



OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF STATE
STATE OF IOWA

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NEWS RELEASE

FOR RELEASE

March 2, 2007

Contact: Andy Nielsen
515/281-5834

Auditor of State David A. Vaudt today released an audit report on O'Brien County, Iowa.

The County had local tax revenue of \$15,766,208 for the year ended June 30, 2006, which included \$1,051,224 in tax credits from the state. The County forwarded \$11,210,691 of the local tax revenue to the townships, school districts, cities and other taxing bodies in the County.

The County retained \$4,555,517 of the local tax revenue to finance County operations, a one percent increase over the prior year. Other revenues included charges for service of \$1,704,197, operating grants, contributions and restricted interest of \$3,283,059, capital grants, contributions and restricted interest of \$2,921,104, local option sales tax of \$409,283, unrestricted investment earnings of \$200,069 and other general revenues of \$88,888.

Expenses for County operations totaled \$9,943,593, a 10 percent increase over the prior year. Expenses included \$3,331,431 for roads and transportation, \$2,424,142 for public safety and legal services and \$1,610,403 for mental health.

A copy of the report is available for review in the County Auditor's office, in the Office of Auditor of State and on the Auditor of State's web site at <http://auditor.iowa.gov/reports/reports.htm>.

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O'BRIEN COUNTY

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORTS
BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
AND SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS**

JUNE 30, 2006

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O'Brien County

Officials

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Thomas Farnsworth	Board of Supervisors	Jan 2007
Jacob Moermond	Board of Supervisors	Jan 2007
Richard Haack	Board of Supervisors	Jan 2009
Emily Waund	Board of Supervisors	Jan 2009
Dan Strueve, Jr.	Board of Supervisors	Jan 2009
Barbara Rohwer	County Auditor	Jan 2009
Sylvia Nikles	County Treasurer	Jan 2007
Kurt Brown	County Recorder	Jan 2007
Michael J. Anderson	County Sheriff	Jan 2009
Bruce A. Green	County Attorney	Jan 2007
Lowell L. Dykstra	County Assessor	Jan 2010

O'Brien County



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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Officials of O'Brien County:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of O'Brien County, Iowa, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2006, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements listed in the table of contents. These financial statements are the responsibility of O'Brien County's management. Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements 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 Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. 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 opinions.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of O'Brien County at June 30, 2006, and the respective changes in financial position and cash flows, where applicable, for the year then ended in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

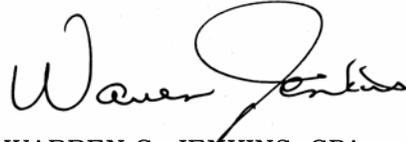
In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated December 8, 2006 on our consideration of O'Brien County's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other 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 Government Auditing Standards and should be considered in assessing the results of our audit.

Management's Discussion and Analysis and budgetary comparison information on pages 7 through 13 and 42 through 45 are not required parts of the basic financial statements, but are supplementary information required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. We did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise O'Brien County's basic financial statements. We previously audited, in accordance with the standards referred to in the second paragraph of this report, the financial statements for the five years ended June 30, 2005 (which are not presented herein) and expressed unqualified opinions on those financial statements. Other supplementary information included in Schedules 1 through 5 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.



DAVID A. VAUDT, CPA
Auditor of State



WARREN G. JENKINS, CPA
Chief Deputy Auditor of State

December 8, 2006

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

O'Brien County provides this Management's Discussion and Analysis of its financial statements. This narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities is for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2006, along with comparative data for the year ended June 30, 2005. We encourage readers to consider this information in conjunction with the County's financial statements, which follow.

2006 FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- Revenues of the County's governmental activities increased approximately 14%, or approximately \$1,574,000, from fiscal 2005 to fiscal 2006. Property and other county tax increased approximately \$38,000, operating grants, contributions and restricted interest decreased approximately \$66,000, capital grants, contributions and restricted interest increased approximately \$1,422,000 and charges for service increased approximately \$50,000.
- Program expenses were approximately \$887,000, or 10%, more in fiscal 2006 than in fiscal 2005.
- The County's net assets increased 27%, or approximately \$3.2 million, from June 30, 2005 to June 30, 2006. This increase is due primarily to additions to secondary road infrastructure, including assets acquired through capital grants from the Iowa Department of Transportation.

USING THIS ANNUAL REPORT

The annual report consists of a series of financial statements and other information, as follows:

Management's Discussion and Analysis introduces the basic financial statements and provides an analytical overview of the County's financial activities.

The *Government-wide Financial Statements* consist of a Statement of Net Assets and a Statement of Activities. These provide information about the activities of O'Brien County as a whole and present an overall view of the County's finances.

The *Fund Financial Statements* tell how governmental services were financed in the short term as well as what remains for future spending. Fund financial statements report O'Brien County's operations in more detail than the government-wide statements by providing information about the most significant funds. The remaining statements provide financial information about activities for which O'Brien County acts solely as an agent or custodian for the benefit of those outside of County government (Agency Funds).

Notes to Financial Statements provide additional information essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the basic financial statements.

Required Supplementary Information further explains and supports the financial statements with a comparison of the County's budget for the year.

Other Supplementary Information provides detailed information about the nonmajor governmental and the individual Agency Funds.

REPORTING THE COUNTY'S FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

Government-wide Financial Statements

One of the most important questions asked about the County's finances is, "Is the County as a whole better off or worse off as a result of the year's activities?" The Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities report information which helps answer this question. These statements include all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting and the economic resources measurement focus, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are taken into account, regardless of when cash is received or paid.

The Statement of Net Assets presents all of the County's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as "net assets". Over time, increases or decreases in the County's net assets may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the County is improving or deteriorating.

The Statement of Activities presents information showing how the County's net assets changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net assets are reported as soon as the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will not result in cash flows until future fiscal periods.

The County's governmental activities are presented in the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities. Governmental activities include public safety and legal services, physical health and social services, mental health, county environment and education, roads and transportation, governmental services to residents, administration, interest on long-term debt and non-program activities. Property tax and state and federal grants finance most of these activities.

Fund Financial Statements

The County has three kinds of funds:

1) Governmental funds account for most of the County's basic services. These focus on how money flows into and out of those funds, and the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. The governmental funds include: 1) the General Fund, 2) the Special Revenue Funds, such as Mental Health, Rural Services and Secondary Roads, 3) the Debt Service Fund and 4) the Capital Projects Fund. These funds are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund financial statements provide a detailed, short-term view of the County's general governmental operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the County's programs.

The required financial statements for governmental funds include a balance sheet and a statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances.

2) Proprietary funds account for the County's Internal Service, Employee Health Insurance Fund. The Internal Service Fund is an accounting device used to accumulate and allocate costs internally among the County's various functions.

The required financial statements for proprietary funds include a statement of net assets, a statement of revenues, expenses and changes in fund net assets and a statement of cash flows.

3) Fiduciary funds are used to report assets held in a trust or agency capacity for others which cannot be used to support the County's own programs. These fiduciary funds include Agency Funds that account for E911 surcharge, emergency management services and the County Assessor, to name a few.

The required financial statement for fiduciary funds is a statement of fiduciary assets and liabilities.

Reconciliations between the government-wide financial statements and the fund financial statements follow the fund financial statements.

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

As noted earlier, net assets may serve over time as a useful indicator of financial position. The analysis below shows the County's total net assets at June 30, 2006 and June 30, 2005.

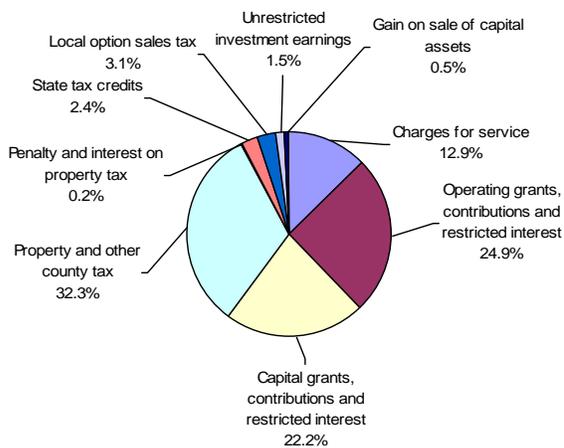
Net Assets of Governmental Activities (Expressed in Thousands)		
	June 30,	
	2,006	2,005
Current and other assets	\$ 9,960	10,188
Capital assets	13,380	9,427
Total assets	<u>23,340</u>	<u>19,615</u>
Long-term liabilities	3,022	3,180
Other liabilities	5,295	4,630
Total liabilities	<u>8,317</u>	<u>7,810</u>
Net assets:		
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	10,597	6,452
Restricted	2,002	2,828
Unrestricted	2,424	2,525
Total net assets	<u>\$ 15,023</u>	<u>11,805</u>

Net assets of O'Brien County's governmental activities increased by approximately \$3.2 million, or 27%. The largest portion of the County's net assets is invested in capital assets (e.g., land, infrastructure, buildings and equipment), less the related debt. The debt related to the investment in capital assets is liquidated with resources other than capital assets. Restricted net assets represent resources subject to external restrictions, constitutional provisions or enabling legislation on how they can be used. Unrestricted net assets, the part of net assets that can be used to finance day-to-day operations without constraints established by debt covenants, enabling legislation or other legal requirements, decreased from approximately \$2.5 million at June 30, 2005 to approximately \$2.4 million at June 30, 2006, a decrease of approximately \$101,000, or 4%.

