# WESTLOCK COUNTY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2020

# MANAGEMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY FOR FINANCIAL REPORTING

Management is responsible for the preparation and presentation of the accompanying financial statements, including responsibility for significant accounting judgments and estimates in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards. This responsibility includes selecting appropriate accounting principles and methods, and making decisions affecting the measurement of transactions in which objective judgment is required.

In discharging its responsibility for the integrity and fairness of the financial statements, management designs and maintains the necessary accounting systems and related internal controls to provide reasonable assurance that transactions are authorized, assets are safeguarded, and financial records are properly maintained to provide reliable information for the preparation of the financial statements.

The elected Reeve and Council of Westlock County are composed entirely of individuals who are neither management nor employees of the County. The Reeve and Council have the responsibility of meeting with management and the external auditors to discuss the internal controls over the financial reporting process, auditing matters, and financial reporting issues. The Reeve and Council are also responsible for the appointment of the County's external auditors.

Metrix Group LLP, an independent firm of Chartered Professional Accountants, is appointed by Council to audit the financial statements and to report directly to them. The external auditors have full and free access to and meet periodically and separately with both the Reeve and Council and management to discuss their audit findings.

Peggy Hardinge

Acting Chief Administrative Officer

April 27, 2021 Westlock, Alberta



# INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Reeve and Council of Westlock County

#### Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Westlock County (the County), which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2020 and the statements of operations, change in net financial assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the County as at December 31, 2020, the results of its operations, changes in net debt, and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

#### Basis for Opinion

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

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

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

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

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

(continues)



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

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

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

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

METRIX GROUP LLP

**Chartered Professional Accountants** 

Edmonton, Alberta April 27, 2021

	<u>2020</u>	2019
FINANCIAL ASSETS Cash and temporary investments (Note 2) Taxes and grants in place of taxes receivable (Note 4) Trade and other receivables (Note 5) Land held for resale inventory (County Industrial Park and Airport lots) Local improvements receivable (Note 6) Debt charges recoverable (Note 7)	\$ 12,469,701 516,949 1,307,693 737,113 94,228 5,799,874	\$ 8,978,176 695,459 3,410,393 791,657 104,029 6,103,116
	20,925,558	20,082,830
LIABILITIES  Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (Note 9) Deposit liabilities (Note 10) Deferred revenue (Note 11) Accrued wages payable (Note 12) Long-term debt (Note 13)	1,061,623 118,788 2,707,629 205,558 7,540,939	567,712 108,654 1,937,567 272,885 8,627,115
	11,634,537	11,513,933
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS	9,291,021	8,568,897
NON-FINANCIAL ASSETS Tangible capital assets (Schedule 1) Inventory for consumption (Note 14) Prepaid expenses	31,271,676 1,588,223 319,792 33,179,691	30,978,085 1,355,502 418,158 32,751,745
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS (SCHEDULE 2, NOTE 15)	\$ <u>42,470,712</u>	\$ <u>41,320,642</u>

Contingencies (Note 18)

Commitments (Note 19)

ON BEHALF OF COUNCIL:

# WESTLOCK COUNTY Statement of Operations and Accumulated Surplus For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

	2020 (Budget) (Note 24)	<u>2020</u> (Actual)	<u>2019</u> (Actual)
REVENUE  Net municipal taxes (Schedule 3) Government transfers for operating (Schedule 4) User fees and sales of goods Penalties and costs of taxes Other Investment income Licenses and permits Development levies	\$ 11,257,449 1,992,073 1,293,370 512,200 213,157 201,000 125,547 22,710	\$ 11,285,547 2,344,496 1,349,733 552,741 151,601 142,508 107,874 19,938	\$ 11,424,109 2,292,666 1,280,089 399,729 264,779 261,494 129,822 35,420
EVENOCO			
Transportation services General administration services Recreation services Water services Planning and development services Solid waste management services Agriculture services Fire protection services Enforcement services Legislative services Library Airport Wastewater treatment and disposal services Family and Community Support Services Disaster and emergency services Cemetaries	7,631,305 2,726,650 1,017,798 582,548 537,344 741,045 733,075 484,006 496,851 498,427 197,344 170,451 138,486 57,000 27,354 13,500	7,740,196 3,009,250 902,931 873,557 635,920 634,487 567,382 565,779 486,110 341,207 197,344 188,520 111,886 55,117 25,120 12,630	7,413,434 2,364,189 1,020,831 827,800 558,095 683,061 684,157 562,683 346,347 392,360 193,446 179,603 117,155 54,596 19,479 11,546
ANNUAL SURPLUS (DEFICIT) BEFORE			
OTHER INCOME	<u>(435,678</u> )	(392,998)	659,326
OTHER INCOME Government transfers for capital (Schedule 4) Contributions for tangible capital assets Gain (loss) on disposal of tangible capital assets	2,617,704	1,497,507 45,732 (171)	1,722,217 48,854 37,789
	<u>2,617,704</u>	<u>1,543,068</u>	1,808,860
ANNUAL SURPLUS	2,182,026	1,150,070	2,468,186
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	41,320,642	41,320,642	38,852,456
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS, END OF YEAR (SCHEDULE 2, NOTE 15)	\$ <u>43,502,668</u>	\$ <u>42,470,712</u>	\$ <u>41,320,642</u>

