66,836
Contract Services/Cost Share Payment	5,446	1,100	6,546
Rentals		13,520	13,520
Information and Education	13,223	95	13,318
Travel and Expenses	2,100	5,131	7,231
Advertising and Printing		3,956	3,956
OPERS		24,006	24,006
Worker's Compensation		1,123	1,123
Hospitalization		30,705	30,705
Medicare		2,488	2,488
Annual Meeting/Banquet	2,132		2,132
Other	55,105	5,230	60,335
Total Cash Disbursements	148,195	263,311	411,506
Net Change in Fund Cash Balances	54,969	56,082	111,051
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	254,663	21,502	276,165
Fund Cash Balances, December 31			
Assigned	49,542	45,009	94,551
Unassigned	260,090	32,575	292,665
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$309,632	\$77,584	\$387,216

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

Huron County Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

#### **Note 1 – Reporting Entity**

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Huron Soil and Water Conservation District, Huron County, Ohio, (the District) as a body corporate and politic. A publicly elected five-member District Board of Supervisors directs the District. The District provides local leadership in the conservation of natural resources and stewardship of agricultural lands. The District contracts with Brown, Crane and Associates to provide accounting services.

#### Public Entity Risk Pool

The District participates in a public entity risk pool. Note 5 to the financial statements provide additional information for this entity.

The District's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the District is financially accountable.

#### **Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

#### Basis of Presentation

The District's financial statements consist of a statement of receipts, disbursements, and changes in fund balances (cash basis) for all funds.

#### Fund Accounting

The District uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The funds of the District are presented below:

**Special Fund** The Special Fund is the primary fund used for day to day operations and expenditures including payroll and benefits. The District records all amounts received from the state, local, or federal governments in this fund. The County Auditor also maintains an accounting of this fund.

*District Fund* The District Fund accounts for and reports revenues from District sales and equipment rentals, grants and donations.

#### Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the accounting basis permitted by the Ohio Department of Agriculture. This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The District recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred.

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters the Ohio Department of Agriculture requires.

#### **Budgetary Process**

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Special Fund be budgeted annually.

Huron County Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

**Appropriations** Budgetary expenditures may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function or object level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Supervisors must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. Appropriations lapse at year end.

*Estimated Resources* Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus cash as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must approve estimated resources.

A summary of 2019 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

#### **Deposits and Investments**

The Huron County Treasurer is the custodian for the District's Special Fund's cash and investments. The County's cash and investment pool holds the District's Special Fund's cash and investments, which are reported at the County Treasurer's carrying amount. Deposits and investments disclosures for the County as a whole may be obtained from the Huron County Auditor's Office at 12 East Main Street, Suite 300, Norwalk, Ohio 44857.

The District's accounting basis for all other funds includes investments as assets. This basis does not record disbursements for investment purchases or receipts for investment sales. This basis records gains or losses at the time of sale as receipts or disbursements, respectively.

The District's investment in STAR Ohio is measured at the net asset value (NAV) per share provided by Star Ohio. The NAV per share is calculated on an amortized cost basis that provides a NAV per share that approximates fair value.

#### Capital Assets

The District records disbursements for acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment when paid. The accompanying financial statements do not report these items as assets.

#### Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. The financial statements do not include a liability for unpaid leave.

#### Fund Balance

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the District must observe constraints imposed upon the use of its governmental-fund resources. The classifications are as follows:

*Nonspendable* The District classifies assets as *nonspendable* when legally or contractually required to maintain the amounts intact.

**Restricted** Fund balance is *restricted* when constraints placed on the use of resources are either externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or is imposed by law through constitutional provisions.

Huron County Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

**Committed** Supervisors can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The District must adhere to these commitments unless the Supervisors amend the resolution. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed to satisfy contractual requirements.

**Assigned** Assigned fund balances are intended for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as *restricted* or *committed*. In the Special and District funds, *assigned* amounts represent intended uses established by District Supervisors or a District official delegated that authority by resolution, or by State Statute.