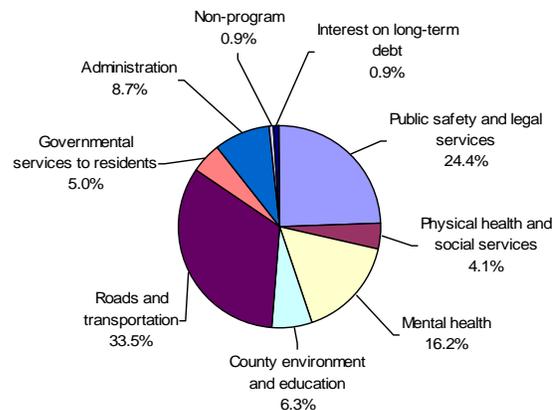
Changes in Net Assets of Governmental Activities
(Expressed in Thousands)

	June 30,	
	2006	2005
Revenues:		
Program revenues:		
Charges for service	\$ 1,704	1,654
Operating grants, contributions and restricted interest	3,283	3,349
Capital grants, contributions and restricted interest	2,921	1,499
General revenues:		
Property and other county tax	4,245	4,207
Penalty and interest on property tax	28	29
State tax credits	310	292
Local option sales tax	409	399
Unrestricted investment earnings	200	111
Gain on sale of capital assets	61	47
Total revenues	13,161	11,587
Program expenses:		
Public safety and legal services	2,424	2,104
Physical health and social services	411	412
Mental health	1,610	1,481
County environment and education	626	438
Roads and transportation	3,331	3,265
Governmental services to residents	497	383
Administration	866	765
Non-program	90	55
Interest on long-term debt	88	154
Total expenses	9,943	9,057
Increase in net assets	3,218	2,530
Net assets beginning of year	11,805	9,275
Net assets end of year	\$ 15,023	11,805

Revenue by Source



Expenses by Program



The County increased property tax rates for 2006 by an average of 1.1%. The taxable valuation for 2006 decreased by approximately \$1 million, or about 1%. As a result, the County's property and other County tax revenue increased by approximately \$38,000 in 2006. O'Brien County increased the budgeted tax asking by \$50,000 for fiscal year 2006.

The cost of all governmental activities this year was \$9.9 million compared to \$9.1 million last year. However, as shown in the Statement of Activities on page 17, the amount property taxpayers ultimately financed for these activities was only \$2.0 million because some of the cost was paid by those that directly benefited from the programs, \$1.7 million, or by other governments and organizations that subsidized certain programs with grants and contributions, \$6.2 million. Overall, the County's governmental program revenues, including intergovernmental aid and fees for services, increased approximately \$1,406,000 from 2005 to 2006.

INDIVIDUAL MAJOR FUND ANALYSIS

As O'Brien County completed the year, its governmental funds reported a combined fund balance of \$4 million, a decrease of approximately \$1,206,000 below last year's total of \$5.3 million. The following are the major reasons for the changes in fund balances of the major funds from the prior year:

- General Fund revenues increased approximately \$288,000 and expenditures increased approximately \$609,000. The ending fund balance decreased approximately \$320,000 from the prior year to approximately \$1.9 million. Increases in expenditures in the General Fund were due to the purchase of Help America Vote Act compliant voting equipment, construction of a 12 person cabin at Mill Creek park, purchase of financial software, increased juvenile detention services, a transfer to the capital projects fund for the construction of the nature center, increased worker's compensation premiums and increases in salaries and health insurance premiums.
- The County has continued to look for ways to effectively manage the cost of mental health services. For the year, expenditures totaled approximately \$1,610,000, an increase of 9% over the prior year. Revenues decreased approximately \$63,000 from the previous year. The Mental Health Fund balance decreased approximately \$91,000 from the prior year. Revenues decreased in the Mental Health Fund because the amount of the County's allowable growth allocation was reduced due to the County having a beginning fund balance above 10% of prior year expenditures. Expenditures increased by approximately \$129,000 due to provider rate increases and an increase in the number of consumers.
- Revenues in the Rural Services Fund increased slightly, approximately \$1,900. Local option sales tax revenue increased approximately \$10,800 over the previous year. Property and other County tax revenue for 2006, which includes local option sales tax revenue, increased approximately \$6,500 over the prior year. Expenditures increased approximately \$82,000, primarily due to salaries and related payroll deductions for uniformed patrol employees, increased health insurance costs, including a transfer to the Employee Insurance Health Fund, and the purchase of a patrol vehicle. Transfers from the Rural Services Fund to the Secondary Roads Fund increased approximately \$200. This resulted in a net increase of approximately \$46,000 in the Rural Services Fund balance at June 30, 2006. The 2005 taxable valuation for rural property increased approximately \$66,000, resulting in a slight increase in the transfer to the Secondary Roads Fund in fiscal 2006.
- Secondary Roads Fund expenditures increased approximately \$220,000 over the prior year due to the accrual of the final payment on a motorgrader and the final payment on a road paving project. The total spent in fiscal year 2005 was approximately \$4,000,000. The total spent in fiscal year 2006 was approximately \$4,255,000. Revenues decreased approximately \$70,000 from 2005 to 2006. Transfers to the Secondary Roads Fund increased \$44. There was an increase in road use tax revenue of approximately \$13,500. Reimbursements from other counties increased approximately 51,000.

- There were no significant changes in revenues, expenditures and the fund balance of the Debt Service Fund.

BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS

Over the course of the year, O'Brien County amended its budget three times. The first amendment was made in February 2006 and resulted in an increase in budgeted disbursements for construction at the nature center, repairs to the heating and cooling system at the jail, financial software and fuel increases. The second amendment was made in March 2006. The amendment was made for increases in court and juvenile detention costs and the purchase of computer equipment. The third amendment was made in April 2006 for additional disbursements for the nature center, the receipt of revenues from the Community Attraction and Tourism grant for the nature center and disbursements of housing funds for the City of Sheldon. There were no significant variances between budgeted and actual receipts and disbursements.

Disbursements during the year ended June 30, 2006 exceeded the amount budgeted in the debt service function because the County did not realize the note issuance costs were required to be budgeted.

CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

Capital Assets

At June 30, 2006, O'Brien County had approximately \$13.4 million invested in a broad range of capital assets, including public safety equipment, buildings, park facilities, roads and bridges. This is a net increase (including additions and deletions) of approximately \$4.0 million, or 42%, over last year.

Capital Assets of Governmental Activities at Year-End (Expressed in Thousands)		
	June 30,	
	2006	2005
Land	\$ 133	133
Buildings and improvements	3,870	3,276
Equipment and vehicles	2,637	2,580
Infrastructure	6,740	3,437
Total	\$ 13,380	9,426

This year's major additions included (in thousands):

Secondary Roads infrastructure	\$ 3,579
One motor grader, two trucks and two dump bodies for Secondary Roads	292
Courthouse boiler	30
Mower and tractor for Conservation Department	43
Two cars for Sheriff's Department	44
Construction in progress on Prairie Heritage Nature Center	573
Total	\$ 4,561

The County had depreciation expense of \$654,468 in fiscal year 2006 and total accumulated depreciation of approximately \$4,278,000 at June 30, 2006. More detailed information about the County's capital assets is presented in Note 4 to the financial statements.

Long-Term Debt

At June 30, 2006, O'Brien County had \$2,783,408 in general obligation refunding notes outstanding, compared to \$2,975,000 in general obligation bonds outstanding at June 30, 2005.

The County continues to carry a general obligation bond rating of Aaa assigned by national rating agencies to the County's debt since 1995. The Constitution of the State of Iowa limits the amount of general obligation debt counties can issue to 5 percent of the assessed value of all taxable property within the County's corporate limits. O'Brien County's outstanding general obligation debt is significantly below its constitutional debt limit of \$37.3 million. Additional information about the County's long-term debt is presented in Note 6 to the financial statements.

ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET AND RATES

O'Brien County's elected and appointed officials and citizens considered many factors when setting the fiscal year 2007 budget, tax rates and the fees charged for various County activities. One of those factors is the economy. According to information from Iowa Workforce Development, unemployment in the County stands at 3.1% versus 4.1% a year ago. This compares with the State's unemployment rate of 3.6% and the national rate of 4.6% for the period ended June 30, 2006.