# WESTLOCK COUNTY Statement of Change in Net Financial Assets For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

	<u>2020</u> (Budget) (Note 24)	<u>2020</u> (Actual)	<u>2019</u> (Actual)
ANNUAL SURPLUS	\$ <u>2,182,026</u>	\$ <u>1,150,070</u>	\$ <u>2,468,186</u>
Acquisition of tangible capital assets Contributed tangible capital assets Proceeds on disposal of tangible capital assets Amortization of tangible capital assets Loss (gain) on disposal of tangible capital assets	(3,074,840) - 299,300 - -	(2,039,983) (45,732) 54,592 1,737,361 171	(2,735,303) (48,854) 191,786 1,687,555 (37,789)
Net change in prepaid expenses Net change in inventory for consumption	(2,775,540) - - -	(293,591) 98,366 (232,721) (134,355)	(942,605) 5,446 717 6,163
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN NET FINANCIAL ASSETS	(593,514)	722,124	1,531,744
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	8,568,897	8,568,897	7,037,153
NET FINANCIAL ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ <u>7,975,383</u>	\$ <u>9,291,021</u>	\$ <u>8,568,897</u>

		<u>2020</u>		<u>2019</u>
OPERATING ACTIVITIES  Annual surplus  Non-cash items included in annual surplus:  Amortization of tangible capital assets  Acquisition of contributed capital assets  Loss (gain) on disposal of tangible capital assets	\$	1,150,070 1,737,361 (45,732) 171	\$	2,468,186 1,687,555 (48,854) (37,789)
Change in non-cash working capital balances: Taxes and grants in place of taxes receivables Trade and other receivable	_	2,841,870 178,510 2,112,501	_	4,069,098 (8,141) (1,182,073)
Inventory for consumption Prepaid expenses Land held for resale inventory Accounts payable and accrued liabilities Employee benefit obligations		(232,721) 98,366 54,544 493,911		717 5,447 - (817,592) 19,603
Deposit liabilities Deferred revenue	_	(67,327) 10,134 770,062 3,417,980	-	71,597 (22,714) (1,933,156)
FINANCING ACTIVITIES  Repayment of long-term debt  Long-term debt recovered	_	6,259,850 (1,086,176) 303,242	_	2,135,942 (1,059,580) 293,425
CAPITAL ACTIVITIES	_	(782,934)	-	(766,155)
Acquisition of tangible capital assets Proceeds on disposal of tangible capital assets	_	(2,039,983) 54,592 (1,985,391)	-	(2,735,303) 191,786 (2,543,517)
CHANGE IN CASH AND TEMPORARY INVESTMENTS, DURING THE YEAR  CASH AND TEMPORARY INVESTMENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR		3,491,525 8,978,176		(1,173,730) 10,151,906
CASH AND TEMPORARY INVESTMENTS, END OF YEAR (NOTE 2)	<b>\$_</b>	12,469,701	\$_	8,978,176

# Schedule of Tangible Capital Assets For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

	<u>Land</u>	<u>Buildings</u>	Engineered <u>Structures</u>	Machinery and Equipment	<u>Vehicles</u>	Utilities Engineered Structure	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
COST: Balance, Beginning of Year	\$ 2,192,928	\$ 4,305,185	\$ 120,287,578	\$ 9,818,572	\$ 4,058,533	\$ 9,760,009	\$ 150,422,805	\$ 148,379,882
Additions Contributed assets Disposals	- - -	4,073	1,288,115 - 	147,795 - 	231,698 45,732 (58,259	· -	2,039,983 45,732 (58,259)	2,735,303 48,854 (741,234)
Balance, End of Year	2,192,928	4,309,258	121,575,693	9,966,367	4,277,704	10,128,311	152,450,261	150,422,805
ACCUMULATED AMORTIZATION: Balance, Beginning of Year	-	881,507	109,028,936	4,056,593	1,606,758	3,870,926	119,444,720	118,344,403
Amortization expense Disposals		83,437 	569,639 	520,868 	216,053 (3,496	,	1,737,361 <u>(3,496</u> )	1,687,555 (587,238)
Balance, End of Year		964,944	109,598,575	4,577,461	1,819,315	4,218,290	121,178,585	119,444,720
NET BOOK VALUE, END OF YEAR	\$ <u>2,192,928</u>	\$ <u>3,344,314</u>	\$ <u>11,977,118</u>	\$ <u>5,388,906</u>	\$ <u>2,458,389</u>	\$ <u>5,910,021</u>	\$ <u>31,271,676</u>	\$
NET BOOK VALUE, BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ <u>2,192,928</u>	\$ <u>3,423,678</u>	\$ <u>11,258,642</u>	\$ <u>5,761,979</u>	\$ <u>2,451,775</u>	\$ <u>5,889,083</u>	\$ <u> </u>	\$ <u>30,978,085</u>

