

# OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF STATE

STATE OF IOWA

Mary Mosiman, CPA Auditor of State

# State Capitol Building Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0004

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**NEWS RELEASE** 

FOR RELEASE June 3, 2013 Contact: Andy Nielsen 515/281-5834

The Office of Auditor of State today released an audit report on the Cedar County Economic Development Commission for the year ended June 30, 2012.

The Commission's receipts totaled \$106,148 for the year ended June 30, 2012, a 6.6% decrease from the prior year, and included \$99,442 in membership dues, \$1,000 in investor pledge contributions, \$4,500 in loan repayments and \$1,206 from other general receipts.

Disbursements for the year ended June 30, 2012 totaled \$51,431, a 54.7% decrease from the prior year, and included \$34,385 for salaries and benefits, \$4,938 for professional fees and \$4,500 for rent and utilities. The significant decrease in disbursements is due to the resignation of the Executive Director at the beginning of the fiscal year.

A copy of the audit report is available for review in the Office of Auditor of State and on the Auditor of State's web site at http://auditor.iowa.gov/reports/1214-2355-B00F.pdf.

## CEDAR COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT FINANCIAL STATEMENT AND SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS

**JUNE 30, 2012** 

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## **Officials**

# (Before January 2012)

Don McGlaughlin Board Chair City of Tipton

Wayne Deerberg Vice Chair Cedar County
Jon Bell Board Member Cedar County
Pat Hasenbank Board Member City of Clarence
Chris Gilroy Board Member City of Durant
John Bardsley Board Member City of Lisbon

Boyd Stine Board Member City of Mechanicsville
Dean Boesenberg Board Member City of Stanwood
Don Kessler Board Member City of West Branch
Orville Randolph Board Member City of Bennett

Bill Schulte (Resigned July 2011) Director

#### (After January 2012)

Chris Gilroy Board Chair City of Durant

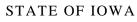
Wayne DeerbergVice ChairCedar CountyJon BellBoard MemberCedar CountyPat HasenbankBoard MemberCity of ClarencePamela SpearBoard MemberCity of Tipton

Boyd Stine Board Member City of Mechanicsville Greg Wagner Board Member City of Stanwood Orville Randolph Board Member City of Bennett

Vacant Director



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## Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Directors of the Cedar County Economic Development Commission:

We have audited the accompanying financial statement of the Cedar County Economic Development Commission as of and for the year ended June 30, 2012. This financial statement is the responsibility of the Commission's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statement based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, 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 statement is free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statement. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

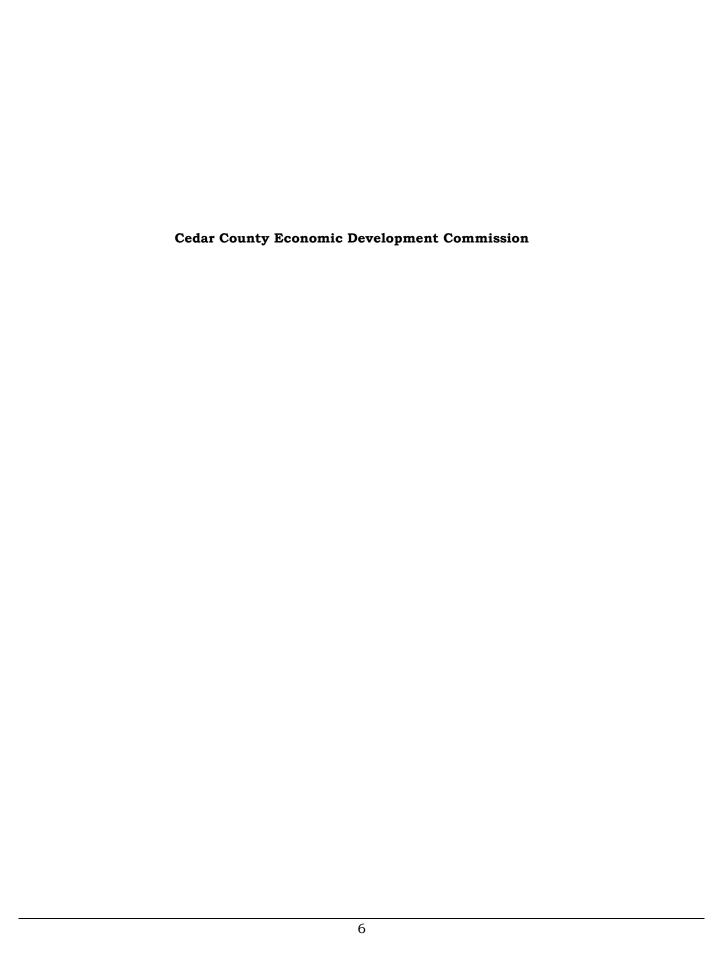
As described in Note 1, this financial statement is prepared on the basis of cash receipts and disbursements, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