These indicators were taken into account when adopting the budget for fiscal year 2007. Amounts available for appropriation in the operating budget are \$10.9 million, a decrease of 5.3% from the final 2006 budget. Budgeted disbursements are expected to decrease by approximately \$610,000. Completion of the nature center is the primary reason for this decrease. The County has added no major new programs or initiatives to the 2007 budget.

If these estimates are realized, the County's budgetary operating balance is expected to decrease approximately \$1,000,000 by the close of 2007.

O'Brien County considered the current revenues received, along with the historical revenues versus expenditures, when setting the levy rates for fiscal year 2007. A major factor in estimating many of the revenues from the State of Iowa was the current financial condition of the State and the history of the Iowa legislature cutting funding for counties.

The County fee structure is based on state law. Therefore, any increases in revenues in this area would need to be legislated. It is O'Brien County's position to charge the highest rate allowable by law to recoup the actual cost of the programs.

O'Brien County has a tendency to underestimate revenues, resulting in higher than anticipated ending fund balances. The County's philosophy is to budget for the recommended, but not currently legislated, 25% ending fund balances. This percentage is based on total expenditures in the respective fund for the year.

CONTACTING THE COUNTY'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, customers and creditors with a general overview of O'Brien County's finances and to show the County's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the O'Brien County Auditor's Office, O'Brien County Courthouse, 155 South Hayes, Primghar, Iowa 51045.

O'Brien County

Basic Financial Statements

O'Brien County
Statement of Net Assets
June 30, 2006

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
Assets	
Cash and pooled investments	\$ 4,295,983
Receivables:	
Property tax:	
Delinquent	2,724
Succeeding year	4,376,000
Interest and penalty on property tax	4,239
Accounts	20,165
Accrued interest	20,433
Due from other governments	459,435
Inventories	718,665
Prepaid expenses	62,878
Capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation)	13,379,955
Total assets	<u>23,340,477</u>
Liabilities	
Accounts payable	705,599
Accrued interest payable	8,762
Salaries and benefits payable	35,951
Due to other governments	169,244
Deferred revenue:	
Succeeding year property tax	4,376,000
Long-term liabilities:	
Portion due or payable within one year:	
General obligation refunding notes	200,000
Compensated absences	238,481
Portion due or payable after one year:	
General obligation refunding notes	2,583,408
Total liabilities	<u>8,317,445</u>
Net Assets	
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	10,596,547
Restricted for:	
Supplemental levy purposes	277,625
Mental health purposes	123,101
Secondary roads purposes	1,115,869
Debt service	20,281
Drainage purposes	58,481
Capital projects	179,232
Other purposes	227,429
Unrestricted	2,424,467
Total net assets	<u>\$ 15,023,032</u>

See notes to financial statements.

O'Brien County
Statement of Activities
Year ended June 30, 2006

	Program Revenues				Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Assets
	Expenses	Charges for Service	Operating Grants, Contributions and Restricted Interest	Capital Grants, Contributions and Restricted Interest	
Functions/Programs:					
Governmental activities:					
Public safety and legal services	\$ 2,424,142	924,805	33,133	18,031	(1,448,173)
Physical health and social services	411,028	17,187	168,359	-	(225,482)
Mental health	1,610,403	103,771	844,183	-	(662,449)
County environment and education	626,402	136,898	12,751	324,504	(152,249)
Roads and transportation	3,331,431	141,214	2,224,633	2,468,417	1,502,833
Governmental services to residents	496,702	245,147	-	110,152	(141,403)
Administration	865,904	13,257	-	-	(852,647)
Non-program	89,873	121,918	-	-	32,045
Interest on long-term debt	87,708	-	-	-	(87,708)
Total	\$ 9,943,593	1,704,197	3,283,059	2,921,104	(2,035,233)
General Revenues:					
Property and other county tax levied for:					
General purposes					3,960,823
Debt service					284,384
Penalty and interest on property tax					28,326
State tax credits					310,310
Local option sales tax					409,283
Unrestricted investment earnings					200,069
Gain on sale of capital assets					60,562
Total general revenues					5,253,757
Change in net assets					3,218,524
Net assets beginning of year					11,804,508
Net assets end of year					\$ 15,023,032

See notes to financial statements.

O'Brien County
Balance Sheet
Governmental Funds

June 30, 2006

	Special Revenue			
	General	Mental Health	Rural Services	Secondary Roads
Assets				
Cash and pooled investments	\$ 1,802,654	329,870	280,136	815,628
Receivables:				
Property tax:				
Delinquent	1,611	359	570	-
Succeeding year	2,398,000	531,000	1,178,000	-
Interest and penalty on property tax	4,239	-	-	-
Accounts	1,585	17,850	-	730
Accrued interest	17,812	-	-	-
Due from other governments	134,809	918	85,359	189,043
Inventories	-	-	-	718,665
Prepaid expenses	37,399	-	4,162	21,317
Total assets	\$ 4,398,109	879,997	1,548,227	1,745,383
Liabilities and Fund Balances				
Liabilities:				
Accounts payable	\$ 58,770	61,702	1,091	511,610
Salaries and benefits payable	10,420	-	-	25,531
Due to other governments	3,196	164,194	1,464	390
Deferred revenue:				
Succeeding year property tax	2,398,000	531,000	1,178,000	-
Other	64,106	359	570	-
Total liabilities	2,534,492	757,255	1,181,125	537,531
Fund balances:				
Reserved for:				
Supplemental levy purposes	275,053	-	-	-
Debt service	-	-	-	-
Unreserved, reported in:				
General fund	1,588,564	-	-	-
Special revenue funds	-	122,742	367,102	1,207,852
Capital projects fund	-	-	-	-
Total fund balances	1,863,617	122,742	367,102	1,207,852
Total liabilities and fund balances	\$ 4,398,109	879,997	1,548,227	1,745,383

See notes to financial statements.

Debt Service	Nonmajor	Total
20,097	414,657	3,663,042
184	-	2,724
269,000	-	4,376,000
-	-	4,239
-	-	20,165
-	1,179	18,991
-	49,306	459,435
-	-	718,665
-	-	62,878
289,281	465,142	9,326,139
-	-	633,173
-	-	35,951
-	-	169,244
269,000	-	4,376,000
184	-	65,219
269,184	-	5,279,587
-	-	275,053
20,097	-	20,097
-	-	1,588,564
-	285,910	1,983,606
-	179,232	179,232
20,097	465,142	4,046,552
289,281	465,142	9,326,139

O'Brien County

O'Brien County

Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet -
Governmental Funds to the Statement of Net Assets

June 30, 2006

Total governmental fund balances (page 19) \$ 4,046,552

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Assets are different because:

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds. The cost of assets is \$17,658,366 and the accumulated depreciation is \$4,278,411. 13,379,955

Other long-term assets are not available to pay current period expenditures and, therefore, are deferred in the funds. 65,219

The Internal Service Fund is used by management to charge the costs of partial self funding of the County's health insurance benefit plan to individual funds. The assets and liabilities of the Internal Service Fund are included in governmental activities in the Statement of Net Assets. 561,957

Long-term liabilities, including notes payable, compensated absences payable and accrued interest payable, are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds. (3,030,651)

Net assets of governmental activities (page 16) \$ 15,023,032

See notes to financial statements.

O'Brien County

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and
Changes in Fund Balances
Governmental Funds

Year ended June 30, 2006

	Special Revenue			
	General	Mental Health	Rural Services	Secondary Roads
Revenues:				
Property and other county tax	\$ 2,215,724	531,785	1,621,935	-
Interest and penalty on property tax	27,537	-	-	-
Intergovernmental	1,261,556	976,440	128,894	2,224,633
Licenses and permits	1,875	-	-	1,070
Charges for service	374,024	11,196	-	62,202
Use of money and property	234,293	-	-	462
Miscellaneous	25,932	106	-	78,866
Total revenues	4,140,941	1,519,527	1,750,829	2,367,233
Expenditures:				
Operating:				
Public safety and legal services	1,944,133	-	485,544	-
Physical health and social services	426,163	-	-	-
Mental health	-	1,610,403	-	-
County environment and education	451,700	-	147,555	1,171
Roads and transportation	-	-	-	3,117,446
Governmental services to residents	499,927	-	1,410	-
Administration	867,133	-	25,000	-
Non-program	4,856	-	-	-
Debt service	-	-	-	-
Capital projects	-	-	-	1,136,384
Total expenditures	4,193,912	1,610,403	659,509	4,255,001
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	(52,971)	(90,876)	1,091,320	(1,887,768)
Other financing sources (uses):				
Sale of capital assets	-	-	-	1,125
Operating transfers in	-	-	-	1,131,026
Operating transfers out	(267,322)	-	(1,045,564)	-
General obligation refunding notes issued	-	-	-	-
Discount on general obligation refundng notes	-	-	-	-
Payment to refunded bond escrow agent	-	-	-	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	(267,322)	-	(1,045,564)	1,132,151
Net change in fund balances	(320,293)	(90,876)	45,756	(755,617)
Fund balances beginning of year	2,183,910	213,618	321,346	1,963,469
Fund balances end of year	\$ 1,863,617	122,742	367,102	1,207,852

See notes to financial statements.