Included in Engineered Structures cost is work in progress of \$1,304,734 (2019 - \$36,620), and in Buildings cost is work in progress of \$4,073 (2019 - \$NIL). These amounts are not amortized until the asset is completed and in use.

	Unrestricted <u>Surplus</u>	Operating <u>Reserve</u>	Capital <u>Reserve</u>	Equity in Tangib Capital Assets		<u>2019</u>
BALANCE, BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ <u>867,333</u>	\$ <u>5,203,698</u>	\$ <u>6,795,526</u>	\$ <u>28,454,085</u>	\$ <u>41,320,642</u>	\$ <u>38,852,456</u>
Annual surplus	1,150,070	-	-	-	1,150,070	2,468,186
Current year funds designated for future equipment - net	(1,674,838)	791,269	883,569	-	-	-
Restricted funds transfer	1,601,296	(1,099,925)	(501,371)	-	-	-
Current year funds used for tangible capital assets	(2,039,983)	-	-	2,039,983	-	-
Contributed tangible capital assets	(45,732)	-	-	45,732	-	-
Disposal of tangible capital assets (net of amortization)	54,763	-	-	(54,763)	-	-
Annual amortization expense	1,737,361	-	-	(1,737,361)	-	-
Levied portion of debt recoverable - local improvements	303,242	-	-	(303,242)	-	-
Long term debt repaid	<u>(1,086,176</u> )			<u>1,086,176</u>	<del>_</del>	<del>_</del>
Change in accumulated surplus	3	(308,656)	382,198	1,076,525	1,150,070	2,468,186
BALANCE, END OF YEAR (NOTE 15)	\$ <u>867.336</u>	\$ <u>4.895.042</u>	\$ <u>7.177.724</u>	\$ <u>29.530.610</u>	\$ <u>42.470.712</u>	\$ <u>41.320.642</u>

	<u>2020</u> (Budget) (Note 24)	<u>2020</u> (Actual)	<u>2019</u> (Actual)
TAXATION  Residential & farmland property taxes Linear and industrial property taxes Alberta School Foundation levy Homeland Housing (senior lodging) levy Designated industrial property levy Local improvements	\$ 6,511,053 4,740,276 2,848,540 568,050 6,000 6,120	\$ 6,593,203 4,671,956 2,830,817 589,909 10,158 5,160	\$ 6,570,060 4,866,933 2,784,202 555,276 10,995 5,040
	14,000,038	17,701,203	14,732,300
REQUISITIONS Alberta School Foundation Homeland housing (senior lodging) Designated industrial property	2,848,540 568,050 6,000 3,422,590	2,815,442 590,056 10,158 3,415,656	2,800,633 556,912 10,852 3,368,397
NET MUNICIPAL TAXES	\$ <u>11,257,449</u>	\$ <u>11,285,547</u>	\$ <u>11,424,109</u>

	<u>2020</u> (Budget) (Note 24)	<u>2020</u> (Actual)	<u>2019</u> (Actual)
TRANSFERS FOR OPERATING Provincial government	\$ <u>1,992,073</u>	\$ <u>2,344,496</u>	\$ <u>2,292,666</u>
TRANSFERS FOR CAPITAL Provincial government	2,617,704	1,497,507	1,722,217
TOTAL GOVERNMENT TRANSFERS	\$ <u>4,609,777</u>	\$ <u>3,842,003</u>	\$ <u>4,014,883</u>