In our opinion, the financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the respective cash basis financial position of the Cedar County Economic Development Commission as of June 30, 2012 and the respective changes in its cash basis financial position for the year then ended in conformity with the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

In accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, we have also issued our report dated May 20, 2013 on our consideration of the Cedar County Economic Development Commission'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. The purpose of that report is 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 internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u> and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

The Cedar County Economic Development Commission has not presented Management's Discussion and Analysis the Governmental Accounting Standards Board has determined is necessary to supplement, although not required to be part of, the financial statement.

WARREN G. JENKINS, CPA Chief Deputy Auditor of State





# Statement of Cash Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Cash Basis Net Assets

As of and for the year ended June 30, 2012

Operating receipts:	
Membership dues	\$ 99,442
Investor pledge contributions	1,000
Miscellaneous	650
Total operating receipts	101,092
Operating disbursements:	
Salaries and benefits	34,385
Marketing and promotion	2,598
Rent and utilities	4,500
Communication	2,999
Professional fees	4,938
Miscellaneous	2,011
Total operating disbursements	51,431
Excess of operating receipts over	
operating disbursements	49,661
Non-operating receipts:	
Loan repayments	4,500
Interest on investments	556
Total non-operating receipts	5,056
Change in cash basis net assets	54,717
Cash basis net assets beginning of year	25,598
Cash basis net assets end of year	\$ 80,315
Cash Basis Fund Balances	
Restricted for marketing	\$ 5,906
Unrestricted	74,409
Total cash basis net assets	\$ 80,315

#### Notes to Financial Statement

June 30, 2012

## (1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The Cedar County Economic Development Commission was formed in 1989 pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 28E of the Code of Iowa. The Commission is to coordinate resources to encourage and promote the establishment, development and retention of industrial manufacturing, commercial and retail interests in the Cedar County area. Current members include Cedar County and the cities of Bennett, Clarence, Durant, Mechanicsville, Stanwood and Tipton.

The Commission is comprised of two representatives from Cedar County and one representative from each participating city. Each representative has one vote and each representative may have an alternate who can vote in the member's absence.

### A. Reporting Entity

For financial reporting purposes, the Cedar County Economic Development Commission has included all funds. The Commission has also considered all potential component units for which it is financially accountable and other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the Commission are such that exclusion would cause the Commission's financial statement to be misleading or incomplete. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. These criteria include appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body and (1) the ability of the Commission to impose its will on that organization or (2) the potential for the organization to provide specific benefits to or impose specific financial burdens on the Commission. The Commission has no component units which meet the Governmental Accounting Standards Board criteria.

#### B. Basis of Presentation

The accounts of the Commission are organized as an Enterprise Fund. Enterprise Funds may be used to report any activity for which a fee is charged to external users for goods or services.

Enterprise Funds distinguish operating receipts and disbursements from nonoperating items. Operating receipts and disbursements generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with an Enterprise Fund's principal ongoing operations. All receipts and disbursements not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating receipts and disbursements.