*Unassigned* Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the Special and District funds and includes amounts not included in the other classifications.

The District applies restricted resources first when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which either restricted or unrestricted (committed, assigned, and unassigned) amounts are available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced first followed by assigned, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

#### Note 3 – Special Fund Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ended December 31, 2019 follows:

2019 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts				
	Budgeted	Actual	_	
Fund	Receipts	Receipts	Variance	
Special	\$304,005	\$304,005 \$319,393		
2019 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures				
	Appropriation	Budgetary	_	
Fund	Authority	Expenditures	Variance	
Special	\$314,454	\$263,311	\$51,143	

#### Note 4 – Deposits and Investments

The District maintains a deposits and investments pool all funds use, except the Special Fund which is maintained by the Huron County Treasurer. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of deposits and investments at December 31 was as follows:

Huron County Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

	2019
Demand deposits	\$99,994
County Treasurer Deposits	77,584
Total deposits	177,578
STAR Ohio	209,638
Total deposits and investments	\$387,216

#### **Deposits**

Deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

#### Investments

Investments in STAR Ohio are not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book-entry form.

#### Note 5 – Risk Management

#### Workers' Compensation

Workers' Compensation coverage is provided by the State of Ohio. The District pays the State Workers' Compensation System a premium based on a rate per \$100 of salaries. This rate is calculated based on accident history and administrative costs.

#### Risk Pool Membership

Huron County (the County) maintains comprehensive insurance coverage as a member of a pooled insurance agreement with the County Risk Sharing Authority (CORSA). The County purchases excess insurance to supplement the pooled funds.

#### Note 6 – Defined Benefit Pension Plan

#### Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

All employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes this plan's benefits, which include postretirement healthcare and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. OPERS members contributed 10 percent of their gross salaries, and the District contributed an amount equaling 14 percent of participants' gross salaries. The District has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2019.

Huron County Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2019

#### **Note 7 – Postemployment Benefits**

OPERS offers cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plans, which include multiple health care plans including medical coverage, prescription drug coverage, deposits to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement and Medicare Part B premium reimbursements, to qualifying benefit recipients. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the Traditional Pension Plan and Combined Plan was 0 percent during calendar year 2019. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the Member Directed Plan was 4.0 percent during calendar year 2019.

#### Note 8 – Debt

#### Leases

The District leases a building under a noncancelable lease. The District disbursed \$27,280 to pay lease costs for the year ended December 31, 2019.

#### Amortization

Amortization of the above debt, including interest, is scheduled as follows:

Year Ending	
December 31:	Lease
2020	\$27,328
2021	27,326
2022	27,276
2023	27,177
2024	26,053
2025-2026	53,516
Total	\$188,676

#### **Note 9 – Contingent Liabilities**

Amounts grantor agencies pay to the District are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor. The grantor may require refunding any disallowed costs. Management cannot presently determine amounts grantors may disallow. However, based on prior experience, management believes any refunds would be immaterial.

#### **Note 10 – Subsequent Event**

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures may impact subsequent periods of the District. The investments of the pension and other employee benefit plan in which the District participates fluctuate with market conditions, and due to market volatility, the amount of gains or losses that will be recognized in subsequent periods, if any, cannot be determined. In addition, the impact on the District's future operating costs, revenues, and any recovery from emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.

Huron County

Statement of Receipts, Disbursements, and Changes in Fund Balances (Regulatory Cash Basis) For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