# Schedule of Segmented Information For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

	Legislative Administration and <u>General Services</u>	Fire and Enforcement <u>Services</u>	Planning and Development <u>Services</u>	FCSS and Community <u>Services</u>	Airport and Transportation Services	Water Wastewater Treatment and Solid Waste <u>Management</u>	Recreation and Library <u>Services</u>	<u>Total</u>
REVENUE Taxation Government transfers User fees and sales of goods All other Interest income Licenses and permits	\$ 11,285,547 453,509 101,785 545,536 142,508	\$ - 2,687 125,432 42,634 - - 170,753	\$ - 160,315 114,844 - 107,874 383,033	\$ - - - - - -	\$ - 1,863,869 137,055 18,101 - 2,019,025	\$ - 738,341 3,165 - - - 741,506	\$ - 86,805 - - - 86,805	\$ 11,285,547 2,320,065 1,349,733 724,280 142,508 107,874
EXPENSES Salaries, wages, and benefits Materials, goods, supplies and utilities Contracted and general services Amortization of tangible capital assets Other Transfers to other governments Transfers to local boards and organizations Interest on long term debt	1,373,606 154,855 675,403	360,702 191,878 331,769 131,958 2,100 49,918	587,765 233,628 317,944 50,008 2,842 - 7,585 	12,630 - - 55,117 - - 67,747	2,292,265 3,245,937 1,273,523 1,077,700 7,211 - 32,080 7,928,716	364,566 237,927 645,876 365,607 5,955	50,039 11,213 301,508 79,542 3,154 390,816 247,344 16,660	5,028,943 4,075,438 3,558,653 1,737,361 1,134,653 496,504 254,929 60,955
ANNUAL SURPLUS BEFORE OTHER INCOME  Government transfers for capital Contributed assets Gain (loss) on disposal of tangible capital assets	<u>9,178,431</u> - - (171)	(909,787) - 45,732	<u>(816,739</u> ) - - -	<u>(67,747)</u>	(5,909,691) 1,283,818 -	(878,425) 238,120 - 	<u>(1.013,471)</u> - - -	(417,429) 1,521,938 45,732 (171)
ANNUAL SURPLUS	\$ <u>9,178,260</u>	\$ <u>(864,055</u> )	\$ <u>(816,739</u> )	\$(67,747)	\$ <u>(4,625,873</u> )	\$ <u>(640,305</u> )	\$ <u>(1,013,471</u> )	\$ <u>1,150,070</u>

	Legislative Administration and <u>General Services</u>	Fire and Enforcement <u>Services</u>	Planning and Development <u>Services</u>	FCSS and Community <u>Services</u>	Roads W Streets, Walks and Lighting	Water 'astewater Treatment, and Solid Waste <u>Management</u>	Recreation and Library <u>Services</u>	<u>Total</u>
REVENUE Taxation Government transfers User fees and sales of goods All other Investment income Licenses and permits	\$ 11,424,109 394,456 103,852 433,841 261,494	\$ - 273,708 174,397 54,414 -	\$ - 29,737 128,949 - 129,822	\$ - - - - -	\$ - 1,624,502 158,702 62,520 - -	\$ - 711,159 18,591 - -	\$ - 102,242 1,613 -	\$ 11,424,109 2,292,666 1,280,089 699,928 261,494 129,822
EXPENSES Salaries, wages, and benefits Materials, goods, supplies and utilities Contracted and general services Amortization of tangible capital assets Other Transfers to other governments Transfers to local boards and organizations Interest on long term debt	489,781	325,188 182,889 214,309 124,893 3,890 64,318	288,508  630,672 302,693 245,325 55,838 6,575 - 1,148 1,242,251	46 - 11,500 - - 54,596 - - - 66,142	2,337,427 2,945,355 1,211,593 1,049,223 5,540 - 43,897 7,593,035	729,750  429,826 233,740 611,613 338,643 14,194 1,628,016	57,744 25,970 315,114 77,722 3,916 468,092 244,846 20,873	5,056,446 3,841,494 3,099,235 1,687,555 832,355 587,911 245,994 77,792
ANNUAL SURPLUS BEFORE OTHER INCOME  Government transfers for capital Contributed assets Gain (loss) on disposal of tangible capital assets	9,861,200 - - - 37,789	(425,990) - 42,854	<u>(953,743)</u> - - -	(66,142) - - -	(5,747,311) 1,545,724 -	(898,266) 176,493 - 	(1,110,422) - 6,000	659,326 1,722,217 48,854 37,789
ANNUAL SURPLUS	\$ <u>9,898,989</u>	\$(383,136)	\$ <u>(953,743</u> )	\$(66,142)	\$ <u>(4,201,587</u> )	\$ <u>(721,773</u> )	\$ <u>(1,104,422)</u>	\$_2,468,186

#### 1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of Westlock County (the "County") are the representations of management prepared in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards. Significant aspects of the accounting policies adopted by the County are as follows:

#### (a) Reporting Entity

The financial statements reflect the assets, liabilities, revenues, expenses, and change in net financial assets and cash flows of the reporting entity. The entity is comprised of the municipal operations of the County and the Westlock Municipal Airport and are, therefore, accountable to the Council for the administration of their financial affairs and resources.

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

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

# (b) Basis of Accounting

The financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. The accrual basis of accounting recognizes revenue as it is earned and measurable. Expenses are recognized as they are incurred and measurable based upon receipt of goods and services and/or the legal obligation to pay.