# C. Basis of Accounting

The Commission maintains its financial records on the basis of cash receipts and disbursements and the financial statement of the Commission is prepared on that basis. The cash basis of accounting does not give effect to accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued items. Accordingly, the financial statement does not present the financial position and results of operations of the Commission in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

#### D. Net Assets

Funds set aside for marketing are classified as restricted.

#### (2) Cash and Investments

The Commission's deposits in banks at June 30, 2012 were entirely covered by federal depository insurance or by the State Sinking Fund in accordance with Chapter 12C of the Code of Iowa. This chapter provides for additional assessments against the depositories to insure there will be no loss of public funds.

The Commission is authorized by statute to invest public funds in obligations of the United States government, its agencies and instrumentalities; certificates of deposit or other evidences of deposit at federally insured depository institutions approved by the Commission; prime eligible bankers acceptances; certain high rated commercial paper; perfected repurchase agreements; certain registered open-end management investment companies; certain joint investment trusts; and warrants or improvement certificates of a drainage district.

The Commission had no investments meeting the disclosure requirements of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 3, as amended by Statement No. 40.

#### (3) Pension and Retirement Benefits (IPERS)

The Commission contributes to the Iowa Public Employees Retirement System (IPERS), which is a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the State of Iowa. IPERS provides retirement and death benefits established by state statute to plan members and beneficiaries. IPERS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. The report may be obtained by writing to IPERS, P.O. Box 9117, Des Moines, IA, 50306-9117.

For the year ended June 30, 2012, plan members were required to contribute 5.38% and the Commission was required to contribute 8.07% of covered salary. Contribution requirements are established by state statute. The Commission's contribution to IPERS for the year ended June 30, 2012 was \$1,951.

#### (4) Compensated Absences

Commission employees accumulate earned but unused vacation for subsequent use or for payment upon termination, retirement or death. The accumulations are not recognized as disbursements by the Commission until used or paid. The Commission's approximate liability for earned vacation payable to employees, based on rates of pay in effect at June 30, 2012, is \$1,500.

#### (5) Risk Management

The Commission is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. These risks are covered by commercial insurance purchased from independent third parties. The Commission assumed liability for any deductibles and claims in excess of coverage limitations. Settled claims for these risks have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage for the past three years.

#### (6) Loan to the City of Clarence

In prior years, the Commission loaned the City of Clarence a total of \$35,000, interest free, for economic development activity. The loan requires annual payments totaling \$2,250 and is scheduled to be repaid by July 1, 2017. During the year ended June 30, 2012, the Commission received repayments totaling \$4,500 and the balance due to the Commission at June 30, 2012 totaled \$9,750.

Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control
over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters
Based on an Audit of a Financial Statement Performed in Accordance with
Government Auditing Standards

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To the Board of Directors of the Cedar County Economic Development Commission:

We have audited the accompanying financial statement of the Cedar County Economic Development Commission as of and for the year ended June 30, 2012, and have issued our report thereon dated May 20, 2013. Our report expressed an unqualified opinion on the financial statement which was prepared in conformity with an other comprehensive basis of accounting. We conducted our audit in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

## Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

The management of the Cedar County Economic Development Commission is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting. In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Cedar County Economic Development Commission's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statement, but not for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Cedar County Economic Development Commission's internal control over financial reporting.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses and, therefore, there can be no assurance all deficiencies, significant deficiencies or material weaknesses have been identified. However, as described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings, we identified deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting we consider to be material weaknesses.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of the 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 a material misstatement of the Cedar County Economic Development Commission's financial statement will not be prevented or detected and corrected on a timely basis. We consider the deficiencies described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings as items (A) and (B) to be material weaknesses.

#### Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Cedar County Economic Development Commission's financial statement is free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, non-compliance 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 non-compliance or other matters that are required to be reported under <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>. However, we noted certain immaterial instance of noncompliance or other matters which are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings.

Comments involving statutory and other legal matters about the Commission's operations for the year ended June 30, 2012 are based exclusively on knowledge obtained from procedures performed during our audit of the financial statement of the Commission. Since our audit was based on tests and samples, not all transactions that might have had an impact on the comments were necessarily audited. The comments involving statutory and other legal matters are not intended to constitute legal interpretations of those statutes.