Debt Service	Nonmajor	Total
284,345	-	4,653,789
-	-	27,537
19,927	292,147	4,903,597
-	-	2,945
-	3,115	450,537
-	12,334	247,089
8,661	82,134	195,699
<u>312,933</u>	<u>389,730</u>	<u>10,481,193</u>
-	-	2,429,677
-	-	426,163
-	-	1,610,403
-	7,606	608,032
-	-	3,117,446
-	-	501,337
-	4,839	896,972
-	-	4,856
343,075	-	343,075
-	655,340	1,791,724
<u>343,075</u>	<u>667,785</u>	<u>11,729,685</u>
(30,142)	(278,055)	(1,248,492)
-	-	1,125
-	506,204	1,637,230
-	(324,344)	(1,637,230)
3,085,000	-	3,085,000
(2,264)	-	(2,264)
(3,040,912)	-	(3,040,912)
<u>41,824</u>	<u>181,860</u>	<u>42,949</u>
11,682	(96,195)	(1,205,543)
8,415	561,337	5,252,095
<u>20,097</u>	<u>465,142</u>	<u>4,046,552</u>

O'Brien County

Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and
Changes in Fund Balances -
Governmental Funds to the Statement
of Activities

Year ended June 30, 2006

Net change in fund balances - Total governmental funds (page 23) \$ (1,205,543)

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures while governmental activities report depreciation expense to allocate those expenditures over the life of the assets. Capital outlay expenditures and contributed capital assets exceeded depreciation expense in the current year, as follows:

Expenditures for capital assets	\$ 2,061,665	
Capital assets contributed by the Iowa Department of Transportation	2,468,417	
Capital assets contributed by other sources	18,031	
Depreciation expense	<u>(654,468)</u>	3,893,645

In the Statement of Activities, the gain on the sale of capital assets is reported, whereas the governmental funds report the proceeds from the sale as an increase in financial resources. 59,437

Because some revenues will not be collected for several months after the County's year end, they are not considered available revenues and are deferred in the governmental funds, as follows:

Property tax	701	
Other	<u>8,451</u>	9,152

Repayment of long-term liabilities is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the Statement of Net Assets. Current year repayments exceeded issues as follows:

Issued	(3,085,000)	
Repaid	<u>3,276,592</u>	191,592

Some expenses reported in the Statement of Activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in the governmental funds, as follows:

Compensated absences	(33,161)	
Interest on long-term debt	<u>13,290</u>	(19,871)

The Internal Service Fund is used by management to charge the costs of partial self funding of the County's health insurance benefit plan to individual funds. The change in net assets of the Internal Service Fund is reported with governmental activities. 290,112

Change in net assets of governmental activities (page 17) \$ 3,218,524

See notes to financial statements.

O'Brien County
 Statement of Net Assets
 Proprietary Fund
 June 30, 2006

	Internal Service - Employee Health Insurance
Assets	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 632,941
Accrued interest receivable	1,442
Total assets	<u>634,383</u>
Liabilities	
Accounts payable	<u>72,426</u>
Net Assets	
Unrestricted	<u><u>\$ 561,957</u></u>

See notes to financial statements.

O'Brien County
Statement of Revenues, Expenses and
Changes in Fund Net Assets
Proprietary Fund

Year ended June 30, 2006

		<u>Internal Service - Employee Health Insurance</u>
Operating revenues:		
Reimbursements from operating funds		\$ 826,349
Stop loss insurance reimbursements		52,751
Reimbursements from others		30,378
Total operating revenues		<u>909,478</u>
Operating expenses:		
Health claims and administrative services	\$ 630,355	
Workers' compensation insurance	<u>516</u>	<u>630,871</u>
Operating income		278,607
Non-operating revenues:		
Interest income		11,505
Net income		<u>290,112</u>
Net assets beginning of year		<u>271,845</u>
Net assets end of year		<u><u>\$ 561,957</u></u>

See notes to financial statements.

O'Brien County
Statement of Cash Flows
Proprietary Fund
Year ended June 30, 2006

	<u>Internal Service - Employee Health Insurance</u>
Cash flows from operating activities:	
Cash received from operating fund reimbursements	\$ 826,349
Cash received from stop loss insurance reimbursements	52,751
Cash received from others	30,378
Cash paid for health claims and to administrative provider	(621,965)
Cash paid for workers' compensation insurance	(516)
Net cash from operating activities	<u>286,997</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:	
Interest on investments	<u>10,689</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	297,686
Cash and cash equivalents beginning of year	<u>335,255</u>
Cash and cash equivalents end of year	<u><u>\$ 632,941</u></u>
Reconciliation of operating income to net cash from operating activities:	
Operating income	\$ 278,607
Adjustment to reconcile operating income to net cash from operating activities:	
Increase in payables	<u>8,390</u>
Net cash from operating activities	<u><u>\$ 286,997</u></u>

See notes to financial statements.

O'Brien County
Statement of Fiduciary Assets and Liabilities
Agency Funds
June 30, 2006

Assets

Cash and pooled investments:	
County Treasurer	\$ 814,148
Other County officials	15,559
Receivables:	
Property tax:	
Delinquent	7,701
Succeeding year	10,492,000
Accounts	18,849
Accrued interest	195
Special assessments	177,967
Due from other governments	9,101
Total assets	<u>11,535,520</u>

Liabilities

Accounts payable	24
Due to other governments	11,492,943
Trusts payable	14,097
Compensated absences	28,456
Total liabilities	<u>11,535,520</u>

Net assets \$ -

See notes to financial statements.

O'Brien County

Notes to Financial Statements

June 30, 2006

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

O'Brien County is a political subdivision of the State of Iowa and operates under the Home Rule provisions of the Constitution of Iowa. The County operates under the Board of Supervisors form of government. Elections are on a partisan basis. Other elected officials operate independently with the Board of Supervisors. These officials are the Auditor, Treasurer, Recorder, Sheriff and Attorney. The County provides numerous services to citizens, including law enforcement, health and social services, parks and cultural activities, planning and zoning, roadway construction and maintenance and general administrative services.

The County's financial statements are prepared in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles as prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

A. Reporting Entity

For financial reporting purposes, O'Brien County has included all funds, organizations, agencies, boards, commissions and authorities. The County 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 County are such that exclusion would cause the County's financial statements 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 County 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 County.

These financial statements present O'Brien County (the primary government) and eleven drainage districts. These component units are included in the County's reporting entity because of the significance of their operational or financial relationships with the County.

Blended Component Units – The drainage districts have been established pursuant to Chapter 468 of the Code of Iowa for the drainage of surface waters from agricultural and other lands or the protection of such lands from overflow. Although these districts are legally separate from the County, they are controlled, managed and supervised by the O'Brien County Board of Supervisors. The drainage districts are reported as a Special Revenue Fund. Financial information of the individual drainage districts can be obtained from the O'Brien County Auditor's Office.

Jointly Governed Organizations – The County participates in several jointly governed organizations that provide goods or services to the citizenry of the County but do not meet the criteria of a joint venture since there is no ongoing financial interest or responsibility by the participating governments. The County Board of Supervisors are members of or appoint representatives to the following boards and commissions: O'Brien County Assessor's Conference

Board, O'Brien County Emergency Management Services Commission and Joint E911 Service Board. Financial transactions of these organizations are included in the County's financial statements only to the extent of the County's fiduciary relationship with the organization and, as such, are reported in the Agency Funds of the County.

The County also participates in the following jointly governed organizations: Northwest Iowa Multi-county Regional Juvenile Detention Center, Northwest Iowa Area Solid Waste Agency, Synergy Center and Iowa Great Lakes Drug Task Force. In addition the County is involved in the following jointly governed organizations: Northwest Iowa Planning and Development Commission, Northwest Iowa Alcohol and Drug Treatment Center, Regional Transit Authority, Domestic Violence, Private Industries Council, Seasons Mental Health Center, Third Judicial District Department of Correctional Services, Upper Des Moines Opportunity, Inc., Iowa County Engineers Association Service Bureau, Regional Transit Authority/RIDES, Inc. and O'Brien County Economic Development Corporation.

B. Basis of Presentation

Government-wide Financial Statements – The Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the County and its component units. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. Governmental activities are supported by property tax, intergovernmental revenues and other nonexchange transactions.

The Statement of Net Assets presents the County's nonfiduciary assets and liabilities, with the difference reported as net assets. Net assets are reported in three categories.

Invested in capital assets, net of related debt consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by outstanding balances for bonds, notes and other debt attributable to the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets.