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

#### (c) Land Held for Resale

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

#### (d) Investments

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

# (e) Pension Expenses

Contributions for current and past service pension benefits are recorded as expenses in the year in which they become due.

#### (f) Cash and temporary investments

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

(CONT'D)

# 1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

# (g) Tax Revenue

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

Construction and borrowing costs associated with local improvement projects are recovered through annual special property assessments during the period of the related borrowing. These levies are collectible from property owners for work performed by the County. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues to be received from local improvement assessments are recognized in full in the period the local improvement project costs are incurred and the passing of the related imposition by-law.

#### (h) Use of Estimates

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

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

#### (i) Government Transfers

Government transfers are the transfer of assets from all levels of governments that are not the result of an exchange transaction, are not expected to be repaid in the future, or are the result of a direct financial return.

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

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

Over-levies and under-levies arise from the difference between the actual property tax levy made to cover each requisition and the actual amount requisitioned.

If the actual levy exceeds the requisition, the over-levy is accrued as a liability and property tax revenue is reduced. In situations where the actual levy is less than the requisition amount, the under-levy is accrued as a receivable and as property tax revenue.

Requisition tax rates in the subsequent year are adjusted for any over-levies or under-levies of the prior year.

#### (k) Allowances for Operating and Physical Assets

Allowances for asset valuations are netted against the related asset. Increases in allowances are recorded as expenditures, while decreases in allowances are recorded as revenues.

(CONT'D)

# 1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

#### (I) Non-Financial Assets

Non-financial assets are not available to discharge existing liabilities and are held for use in the provision of services. They have useful lives extending beyond the current year and are not intended for sale in the normal course of operations. The change in non-financial assets during the year, together with the excess of revenues over expenses, provides the change in net financial assets for the year.

#### i) Tangible Capital Assets

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

Utility Engineering Structures	10 - 75 years
Buildings	50 years
Engineering Structures	10 - 75 years
Machinery & Equipment	4 - 50 years
Vehicles	5 - 25 years

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

#### ii) Contributions of Tangible Capital Assets

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

# iii) Leases

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

#### iv) Inventory for Consumption

Inventory held for consumption is recorded at the lower of cost and replacement cost with cost determined using the average cost method.

#### v) Cultural and Historical Tangible Capital Assets

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

(CONT'D)

# 1. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONT'D)

#### (m) Future Accounting Standard Pronoucements

The following summarizes upcoming changes to the Canadian public sector accounting standards. The County will continue to assess the impact and prepare for the adoption of these standards.

#### i) Financial Statement Presentation

PS1201, Financial Statement Presentation, requires a new statement of re-measurement gains and losses separate from the statement of operations. Included in this new statement are the unrealized gains and losses arising from the re-measurement of financial instruments and items denominated in foreign currencies, as well as the government's proportionate share of other comprehensive income that arises when a government includes the results of government business enterprises and partnerships. This standard is applicable for fiscal years beginning on or after April 1, 2022.

# ii) Foreign Currency Translation

PS 2601, Foreign Currency Translation, requires that monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currency be adjusted to reflect the exchange rates in effect at the financial statement dates. Unrealized gains and losses are to be presented in the new statement of re-measurement gains and losses. This standard must be adopted in conjunction with PS 2601 and PS 3450 and is applicable for fiscal years beginning on or after April 1, 2022.

#### i) Portfolio Investments

PS 3041, *Portfolio Investments*, has removed the distinction between temporary and portfolio investments and amended to conform to PS 3405. This standard must be adopted in conjunction with PS 1201, PS 2601, and PS 3450 and is applicable for fiscal years beginning on or after April 1, 2022.

#### iv) Financial Instruments

PS 3450, *Financial Instruments*, established recognition, measurement and disclosure requirements for derivative and non-derivative financial instruments. The standard requires fair value measurement of derivative and equity instruments; all other financial instruments can be measured at cost/amortized cost or fair value at the election of the government. Unrealized gains and losses are presented in a new statement of remeasurement gains and losses. There is the requirement to disclose the nature and extent of risks arising from financial instruments and clarification is given for the derecognition of financial liabilities. This standard is applicable for fiscal years beginning on or after April 1, 2022.

#### v) Asset Retirement Obligations

PS 3280, Asset Retirement Obligations, establishes standards on how to account and report for legal obligations associated with the retirement of certain tangible capital assets including solid waste landfill sites. As a result, PS 3270, Solid Waste Landfill Closure and Post-Closure Liability has been withdrawn but will remain in effect until the adoption of PS 3280. This standard is applicable for fiscal years beginning on or after April 1, 2022.