	District Fund	Special Fund	Totals (Memorandum Only)
Cash Receipts	·		• /
Grants			
Local Government	\$1,000	\$180,000	\$181,000
State Government		125,626	125,626
Gifts and Contributions	12,423		12,423
Sale of Products/Materials	9,104		9,104
Rentals	59,346		59,346
Farm Harvest Income	69,662		69,662
All Other Revenue	7,408	544	7,952
Total Cash Receipts	158,943	306,170	465,113
Cash Disbursements			
Salaries		166,400	166,400
Supplies	4,338		4,338
Equipment	58,718		58,718
Contract Services/Cost Share Payment	11,152		11,152
Service Fees	775	1,740	2,515
Information and Education	13,137	1,126	14,263
Travel and Expenses	6,891	2,127	9,018
Advertising and Printing		2,691	2,691
OPERS		22,802	22,802
Worker's Compensation		1,136	1,136
Hospitalization		28,636	28,636
Medicare		2,452	2,452
Product/Materials for Resale	182		182
Annual Meeting/Banquet	2,728		2,728
Other	54,851		54,851
Capital Improvements	54,523	201,278	255,801
Total Cash Disbursements	207,295	430,388	637,683
Net Change in Fund Cash Balances	(48,352)	(124,218)	(172,570)
Fund Cash Balances, January 1	303,015	145,720	448,735
Fund Cash Balances, December 31			
Assigned	47,803	10,449	58,252
Unassigned	206,860	11,053	217,913
Fund Cash Balances, December 31	\$254,663	\$21,502	\$276,165

See accompanying notes to the financial statements

Huron County Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

#### **Note 1 – Reporting Entity**

The constitution and laws of the State of Ohio establish the rights and privileges of Huron Soil and Water Conservation District, Huron County, Ohio, (the District) as a body corporate and politic. A publicly elected five-member District Board of Supervisors directs the District. The District provides local leadership in the conservation of natural resources and stewardship of agricultural lands. The District contracts with Brown, Crane and Associates to provide accounting services.

#### Public Entity Risk Pool

The District participates in a public entity risk pool. Note 5 to the financial statements provide additional information for this entity.

The District's management believes these financial statements present all activities for which the District is financially accountable.

#### **Note 2 – Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

#### Basis of Presentation

The District's financial statements consist of a statement of receipts, disbursements, and changes in fund balances (cash basis) for all funds.

#### Fund Accounting

The District uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The funds of the District are presented below:

**Special Fund** The Special Fund is the primary fund used for day to day operations and expenditures including payroll and benefits. The District records all amounts received from the state, local, or federal governments in this fund. The County Auditor also maintains an accounting of this fund.

*District Fund* The District Fund accounts for and reports revenues from District sales and equipment rentals, grants and donations.

#### Basis of Accounting

These financial statements follow the accounting basis permitted by the Ohio Department of Agriculture. This basis is similar to the cash receipts and disbursements accounting basis. The District recognizes receipts when received in cash rather than when earned, and recognizes disbursements when paid rather than when a liability is incurred.

These statements include adequate disclosure of material matters the Ohio Department of Agriculture requires.

#### **Budgetary Process**

The Ohio Revised Code requires the Special Fund be budgeted annually.

Huron County Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

**Appropriations** Budgetary expenditures may not exceed appropriations at the fund, function or object level of control, and appropriations may not exceed estimated resources. The Board of Supervisors must annually approve appropriation measures and subsequent amendments. Appropriations lapse at year end.

*Estimated Resources* Estimated resources include estimates of cash to be received (budgeted receipts) plus cash as of January 1. The County Budget Commission must approve estimated resources.

A summary of 2018 budgetary activity appears in Note 3.

#### **Deposits and Investments**

The Huron County Treasurer is the custodian for the District's Special Fund's cash and investments. The County's cash and investment pool holds the District's Special Fund's cash and investments, which are reported at the County Treasurer's carrying amount. Deposits and investments disclosures for the County as a whole may be obtained from the Huron County Auditor's Office at 12 East Main Street, Suite 300, Norwalk, Ohio 44857.

The District's accounting basis for all other funds includes investments as assets. This basis does not record disbursements for investment purchases or receipts for investment sales. This basis records gains or losses at the time of sale as receipts or disbursements, respectively.

The District's investment in STAR Ohio is measured at the net asset value (NAV) per share provided by Star Ohio. The NAV per share is calculated on an amortized cost basis that provides a NAV per share that approximates fair value.

#### Capital Assets

The District records disbursements for acquisitions of property, plant, and equipment when paid. The accompanying financial statements do not report these items as assets.