Restricted net assets result when constraints placed on net asset use are either externally imposed or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Unrestricted net assets consist of net assets not meeting the definition of the two preceding categories. Unrestricted net assets often have constraints on resources imposed by management which can be removed or modified.

The Statement of Activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those clearly identifiable with a specific function. Program revenues include 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use or directly benefit from goods, services or privileges provided by a given function and 2) grants, contributions and interest restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function. Property tax and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

Fund Financial Statements – Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds, proprietary funds and fiduciary funds, even though the latter are excluded from the government-wide financial statements. Major

individual governmental funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements. All remaining governmental funds are aggregated and reported as nonmajor governmental funds.

The County reports the following major governmental funds:

The General Fund is the general operating fund of the County. All general tax revenues and other revenues not allocated by law or contractual agreement to some other fund are accounted for in this fund. From the fund are paid the general operating expenditures, the fixed charges and the capital improvement costs not paid from other funds.

Special Revenue:

The Mental Health Fund is used to account for property tax and other revenues designated to be used to fund mental health, mental retardation, and developmental disabilities services.

The Rural Services Fund is used to account for property tax and other revenues to provide services which are primarily intended to benefit those persons residing in the county outside of incorporated city areas.

The Secondary Roads Fund is used to account for secondary road construction and maintenance.

The Debt Service Fund is utilized to account for the payment of interest and principal on the County's general long-term debt.

Additionally, the County reports the following funds:

Proprietary Fund - An Internal Service Fund is utilized to account for the financing of goods or services purchased by one department of the County and provided to other departments or agencies on a cost reimbursement basis.

Fiduciary Funds - Agency Funds are used to account for assets held by the County as an agent for individuals, private organizations, certain jointly governed organizations, other governmental units and/or other funds.

C. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

The government-wide, proprietary fund and fiduciary fund financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Property tax is recognized as revenue in the year for which it is levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been satisfied.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the County considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days after year end.

Property tax, intergovernmental revenues (shared revenues, grants and reimbursements from other governments) and interest are considered to be susceptible to accrual. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the County.

Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, principal and interest on long-term debt, claims and judgments and compensated absences are recorded as expenditures only when payment is due. Capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Proceeds of general long-term debt and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources.

Under the terms of grant agreements, the County funds certain programs by a combination of specific cost-reimbursement grants, categorical block grants and general revenues. Thus, when program expenses are incurred, there are both restricted and unrestricted net assets available to finance the program. It is the County's policy to first apply cost-reimbursement grant resources to such programs, followed by categorical block grants and then by general revenues.

The proprietary fund of the County applies all applicable GASB pronouncements, as well as the following pronouncements issued on or before November 30, 1989, unless these pronouncements conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements: Financial Accounting Standards Board Statements and Interpretations, Accounting Principles Board Opinions and Accounting Research Bulletins of the Committee on Accounting Procedure.

Proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from non-operating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with a proprietary fund's principal ongoing operations. The principal operating revenues of the County's Internal Service Fund is charges to customers for sales and services. Operating expenses for the Internal Service Fund include the cost of services and administrative expenses. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating revenues and expenses.

The County maintains its financial records on the cash basis. The financial statements of the County are prepared by making memorandum adjusting entries to the cash basis financial records.

D. Assets, Liabilities and Fund Equity

The following accounting policies are followed in preparing the balance sheet:

Cash, Pooled Investments and Cash Equivalents – The cash balances of most County funds are pooled and invested. Interest earned on investments is recorded in the General Fund, unless otherwise provided by law. Investments are stated at fair value except for the investment in the Iowa Public Agency Investment Trust which is valued at amortized cost and non-negotiable certificates of deposit which are stated at cost.

For purposes of the statement of cash flows, all short-term cash investments that are highly liquid are considered to be cash equivalents. Cash equivalents are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and, at the day of purchase, have a maturity date no longer than three months.

Property Tax Receivable – Property tax in governmental funds is accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting.

Property tax receivable is recognized in these funds on the levy or lien date, which is the date the tax asking is certified by the County Board of Supervisors. Delinquent property tax receivable represents unpaid taxes for the current and prior years. The succeeding year property tax receivable represents taxes certified by the Board of Supervisors to be collected in the next fiscal year for the purposes set out in the budget for the next fiscal year. By statute, the Board of Supervisors is required to certify its budget in March of each year for the subsequent fiscal year. However, by statute, the tax asking and budget certification for the following fiscal year becomes effective on the first day of that year. Although the succeeding year property tax receivable has been recorded, the related revenue is deferred in both the government-wide and fund financial statements and will not be recognized as revenue until the year for which it is levied.

Property tax revenue recognized in these funds become due and collectible in September and March of the fiscal year with a 1½% per month penalty for delinquent payments; is based on January 1, 2004 assessed property valuations; is for the tax accrual period July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006 and reflects the tax asking contained in the budget certified by the County Board of Supervisors in March 2005.

Interest and Penalty on Property Tax Receivable – Interest and penalty on property tax receivable represents the amount of interest and penalty that was due and payable but has not been collected.

Special Assessments Receivable – Special assessments receivable represent the amounts due from individuals for work done which benefits their property. These assessments are payable by individuals in not less than 10 nor more than 20 annual installments. Each annual installment with interest on the unpaid balance is due on September 30 and is subject to the same interest and penalties as other taxes. Special assessments receivable represent assessments which have been made but have not been collected.

Due from Other Governments – Due from other governments represents amounts due from the State of Iowa, various shared revenues, grants and reimbursements from other governments.

Inventories – Inventories are valued at cost using the first-in, first-out method. Inventories in the Special Revenue Funds consist of expendable supplies held for consumption. Inventories of governmental funds are recorded as expenditures when consumed rather than when purchased.

Capital Assets – Capital assets, which include property, equipment and vehicles, and infrastructure assets acquired after July 1, 2003 (e.g., roads, bridges, curbs, gutters, sidewalks and similar items which are immovable and of value only to the County), are reported in the governmental activities column in the government-wide Statement of Net Assets. Capital assets are recorded at historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date of donation. The costs of normal maintenance and repair that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend asset lives are not

capitalized. Reportable capital assets are defined by the County as assets with initial, individual costs in excess of the following thresholds and estimated useful lives in excess of two years.

Asset Class	Amount
Infrastructure	\$ 65,000
Land, buildings and improvements	25,000
Equipment and vehicles	5,000

Capital assets of the County are depreciated using the straight line method over the following estimated useful lives:

Asset Class	Estimated Useful lives (In Years)
Buildings	40 - 50
Building improvements	20 - 50
Infrastructure	30 - 50
Equipment	2 - 20
Vehicles	3 - 10

Due to Other Governments – Due to other governments represents taxes and other revenues collected by the County and payments for services which will be remitted to other governments.

Trusts Payable – Trusts payable represents amounts due to others which are held by various County officials in fiduciary capacities until the underlying legal matters are resolved.

Deferred Revenue – Although certain revenues are measurable, they are not available. Available means collected within the current period or expected to be collected soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. Deferred revenue in the governmental fund financial statements represents the amount of assets that have been recognized, but the related revenue has not been recognized since the assets are not collected within the current period or expected to be collected soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. Deferred revenue consists of unspent grant proceeds as well as property tax receivable and other receivables not collected within sixty days after year end.

Deferred revenue in the Statement of Net Assets consists of succeeding year property tax receivable that will not be recognized as revenue until the year for which it is levied.

Compensated Absences – County employees accumulate a limited amount of earned but unused vacation and compensatory time hours for subsequent use or for payment upon termination, death or retirement. A liability is recorded when incurred in the government-wide, proprietary fund and fiduciary fund financial statements. A liability for these amounts is reported in governmental fund financial statements only for employees who have resigned or retired. The compensated absences liability has been computed based on rates of pay in effect at June 30, 2006. The compensated absences liability attributable to the governmental activities will be paid primarily by the General, Mental Health, Rural Services and Secondary Roads Funds.

Long-Term Liabilities – In the government-wide and proprietary fund financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the applicable governmental activities or proprietary fund Statement of Net Assets.

Fund Equity – In the governmental fund financial statements, reservations of fund balance are reported for amounts not available for appropriation or legally restricted by outside parties for use for a specific purpose. Designations of fund balance represent tentative management plans that are subject to change.

Net Assets – The unrestricted net assets of the Internal Service Fund are designated for future catastrophic losses of the County.

E. Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

The budgetary comparison and related disclosures are reported as Required Supplementary Information.

(2) Cash and Pooled Investments

The County’s deposits in banks at June 30, 2006 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 County 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 Board of Supervisors; 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 County had investments in the Iowa Public Agency Investment Trust which are valued at an amortized cost of \$1,467,959 pursuant to Rule 2a-7 under the Investment Company Act of 1940. The investment in the Iowa Public Agency Investment Trust is unrated for credit risk purposes.