#### vi) Revenue

PS 3400, *Revenue*, establishes standards on how to account for and report revenue differentiating between revenue arising from transactions that include performance obligations and transactions that do not. This standard is applicable for fiscal years beginning on or after April 1, 2023.

# 2. CASH AND TEMPORARY INVESTMENTS

	<u>2020</u>		<u>2019</u>
Cash Temporary investments	\$ 7,108,14 <u>5,361,56</u>		687,705 8,290,471
	\$ <u>12,469,70</u>	<u>     \$                               </u>	8,978,176

Council has designated funds of \$203,580 (2019 - \$198,993) for future recreation projects.

Temporary investments are short-term deposits with original maturities of three months or less bearing interest at rates ranging from 0.70% to 1.10% maturing during 2021.

#### 3. CASH HELD IN TRUST

Cash held in trust consists of the excess of proceeds received over property taxes and applicable penalties owed on those properties sold for tax recovery. The *Municipal Government Act* requires that unpaid excess funds be held for a minimum period of ten years before the County can use the funds for its own purposes. The County has \$29,795 (2019 - \$27,321) of cash held in trust.

#### 4. TAXES AND GRANTS IN PLACE OF TAXES RECEIVABLE

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Current taxes Arrears taxes	\$ 891,481 <u>2,531,628</u>	\$ 942,406 
	3,423,109	2,489,082
Less: Allowance for doubtful accounts	(2,906,160)	(1,793,623)
	\$ <u>516,949</u>	\$ <u>695,459</u>
5. TRADE AND OTHER RECEIVABLES	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Provincial and federal grants receivable Trade and other Receivable from other governments	\$ 796,950 321,567 	\$ 3,033,485 226,145 177,677
	1,341,607	3,437,307
Less: Allowance for doubtful accounts	(33,914)	(26,914)
	\$ <u>1,307,693</u>	\$ <u>3,410,393</u>

#### 6. LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS RECEIVABLE

The County passed Bylaw No. 15-2006 authorizing Council to provide for a local improvement to install a water supply pipeline and sanitary sewer distribution lines to the Hamlet of Dapp. The total cost of the local improvement was \$124,800; and is repayable in 20 annual installments of \$6,240 per annum maturing April 25, 2026.

#### 7. DEBT CHARGES RECOVERABLE

Homeland Housing Westlock Seed Cleaning Co-op Ltd.		2020 \$ 5,565,682 234,192	2019 \$ 5,823,478 279,638
Principal and interest repayments:	<u>Principal</u>	\$ <u>5,799,874</u>	\$ <u>6,103,116</u> Total
2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 Thereafter	\$ 313,391 323,883 306,550 317,133 328,082 4,210,835 \$ 5,799,874	\$ 194,922 184,430 173,739 163,156 152,207 864,077 \$ 1,732,531	\$ 508,313 508,313 480,289 480,289 480,289 5,074,912 \$ 7,532,405

The County assumed debentures on behalf of Homeland Housing and Westlock Seed Cleaning Co-op Ltd. The County is not in a partnership with either entity on the capital projects but agreed to obtain the funding required by the entities and is fully reimbursed for both principal and interest payments.

The related debt is held by the Province of Alberta. The interest rates range from 2.226% to 3.411% and mature between 2023 and 2032.

The payments are not disclosed as revenues and expenses by the County as these loans are 100% recoverable from the entities.

# 8. LINE OF CREDIT

The County has a \$3,000,000 revolving line of credit bearing interest at prime per annum and is due on demand. The line of credit was not in use as of December 31, 2020 (2019 - NIL). Collateral lodged in support of the line of credit includes cash held by the County, and a revolving line of credit agreement.

#### 9. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Trade payables Accrued interest payable Other governments	\$ 996,288 64,677 658	\$ 498,105 69,328 279
	\$ <u>1,061,623</u>	\$ <u>567,712</u>

10. DEPOSIT LIABILITIES	

Road use deposit Pickardville Lagoon security deposit Utility security deposit Land sale deposit	\$	118,388 400 - -	\$ _	104,965 400 2,850 439
	\$_	118,788	\$_	108,654

2020

<u>2019</u>

#### 11. DEFERRED REVENUE

Deferred revenue consists of the following amounts, which have been restricted by third parties for a specified purpose. These amounts are recognized as revenue in the period in which the related expenditures are incurred.