The Cedar County Economic Development Commission's responses to the findings identified in our audit are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings. While we have expressed our conclusions on the Commission's responses, we did not audit the Commission's responses and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

This report, a public record by law, is intended solely for the information and use of the members and customers of the Cedar County Economic Development Commission and other parties to whom the Commission may report. This report is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

We would like to acknowledge the many courtesies and assistance extended to us by personnel of the Cedar County Economic Development Commission during the course of our audit. Should you have any questions concerning any of the above matters, we shall be pleased to discuss them with you at your convenience.

WARREN G. JENKINS, CPA Chief Deputy Auditor of State

May 20, 2013

#### Schedule of Findings

Year ended June 30, 2012

#### Findings Related to the Financial Statement:

#### INTERNAL CONTROL DEFICIENCIES:

- (A) <u>Segregation of Duties</u> One important aspect of internal control is the segregation of duties among employees to prevent an individual employee from handling duties which are incompatible. For the Commission, one individual generally has control over each of the following areas:
  - (1) Receipts opening mail, collecting, depositing, reconciling and posting.
  - (2) Disbursements invoice processing, check writing, mailing, reconciling and recording.
  - (3) Investing recordkeeping, investing, custody of investments and reconciling earnings.
  - (4) Cash handling, reconciling and recording.

Recommendation – We realize segregation of duties is difficult with a limited number of office employees. The Commission should review its control procedures to obtain the maximum internal control possible under the circumstances utilizing currently available personnel, including Commission Board Members. Evidence of review of reconciliations should be indicated by the signature or initials of the independent reviewer and the date of the review.

<u>Response</u> – As a small office, we will do all we can to utilize the Board in assisting in segregating duties to the best of our ability.

<u>Conclusion</u> – Response accepted.

(B) <u>Bank Reconciliations</u> – Book balances were not reconciled to the bank balances monthly for all bank accounts. Although a list of outstanding checks was prepared and retained for each month, the list was not complete.

Additionally, there is no evidence of independent review of the monthly bank reconciliations.

Recommendation – To improve financial accountability and control, book and bank balances should be reconciled monthly. Any variances should be investigated and resolved in a timely manner. A listing of outstanding checks should be prepared each month and retained. An independent person should review the bank reconciliations each month.

<u>Response</u> – This has been addressed. A listing of outstanding checks will be prepared and retained each month and will be checked to ensure it is complete. We will also have a Board Member review all bank reconciliations.

<u>Conclusion</u> – Response accepted.

## **INSTANCES OF NON-COMPLIANCE:**

No matters were noted.

#### Schedule of Findings

Year ended June 30, 2012

#### Other Findings Related to Required Statutory Reporting:

- (1) <u>Commission Minutes</u> No transactions were found that we believe should have been approved in the Commission minutes but were not.
- (2) <u>Travel Expense</u> No disbursements of Commission money for travel expenses of spouses of Commission officials or employees were noted.
- (3) <u>Deposits and Investments</u> No instances of noncompliance with the deposit and investment provisions of Chapters 12B and 12C of the Code of Iowa and the Commission's investment policy were noted.
- (4) <u>Questionable Disbursements</u> No disbursements we believe may not meet the requirements of public purpose as defined in an Attorney General's opinion dated April 25, 1979 were noted. However, certain disbursements did not have proper supporting documentation or had no supporting documentation.
  - <u>Recommendation</u> The Commission should ensure proper supporting documentation is retained for all transactions.
  - <u>Response</u> Disbursements will have receipts attached as supporting documentation. If they are purchased online, a copy will be made and attached to the credit card receipt.

Conclusion - Response accepted.

Staff

This audit was performed by:

Ernest H. Ruben, Jr., CPA, Manager Daniel L. Grady, Senior Auditor II

> Andrew E. Nielsen, CPA Deputy Auditor of State