(3) Interfund Transfers

The detail of interfund transfers for the year ended June 30, 2006 is as follows:

Transfer to	Transfer from	Amount
Capital Projects	General	\$ 181,860
	Special Revenue:	
	Resource Enhancement and Protection	113,381
	Special Environment	21,463
	Conservation Land Acquisition	189,500
		<u>506,204</u>
Special Revenue:	General	85,462
Secondary Roads	Special Revenue:	
	Rural Services	1,045,564
		<u>1,131,026</u>
Total		<u>\$ 1,637,230</u>

Transfers generally move resources from the fund statutorily required to collect the resources to the fund statutorily required to expend the resources.

(4) Capital Assets

Capital assets activity for the year ended June 30, 2006 was as follows:

	Balance Beginning of Year	Increases	Decreases	Balance End of Year
Governmental activities:				
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land	\$ 133,500	-	-	133,500
Construction in progress, road network	43,339	3,579,286	(3,622,625)	-
Construction in progress	56,059	572,508	-	628,567
Total capital assets not being depreciated	<u>232,898</u>	<u>4,151,794</u>	<u>(3,622,625)</u>	<u>762,067</u>
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Buildings	3,920,505	42,630	-	3,963,135
Improvements other than buildings	30,697	-	-	30,697
Equipment and vehicles	5,652,372	414,755	(283,009)	5,784,118
Infrastructure, road network	3,495,724	3,622,625	-	7,118,349
Total capital assets being depreciated	<u>13,099,298</u>	<u>4,080,010</u>	<u>(283,009)</u>	<u>16,896,299</u>
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Buildings	668,345	77,415	-	745,760
Improvements other than buildings	6,753	614	-	7,367
Equipment and vehicles	3,072,308	356,279	(281,380)	3,147,207
Infrastructure, road network	157,917	220,160	-	378,077
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>3,905,323</u>	<u>654,468</u>	<u>(281,380)</u>	<u>4,278,411</u>
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	<u>9,193,975</u>	<u>3,425,542</u>	<u>(1,629)</u>	<u>12,617,888</u>
Governmental activities capital assets, net	<u>\$ 9,426,873</u>	<u>7,577,336</u>	<u>(3,624,254)</u>	<u>13,379,955</u>

Depreciation expense was charged to the following functions:

Governmental activities:	
Public safety and legal services	\$ 125,026
County environment and education	17,335
Roads and transportation	503,219
Administration	8,888
Total depreciation expense - governmental activities	<u>\$ 654,468</u>

(5) Due to Other Governments

The County purchases services from other governmental units and also acts as a fee and tax collection agent for various governmental units. Tax collections are remitted to those governments in the month following collection. A summary of amounts due to other governments is as follows:

Fund	Description	Amount
General	Services	\$ 3,196
Special Revenue:		
Mental Health	Services	164,194
Rural Services	Services	1,464
Secondary Roads	Services	390
		<u>166,048</u>
Total for governmental funds		<u>\$ 169,244</u>
Agency:		
County Assessor	Collections	\$ 484,284
Schools		6,012,894
Community Colleges		328,691
Corporations		3,826,800
Townships		121,694
City Special Assessments		181,023
Auto License, Use Tax and Driver's License		270,736
E911		89,113
All other		177,708
Total for agency funds		<u>\$ 11,492,943</u>

(6) Changes in Long-Term Liabilities

A summary of changes in long-term liabilities for the year ended June 30, 2006 is as follows:

	General Obligation Bonds	General Obligation Refunding Notes	Compen- sated Absences	Total
Balance beginning of year	\$ 2,975,000	-	205,320	3,180,320
Increases	-	3,085,000	244,900	3,329,900
Decreases	2,975,000	301,592	211,739	3,488,331
Balance end of year	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>2,783,408 *</u>	<u>238,481</u>	<u>3,021,889</u>
Due within one year	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>200,000</u>	<u>238,481</u>	<u>438,481</u>

* Net of \$101,592 of unamortized discount at June 30, 2006.

General Obligation Refunding Notes Payable

A summary of the County's June 30, 2006 general obligation refunding note indebtedness is as follows:

Year ending June 30,	Interest Rates	Principal	Interest	Total
2007	3.500%	\$ 200,000	103,396	303,396
2008	3.500	200,000	96,396	296,396
2009	3.500	205,000	89,396	294,396
2010	3.500	215,000	82,134	297,134
2011	3.500-3.625	220,000	74,521	294,521
2012-2016	3.400-3.625	1,265,000	245,249	1,510,249
2017-2018	4.000	580,000	29,300	609,300
Total		\$ 2,885,000	720,392	3,605,392

During the year ended June 30, 2006, the County issued \$3,085,000 of general obligation refunding notes with interest rates ranging from 3.40% to 4.00% per annum to refund \$2,975,000 of outstanding general obligation bonds dated September 1, 1998 with interest rates ranging from 4.30% to 5.30% per annum. The net proceeds of \$3,040,912 (par less a discount of \$2,264 and note issuance costs of \$41,824) from the general obligation refunding notes were converted into U.S. Securities. These securities were placed in an escrow account for the express purpose of paying the principal and interest on the refunded general obligation bonds. After the principal and interest on all of the outstanding bonds were paid, the remaining funds of \$8,661 in the escrow account were returned to the County.

The reacquisition price exceeded the net carrying amount of the old debt by \$110,000. This amount has been netted against the new debt and is being amortized over the remaining life of the new debt issued. The unamortized discount totaled \$101,592 at June 30, 2006. This advance refunding was undertaken to reduce total debt service payments over the next 13 years by \$110,043 and resulted in an economic gain of \$63,960.

(7) Pension and Retirement Benefits

The County 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 which are 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, Iowa, 50306-9117.

Most regular plan members are required to contribute 3.70% of their annual covered salary and the County is required to contribute 5.75% of covered salary. Certain employees in special risk occupations and the County contribute an actuarially determined contribution rate. Contribution requirements are established by state statute. The County's contributions to IPERS for the years ended June 30, 2006, 2005 and 2004 were \$217,893, \$195,079 and \$189,102, respectively, equal to the required contributions for each year.

(8) Risk Management

O'Brien County is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft, damage to and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. These risks are covered by the purchase of commercial insurance. Settled claims from these risks have not exceeded commercial insurance coverage in any of the past three fiscal years.

(9) Employee Health Insurance Plan

The Internal Service, Employee Health Insurance Fund was established to account for the partial self funding of the County's health insurance benefit plan. The plan is funded by both employee and County contributions and is administered through a service agreement with Wellmark. The agreement is subject to automatic renewal provisions. The County assumes liability for claims up to the individual stop loss limitation of \$40,000. Claims in excess of coverage are insured through purchase of stop loss insurance.

Monthly payments of service fees and plan contributions to the Employee Health Insurance Fund are recorded as expenditures from the operating funds. Under the administrative services agreement, monthly payments of service fees and claims processed are paid to Wellmark from the Employee Health Insurance Fund. The County's contribution for the year ended June 30, 2006 was \$826,349.

Amounts payable from the Employee Health Insurance Fund at June 30, 2006 total \$72,426, which is for incurred but not reported (IBNR) and reported but not paid claims. The amounts are based on actuarial estimates of the amounts necessary to pay prior-year and current-year claims and to establish a reserve for catastrophic losses. That reserve was \$561,957 at June 30, 2006 and is reported as a designation of the Internal Service, Employee Health Insurance Fund net assets. A liability has been established based on the requirements of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 10, which requires a liability for claims be reported if information prior to the issuance of the financial statements indicates it is probable a liability has been incurred at the date of the financial statements and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. Settlements have not exceeded the stop-loss coverage in any of the past three years. A reconciliation of changes in the aggregate liability for claims for the current year is as follows:

Unpaid claims beginning of year	\$ 64,036
Incurred claims (including claims incurred but not reported at June 30, 2006)	638,745
Payment on claims during the fiscal year	<u>630,355</u>
Unpaid claims end of year	<u>\$ 72,426</u>

(10) Contingent Liability

The County has provided a local government guarantee for a portion of the closure and postclosure care costs of the Northwest Iowa Area Solid Waste Agency required by Chapter 111.6(8) of the Iowa Administrative Code. The County's financial assurance obligation is \$237,000.

(11) Subsequent Event

On October 26, 2006, the County entered into an agreement with United Community Bank to borrow \$256,692 at 5.750% per annum interest to purchase two secondary roads vehicles. The agreement requires semi-annual payments of \$29,903 beginning April 26, 2007.