		<u>2019</u>		Additions		Revenue Recognized		<u>2020</u>
Gas Tax Funding Municipal Operating	\$	596,718	\$	416,486	\$	(181,525)	\$	831,679
Support Transfer		-		736,653		-		736,653
Municipal Sustainability Initiative		1,299,118		-		(592,174)		706,944
Municipal Stimulus Program		-		400,000		-		400,000
Other	_	41,731	_		_	<u>(9,378</u> )		<u>32,353</u>
	\$	1,937,567	(	\$ <u>1,553,139</u>	(	\$ <u>(783,077</u> )	\$_	<u>2,707,629</u>

#### 12. ACCRUED WAGES PAYABLE

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Vacation and overtime Regular wages payable	\$ 162,542 <u>43,016</u>	\$ 163,520 109,365
	\$ <u>205,558</u>	\$ <u>272,885</u>

The vacation and overtime liability is comprised of the vacation and overtime that employees are deferring. Employees have either earned the benefits (and are vested) or are entitled to these benefits within the next budgetary year. The County does not provide post-employment benefits to their employees.

17.

13.

LONG-TERM DEBT	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Debenture debt supported by long term investment receivable from Homeland Housing, secured by a mortgage on the Pembina Supportive Housing building.	\$ 5,565,682	\$ 5,823,478
Debenture debt supported by general municipal levies.	1,741,065	2,523,999
Debenture debt supported by long term investment receivable from the Westlock Seed Cleaning Co-op Ltd., secured by a mortgage on the Co-op's buildings.	<u>234,192</u>	279,638
	\$ <u>7,540,939</u>	\$ <u>8,627,115</u>

The current portion of the long-term debt amounts to \$1,059,774 (2019 - \$1,086,176).

Principal and interest repayments:

	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 Thereafter	\$ 1,059,774 693,821 583,461 388,216 359,154 4,456,513	\$ 240,396 214,091 192,853 173,366 160,340 892,833	\$ 1,300,170 907,912 776,314 561,582 519,494 5,349,346
	\$ <u>7,540,939</u>	\$ <u>1,873,879</u>	\$ <u>9,414,818</u>

Debenture debt is repayable to the Province of Alberta and consists of nine amounts, bearing interest at rates ranging from 1.238% and 5.662% per annum maturing in the year 2025 and 2037 respectively.

Debenture debt is issued on the credit and security of the County at large.

Interest on long-term debt amounted to \$60,956 (2019 - \$77,792).

The County's total cash payments for interest is \$267,801 (2019 - \$294,395).

#### 14. INVENTORY FOR CONSUMPTION

	<u>2020</u>		<u>2019</u>
Gravel Equipment parts and chemicals	\$ 1,263,212 325,011	\$	988,418 367,084
	\$ 1,588,223	\$_	1,355,502

#### 15. ACCUMULATED SURPLUS

Accumulated surplus consists of restricted and unrestricted amounts and equity in tangible capital assets as follows:

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Unrestricted surplus	\$ <u>867,336</u>	\$ 867,333
Restricted surplus Operating reserves Capital reserves	4,895,042 <u>7,177,724</u>	5,203,698 6,795,526
	12,072,766	11,999,224
Equity in tangible capital assets	29,530,610	28,454,085
	\$ <u>42,470,712</u>	\$ <u>41,320,642</u>

#### 16. DEBT LIMITS

Section 276(2) of the *Municipal Government Act* requires that debt and debt limits as defined by Alberta Regulation 255/2000 for the County be disclosed as follows:

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Total debt limit Total debt	\$ 23,931,657 <u>7,540,939</u>	\$ 24,132,162 <u>8,627,115</u>
Amount of total debt limit unused	\$ <u>16,390,718</u>	\$ <u>15,505,047</u>
Debt servicing limit Debt servicing	\$ 3,988,610 1,300,170	\$ 4,022,027 1,353,977
Amount of debt servicing limit unused	\$ <u>2,688,440</u>	\$ <u>2,668,050</u>

The debt limit is calculated at 1.50 times revenue of the County (as defined in the Alberta Regulation 255/2000) and the debt service limit is calculated as 0.25 times such revenue. Incurring debt beyond these limitations requires approval by the Minister of Municipal Affairs. These thresholds are a conservative guideline used by Alberta Municipal Affairs to identify municipalities that could be at a financial risk if further debt is acquired. The calculation taken alone does not represent the financial stability of the County. Rather, the financial statements must be interpreted as a whole.

#### 17. LOCAL AUTHORITIES PENSION PLAN

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

The County is required to make current service contributions to the Plan of 9.39% (2019 - 9.39%) of pensionable earnings up to the Canada Pension Plan year's maximum pensionable earnings and 13.84% (2019 - 13.84%) for the excess. Employees of the County are required to make current service contributions of 8.39% (2019 - 8.39%) of pensionable earnings up to the year's maximum pensionable earnings and 12.84% (2019 - 12.84%) on pensionable earnings above this amount.

Total current and past service contributions made by the County to the LAPP in 2020 were \$326,253 (2019 - \$325,726). Total current and past service contributions made by the employees of the County to the LAPP in 2020 were \$296,062 (2019 - \$294,336).