#### Accumulated Leave

In certain circumstances, such as upon leaving employment, employees are entitled to cash payments for unused leave. The financial statements do not include a liability for unpaid leave.

#### Fund Balance

Fund balance is divided into five classifications based primarily on the extent to which the District must observe constraints imposed upon the use of its governmental-fund resources. The classifications are as follows:

*Nonspendable* The District classifies assets as *nonspendable* when legally or contractually required to maintain the amounts intact.

**Restricted** Fund balance is *restricted* when constraints placed on the use of resources are either externally imposed by creditors (such as through debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or is imposed by law through constitutional provisions.

Huron County Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

**Committed** Supervisors can *commit* amounts via formal action (resolution). The District must adhere to these commitments unless the Supervisors amend the resolution. Committed fund balance also incorporates contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed to satisfy contractual requirements.

**Assigned** Assigned fund balances are intended for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as *restricted* or *committed*. In the Special and District funds, *assigned* amounts represent intended uses established by District Supervisors or a District official delegated that authority by resolution, or by State Statute.

*Unassigned* Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the Special and District funds and includes amounts not included in the other classifications.

The District applies restricted resources first when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which either restricted or unrestricted (committed, assigned, and unassigned) amounts are available. Similarly, within unrestricted fund balance, committed amounts are reduced first followed by assigned, and then unassigned amounts when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

#### Note 3 – Special Fund Budgetary Activity

Budgetary activity for the year ended December 31, 2018 follows:

2018 Budgeted vs. Actual Receipts				
	Budgeted	Actual	_	
Fund	Receipts	Receipts	Variance	
Special	\$303,158	\$306,170	\$3,012	
2018 Budgeted vs. Actual Budgetary Basis Expenditures				
	Appropriation	Budgetary	_	
Fund	Authority	Expenditures	Variance	
Special	\$448,878	\$430,388	\$18,490	

#### Note 4 – Deposits and Investments

The District maintains a deposits and investments pool all funds use, except the Special Fund which is maintained by the Huron County Treasurer. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes allowable deposits and investments. The carrying amount of deposits and investments at December 31 was as follows:

Huron County
Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

	2018
Demand deposits	\$70,362
County Treasurer Deposits	21,502
Total deposits	91,864
STAR Ohio	184,301
Total deposits and investments	\$276,165

#### **Deposits**

Deposits are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

#### **Investments**

Investments in STAR Ohio are not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book-entry form.

#### Note 5 – Risk Management

#### Workers' Compensation

Workers' Compensation coverage is provided by the State of Ohio. The District pays the State Workers' Compensation System a premium based on a rate per \$100 of salaries. This rate is calculated based on accident history and administrative costs.

#### Risk Pool Membership

Huron County (the County) maintains comprehensive insurance coverage as a member of a pooled insurance agreement with the County Risk Sharing Authority (CORSA). The County purchases excess insurance to supplement the pooled funds.

#### Note 6 – Defined Benefit Pension Plan

#### Ohio Public Employees Retirement System

All employees belong to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS). OPERS is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer plan. The Ohio Revised Code prescribes this plan's benefits, which include postretirement healthcare and survivor and disability benefits.

The Ohio Revised Code also prescribes contribution rates. OPERS members contributed 10 percent of their gross salaries, and the District contributed an amount equaling 14 percent of participants' gross salaries. The District has paid all contributions required through December 31, 2018.

Huron County Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended December 31, 2018

#### **Note 7 – Postemployment Benefits**

OPERS offers cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit postemployment plans, which includes multiple health care plans including medical coverage, prescription drug coverage, deposits to a Health Reimbursement Arrangement, and Medicare Part B premium reimbursements, to qualifying benefit recipients. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for OPERS members in the Traditional Pension Plan and Combined Plan was 0 percent during calendar year 2018. The portion of employer contributions allocated to health care for members in the member-directed plan was 4.0 percent during calendar year 2018.