Required Supplementary Information

O'Brien County

Budgetary Comparison Schedule of
Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Balances -
Budget and Actual (Cash Basis) – All Governmental Funds

Required Supplementary Information

Year ended June 30, 2006

	Actual	Less Funds not Required to be Budgeted
Receipts:		
Property and other county tax	\$ 4,629,142	-
Interest and penalty on property tax	27,532	-
Intergovernmental	4,855,060	-
Licenses and permits	67,255	-
Charges for service	389,857	-
Use of money and property	242,877	1,601
Miscellaneous	193,496	-
Total receipts	<u>10,405,219</u>	<u>1,601</u>
Disbursements:		
Public safety and legal services	2,436,142	-
Physical health and social services	425,691	-
Mental health	1,588,181	-
County environment and education	606,359	-
Roads and transportation	2,995,778	-
Governmental services to residents	505,944	-
Administration	876,397	-
Non-program	4,856	-
Debt service	343,075	-
Capital projects	1,382,394	-
Total disbursements	<u>11,164,817</u>	<u>-</u>
Excess (deficiency) of receipts over (under) disbursements	(759,598)	1,601
Other financing sources, net	44,059	-
Excess (deficiency) of receipts and other financing sources over (under) disbursements and other financing uses	(715,539)	1,601
Balance beginning of year	<u>4,436,908</u>	<u>56,726</u>
Balance end of year	<u>\$ 3,721,369</u>	<u>58,327</u>

See accompanying independent auditor's report.

Net	Budgeted Amounts		Final to Net Variance
	Original	Final	
4,629,142	4,646,744	4,673,609	(44,467)
27,532	13,000	13,000	14,532
4,855,060	4,395,885	4,673,969	181,091
67,255	27,125	27,075	40,180
389,857	348,190	354,887	34,970
241,276	116,900	175,982	65,294
193,496	67,985	131,494	62,002
10,403,618	9,615,829	10,050,016	353,602
2,436,142	2,476,309	2,549,826	113,684
425,691	433,904	448,269	22,578
1,588,181	1,616,104	1,616,104	27,923
606,359	730,957	611,198	4,839
2,995,778	2,898,350	2,996,750	972
505,944	586,609	535,798	29,854
876,397	778,586	912,846	36,449
4,856	11,000	11,000	6,144
343,075	305,669	301,451	(41,624)
1,382,394	901,000	1,505,666	123,272
11,164,817	10,738,488	11,488,908	324,091
(761,199)	(1,122,659)	(1,438,892)	677,693
44,059	2,500	12,161	31,898
(717,140)	(1,120,159)	(1,426,731)	709,591
4,380,182	3,680,779	4,247,341	132,841
3,663,042	2,560,620	2,820,610	842,432

O'Brien County
 Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Budget to GAAP Reconciliation
 Required Supplementary Information
 Year ended June 30, 2006

	Governmental Funds		
	Cash Basis	Accrual Adjust- ments	Modified Accrual Basis
Revenues	\$ 10,405,219	75,974	10,481,193
Expenditures	11,164,817	564,868	11,729,685
Net	(759,598)	(488,894)	(1,248,492)
Other financing sources, net	44,059	(1,110)	42,949
Beginning fund balances	4,436,908	815,187	5,252,095
Ending fund balances	\$ 3,721,369	325,183	4,046,552

See accompanying independent auditor's report.

O'Brien County

Notes to Required Supplementary Information – Budgetary Reporting

June 30, 2006

This budgetary comparison is presented as Required Supplementary Information in accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 41 for governments with significant budgetary perspective differences resulting from not being able to present budgetary comparisons for the General Fund and each major Special Revenue Fund.

In accordance with the Code of Iowa, the County Board of Supervisors annually adopts a budget on the cash basis following required public notice and hearing for all funds except blended component units, the Internal Service Fund and Agency Funds, and appropriates the amount deemed necessary for each of the different County offices and departments. The budget may be amended during the year utilizing similar statutorily prescribed procedures. Encumbrances are not recognized on the cash basis budget and appropriations lapse at year end.

Formal and legal budgetary control is based upon 10 major classes of expenditures known as functions, not by fund. These 10 functions are: public safety and legal services, physical health and social services, mental health, county environment and education, roads and transportation, governmental services to residents, administration, non-program, debt service and capital projects. Function disbursements required to be budgeted include disbursements for the General Fund, the Special Revenue Funds, the Debt Service Fund and the Capital Projects Fund. Although the budget document presents function disbursements by fund, the legal level of control is at the aggregated function level, not by fund. Legal budgetary control is also based upon the appropriation to each office or department. During the year, three budget amendments increased budgeted disbursements by \$750,420. The budget amendments are reflected in the final budgeted amounts.

In addition, annual budgets are similarly adopted in accordance with the Code of Iowa by the appropriate governing body as indicated: for the County Extension Office by the County Agricultural Extension Council, for the County Assessor by the County Conference Board, for the E911 System by the Joint E911 Service Board and for Emergency Management Services by the County Emergency Management Commission.

During the year ended June 30, 2006, disbursements exceeded the amount budgeted in the debt service function because the refunding note issuance cost of \$41,824 was not budgeted.

O'Brien County

Other Supplementary Information

O'Brien County
 Combining Balance Sheet
 Nonmajor Governmental Funds

June 30, 2006

	Resource Enhancement and Protection	County Recorder's Records Management	County Recorder's Electronic Transaction Fee	Special Federal Drug Reimburse- ment
Assets				
Cash and pooled investments	\$ 18	22,796	450	5,501
Accrued interest receivable	-	55	-	-
Due from other governments	5,550	-	-	-
Total assets	\$ 5,568	22,851	450	5,501
Fund Equity				
Fund equity:				
Unreserved fund balances	\$ 5,568	22,851	450	5,501

See accompanying independent auditor's report.

Revenue								
Ambulance Replacement	Housing Rehab	Title XIX Set Aside - 10%	Special Environment	Drainage Districts	Conservation Land Acquisition	Capital Projects	Total	
156,556	20,108	5,120	10,321	58,327	470	134,990	414,657	
413	46	-	25	154	-	486	1,179	
-	-	-	-	-	-	43,756	49,306	
156,969	20,154	5,120	10,346	58,481	470	179,232	465,142	
156,969	20,154	5,120	10,346	58,481	470	179,232	465,142	

O'Brien County

Combining Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and
Changes in Fund Balances
Nonmajor Governmental Funds

Year ended June 30, 2006

	Resource Enhancement and Protection	County Recorder's Records Management	County Recorder's Electronic Transaction Fee	Special Federal Drug Reimburse- ment
Revenues:				
Intergovernmental	\$ 10,664	-	-	3,479
Charges for service	-	3,115	-	-
Use of money and property	480	543	32	-
Miscellaneous	-	-	-	-
Total revenues	11,144	3,658	32	3,479
Expenditures:				
Operating:				
County environment and education	106	-	-	-
Administration	-	-	4,839	-
Capital projects	-	-	-	-
Total expenditures	106	-	4,839	-
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	11,038	3,658	(4,807)	3,479
Other financing sources (uses):				
Operating transfers in	-	-	-	-
Operating transfers out	(113,381)	-	-	-
Total other financing sources (uses)	(113,381)	-	-	-
Excess (deficiency) of revenues and other financing sources over (under) expenditures and other financing uses	(102,343)	3,658	(4,807)	3,479
Fund balances beginning of year	107,911	19,193	5,257	2,022
Fund balances end of year	\$ 5,568	22,851	450	5,501

See accompanying independent auditor's report.

Revenue								
Ambulance Replacement	Housing Rehab	Title XIX Set Aside - 10%	Special Environment	Drainage Districts	Conservation Land Acquisition	Capital Projects	Total	
17,500	-	-	-	-	-	260,504	292,147	
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3,115	
4,264	311	-	401	1,637	802	3,864	12,334	
-	18,044	-	90	-	-	64,000	82,134	
21,764	18,355	-	491	1,637	802	328,368	389,730	
-	7,500	-	-	-	-	-	7,606	
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4,839	
-	-	-	-	-	-	655,340	655,340	
-	7,500	-	-	-	-	655,340	667,785	
21,764	10,855	-	491	1,637	802	(326,972)	(278,055)	
-	-	-	-	-	-	506,204	506,204	
-	-	-	(21,463)	-	(189,500)	-	(324,344)	
-	-	-	(21,463)	-	(189,500)	506,204	181,860	
21,764	10,855	-	(20,972)	1,637	(188,698)	179,232	(96,195)	
135,205	9,299	5,120	31,318	56,844	189,168	-	561,337	
156,969	20,154	5,120	10,346	58,481	470	179,232	465,142	

O'Brien County
Combining Schedule of Fiduciary Assets and Liabilities
Agency Funds

June 30, 2006

	County Offices	Agricultural Extension Education	County Assessor	Schools	Community Colleges
Assets					
Cash and pooled investments:					
County Treasurer	\$ -	2,541	238,129	116,779	5,504
Other County officials	15,559	-	-	-	-
Receivables:					
Property tax:					
Delinquent	-	90	167	4,115	187
Succeeding year	-	112,000	258,000	5,892,000	323,000
Accounts	820	-	-	-	-
Accrued interest	-	-	-	-	-
Special assessments	-	-	-	-	-
Due from other governments	-	-	-	-	-
Total assets	\$ 16,379	114,631	496,296	6,012,894	328,691
Liabilities					
Accounts payable	\$ -	-	-	-	-
Due to other governments	16,379	114,631	484,284	6,012,894	328,691
Trusts payable	-	-	-	-	-
Compensated absences	-	-	12,012	-	-
Total liabilities	\$ 16,379	114,631	496,296	6,012,894	328,691

See accompanying independent auditor's report.