At December 31, 2019, the LAPP disclosed an actuarial surplus of \$7.91 billion (2018 - \$3.47 billion).

#### 18. CONTINGENCIES

Landfill closure and post-closure liability

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

The County owns a property where there was once a landfill. It has been determined by the engineering firm that monitors the site that higher than acceptable levels of leachate (chloride) migration. If left unattended, there is a potential for the leachate to get into the underground water that flows through that site.

To resolve the issue, in 2017 the County installed a system to capture the water in the affected area and pump it out on a regular basis. Continued monitoring is being performed to ensure that the system is working properly to remove any excess underground water to mitigate any leachate (chloride) migration issue.

#### 19. COMMITMENTS

The County has a commitment to remediate the main gravel pit it utilizes for gravel extraction once the pit has been utilitized to its full capacity. The timeline for the pit to be utilized is uncertain. They County estimates remediation costs to be approximately \$100,000. This amount has not been accrued in the financial statements given the amount and the timeline is uncertain.

At December 31, 2020, the County has set aside \$200,000 in reserves (2019 - \$175,000) to fund future gravel pit remediation costs.

#### 20. SALARIES AND BENEFITS DISCLOSURE

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

	Sala	<u>vy</u> (1) <u>a</u>	ts, Travel wances (2	2)	2020 <u>Total</u>		2019 <u>Total</u>
Elected Officials (3): Division 1 Division 2 Division 3 Division 4 Division 5 Division 7	3 4 3 3	8,933 9,443 2,317 8,933 8,933	\$ 5,699 7,845 5,915 5,871 4,802 5,997	\$	44,632 47,288 48,232 44,804 43,735 44,930	\$	44,125 45,722 48,188 44,297 7,714 45,559
Former Elected Officials Division 5 Division 6 (4)		- 1,890 9,382	 \$ 6,465 42,594	- \$	38,355 311,976	- \$_	21,092 45,722 302,419
Chief Administrative Officer (5)	\$ <u>46</u>	6,71 <u>4</u>	\$ 19,833	\$	486,547	\$ <u></u>	225,606

- (1) Salary includes gross honoraria, regular base pay, bonuses, overtime, lump sum payments, and any other direct cash remuneration.
- (2) Employer's share of all employee benefits, travel and allowances or payments made on behalf of employees including travel and subsistence, pension, health care, dental coverage, vision coverage, group life disability plans, professional memberships and tuition.
- (3) The Reeve is elected from within Council on an annual basis. In 2020 the Division 2 elected official was elected Reeve (2019 Division 3).
- (4) The Division 6 elected official resigned on November 10, 2020 and Council agreed not to fill the vacancy until the 2021 election.
- (5) The current year figure includes the former and interim Chief Administrative Officer's salaries, severance and benefits.

#### 21. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The County's financial instruments consist of cash and temporary investments, accounts receivable, investments, accounts payable and accrued liabilities, deposit liabilities, debt recoverable local improvements and long-term debt. It is management's opinion that the County is not exposed to significant interest, currency or credit risk arising from these financial instruments.

The County is subject to credit risk with respect to taxes and grants in place of taxes receivable and trade and other receivables. Credit risk arises from the possibility that taxpayers and entities to which the County provides services may experience financial difficulty and be unable to fulfill their obligations. The large number and diversity of customers minimizes the County's credit risk.

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

# 22. SEGMENTED INFORMATION

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

#### 23. COMPARATIVE FIGURES

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

# 24. BUDGET

The budget presented in these financial statements are based on the budget approved by Council on April 14, 2020. The County compiles a budget on a modified accrual basis. The budget expensed all tangible capital asset purchases rather than including amortization expense. The reconciliation below adjusts excess revenue over expenses to align with the budget process. It should not be used as a replacement for the statement of operations and accumulated surplus. Users should note that this information may not be appropriate for their purposes.

	<u>2020</u> (Budget)	<u>2020</u> (Actual)	<u>2019</u> (Actual)
Annual surplus	2,182,026	1,150,070	2,468,186
Add:     Amortization expense     Net transfers (to) from reserves     Proceeds on disposals of tangible capital assets     Long-term debt recovered	1,376,449 299,300	1,737,361 (73,542) 54,592 303,242	1,687,555 (759,415) 191,786 293,425
Deduct: Principal debt repayments Gain (loss) on disposal of tangible capital assets Tangible capital asset purchases	1,675,749 782,935 3,074,840 3,857,775	2,021,653 1,086,176 (171) 2,085,715 3,171,720	1,413,351 1,059,580 37,789 2,784,157 3,881,526
Results of Operations as Budgeted	\$ <u>-</u>	\$3	\$ <u>11</u>

# 25. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

These financial statements were approved by Council and Management.