#### Note 8 – Debt

#### Leases

The District leases a building under a noncancelable lease. The District disbursed \$27,184 to pay lease costs for the year ended December 31, 2018.

#### **Amortization**

Amortization of the above debt, including interest, is scheduled as follows:

Year Ending	
December 31:	2018
2019	\$27,280
2020	27,328
2021	27,326
2022	27,276
2023	27,177
2024-2026	79,569
Total	\$215,956

#### **Note 9 – Contingent Liabilities**

Amounts grantor agencies pay to the District are subject to audit and adjustment by the grantor. The grantor may require refunding any disallowed costs. Management cannot presently determine amounts grantors may disallow. However, based on prior experience, management believes any refunds would be immaterial.

#### **Note 10 – Subsequent Event**

The United States and the State of Ohio declared a state of emergency in March 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The financial impact of COVID-19 and the continuing emergency measures may impact subsequent periods of the District. The investments of the pension and other employee benefit plan in which the District participates fluctuate with market conditions, and due to market volatility, the amount of gains or losses that will be recognized in subsequent periods, if any, cannot be determined. In addition, the impact on the District's future operating costs, revenues, and any recovery from emergency funding, either federal or state, cannot be estimated.



One Government Center, Suite 1420 Toledo, Ohio 43604-2246 (419) 245-2811 or (800) 443-9276 NorthwestRegion@ohioauditor.gov

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

Huron Soil and Water Conservation District Huron County 8 Fair Road Norwalk, Ohio 44857

To the Board of Supervisors

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States and the Comptroller General of the United States' *Government Auditing Standards*, the financial statements of the cash balances, receipts, and disbursements for each fund of Huron Soil and Water Conservation District, Huron County, Ohio, (the District) as of and for the years ended December 31, 2019 and 2018, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated September 22, 2020, wherein we noted the District followed financial reporting provisions the Ohio Department of Agriculture prescribes or permits. We also noted the financial impact of COVID-19 and the ensuing emergency measures may impact subsequent periods of the District.

#### Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

As part of our financial statement audit, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures appropriate in the circumstances to the extent necessary to support our opinions on the financial statements, but not to the extent necessary to opine on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we have not opined on it.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, when performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and timely correct misstatements. A material weakness is a deficiency, or combination of internal control deficiencies resulting in a reasonable possibility that internal control will not prevent or detect and timely correct a material misstatement of the District's financial statements. 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 internal control deficiencies that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider material weaknesses. However, unidentified material weaknesses may exist.

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Huron Soil and Water Conservation District Huron County Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Required by *Government Auditing Standards* Page 2

#### Compliance and Other Matters

As part of reasonably assuring whether the District's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we tested its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could directly and materially affect the determination of financial statement amounts. However, opining on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and accordingly, we do not express an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters we must report under *Government Auditing Standards*.

#### Purpose of this Report

This report only describes the scope of our internal control and compliance testing and our testing results, and does not opine on the effectiveness of the District's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed under *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

Keith Faber Auditor of State

Columbus, Ohio

September 22, 2020

8 Fair Road Norwalk, Ohio 44857

Phone: (419)668-4113 ext. 3 Fax: (419)663-8405

www.huronswcd.com



#### SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018

Finding Number	Finding Summary	Status	Additional Information
2017-001	Material Weakness for errors in Financial Reporting	Partially corrected and reissued as part of the management letter.	Various matters noted in Finding 2017-001 were corrected during the current audit period. However, due to deficiencies in the District's internal controls over fund balance reporting, errors were still present, supporting reduction of this matter to a management letter comment. The District will review guidance and ensure proper fund balance classifications in the future.





## HURON SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT HURON COUNTY

#### **AUDITOR OF STATE OF OHIO CERTIFICATION**

This is a true and correct copy of the report, which is required to be filed pursuant to Section 117.26, Revised Code, and which is filed in the Office of the Ohio Auditor of State in Columbus, Ohio.



Certified for Release 10/13/2020

88 East Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215 Phone: 614-466-4514 or 800-282-0370