Corporations	Townships	City Special Assessments	Auto License, Use Tax and Driver's License	E911 Surcharges	Other	Total
37,709	2,643	3,056	270,736	61,788	75,263	814,148
-	-	-	-	-	-	15,559
3,091	51	-	-	-	-	7,701
3,786,000	119,000	-	-	-	2,000	10,492,000
-	-	-	-	18,029	-	18,849
-	-	-	-	195	-	195
-	-	177,967	-	-	-	177,967
-	-	-	-	9,101	-	9,101
3,826,800	121,694	181,023	270,736	89,113	77,263	11,535,520
-	-	-	-	-	24	24
3,826,800	121,694	181,023	270,736	89,113	46,698	11,492,943
-	-	-	-	-	14,097	14,097
-	-	-	-	-	16,444	28,456
3,826,800	121,694	181,023	270,736	89,113	77,263	11,535,520

O'Brien County
Combining Schedule of Changes in Fiduciary Assets and Liabilities
Agency Funds

Year ended June 30, 2006

	County Offices	Agricultural Extension Education	County Assessor	Schools	Community Colleges
Assets and Liabilities					
Balances beginning of year	\$ 13,509	132,118	330,305	6,115,305	285,952
Additions:					
Property and other county tax	-	112,519	258,350	5,915,608	324,460
E911 surcharge	-	-	-	-	-
State tax credits	-	9,763	18,578	450,080	21,115
Office fees and collections	937,384	-	-	-	-
Auto licenses, driver's licenses, use tax and postage	-	-	-	-	-
Assessments	-	-	-	-	-
Trusts	62,045	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	-	-	2,526	-	-
Total additions	999,429	122,282	279,454	6,365,688	345,575
Deductions:					
Agency remittances:					
To other funds	814,611	-	-	-	-
To other governments	119,255	139,769	113,463	6,468,099	302,836
Trusts paid out	62,693	-	-	-	-
Total deductions	996,559	139,769	113,463	6,468,099	302,836
Balances end of year	\$ 16,379	114,631	496,296	6,012,894	328,691

See accompanying independent auditor's report.

Corpora- tions	Townships	City Special Assess- ments	Auto License, Use Tax and Driver's License	E911 Surcharges	Other	Total
3,941,490	113,331	387,099	271,339	219,393	63,958	11,873,799
3,737,788	119,125	-	-	-	1,927	10,469,777
-	-	-	-	108,643	-	108,643
233,007	8,227	-	-	-	144	740,914
-	-	-	-	-	-	937,384
-	-	-	3,252,359	-	-	3,252,359
-	-	20,823	-	-	-	20,823
-	-	-	-	-	85,469	147,514
-	-	-	-	3,360	95,498	101,384
3,970,795	127,352	20,823	3,252,359	112,003	183,038	15,778,798
-	-	-	109,865	-	7	924,483
4,085,485	118,989	226,899	3,143,097	242,283	94,107	15,054,282
-	-	-	-	-	75,619	138,312
4,085,485	118,989	226,899	3,252,962	242,283	169,733	16,117,077
3,826,800	121,694	181,023	270,736	89,113	77,263	11,535,520

O'Brien County

Schedule of Revenues By Source and Expenditures By Function -
All Governmental Funds

For the Last Six Years

	2006	2005	Modified 2004
Revenues:			
Property and other county tax	\$ 4,653,789	4,604,752	4,680,655
Interest and penalty on property tax	27,537	27,329	28,979
Intergovernmental	4,903,597	4,613,268	4,474,319
Licenses and permits	2,945	2,900	2,490
Charges for service	450,537	438,879	429,707
Use of money and property	247,089	175,374	122,939
Fines, forfeitures and defaults	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	195,699	117,822	92,822
Total	\$ 10,481,193	9,980,324	9,831,911
Expenditures:			
Operating:			
Public safety and legal services	\$ 2,429,677	2,088,365	1,988,860
Physical health and social services	426,163	419,935	401,973
Mental health	1,610,403	1,481,050	1,432,499
County environment and education	608,032	460,886	457,522
Roads and transportation	3,117,446	2,971,035	2,869,960
Governmental services to residents	501,337	402,674	385,449
Administration	896,972	818,498	816,791
Non-program	4,856	5,114	5,728
Debt service	343,075	304,149	301,999
Capital projects	1,791,724	1,131,844	518,023
Total	\$ 11,729,685	10,083,550	9,178,804

See accompanying independent auditor's report.

Accrual Basis		
2003	2002	2001
4,252,755	4,130,925	4,052,563
27,467	27,495	24,313
3,456,156	4,044,170	3,536,435
2,130	2,653	1,998
826,538	317,334	291,309
159,671	216,667	391,111
-	19,220	7,500
104,351	79,408	70,897
8,829,068	8,837,872	8,376,126
1,811,584	1,735,215	1,554,780
460,947	442,874	430,469
1,513,629	1,511,855	1,378,308
479,319	737,798	533,057
2,297,184	2,606,244	2,649,320
340,608	320,057	294,771
810,551	706,773	716,634
5,010	8,063	4,426
304,684	307,104	303,922
403,049	861,249	656,641
8,426,565	9,237,232	8,522,328

O'Brien County



**OFFICE OF AUDITOR OF STATE
STATE OF IOWA**

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

To the Officials of O'Brien County:

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of O'Brien County, Iowa, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2006, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements listed in the table of contents, and have issued our report thereon dated December 8, 2006. We conducted our audit in accordance with U.S. generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered O'Brien County's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements and not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting. However, we noted a matter involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be a reportable condition. Reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control over financial reporting that, in our judgment, could adversely affect O'Brien County's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the financial statements. The reportable condition is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings.

A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements caused by error or fraud in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be reportable conditions and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are also considered to be material weaknesses. However, we do not believe the reportable condition described above is a material weakness.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether O'Brien County's financial statements are 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 Government Auditing Standards. However, we noted certain immaterial instances of non-compliance or other matters that are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings.

Comments involving statutory and other legal matters about the County's operations for the year ended June 30, 2006 are based exclusively on knowledge obtained from procedures performed during our audit of the financial statements of the County. 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.

This report, a public record by law, is intended solely for the information and use of the officials, employees and citizens of O'Brien County and other parties to whom O'Brien County 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 O'Brien County 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.



DAVID A. VAUDT, CPA
Auditor of State



WARREN G. JENKINS, CPA
Chief Deputy Auditor of State

December 8, 2006

O'Brien County

Schedule of Findings

Year ended June 30, 2006

Findings Related to the Financial Statements:

REPORTABLE CONDITION:

Segregation of Duties – During our review of internal control, existing procedures are evaluated in order to determine incompatible duties, from a control standpoint, are not performed by the same employee. This segregation of duties helps to prevent losses from employee error or dishonesty and, therefore, maximizes the accuracy of the County's financial statements. Generally, one or two individuals in the offices identified may have control over the following areas for which no compensating controls exist:

	<u>Applicable Offices</u>
(1) Incoming mail is not opened by an employee who is not authorized to make entries to the accounting records. A listing of cash and checks received is not prepared.	Recorder and Sheriff
(2) Responsibilities for collection, deposit preparation and reconciliation functions are not segregated from those for recording and accounting for cash.	Recorder
(3) Formal reconciliation of bank balance to book balance is not being performed. Bank reconciliations are not reviewed periodically by an independent person for propriety.	Recorder

Recommendation – We realize segregation of duties is difficult with a limited number of office employees. However, each official should review the operating procedures of their office to obtain the maximum internal control possible under the circumstances. The official should utilize current personnel to provide additional control through review of financial transactions, reconciliations and reports. Such reviews should be performed by independent persons to the extent possible, and should be evidenced by initials or signature of the reviewer and the date of the review.

Response –

Recorder – We will attempt to comply with a limited number of employees we have.

Sheriff – We will attempt to comply whenever possible.

Conclusion – Responses accepted.

INSTANCES OF NON-COMPLIANCE

No matters were noted.

O'Brien County

Schedule of Findings

Year ended June 30, 2006

Other Findings Related to Required Statutory Reporting:

- (1) Certified Budget – Disbursements during the year ended June 30, 2006 exceeded the amount budgeted in the debt service function because the refunding note issuance costs were not budgeted.

Recommendation – The budget should have been amended in accordance with Chapter 331.435 of the Code of Iowa before disbursements were allowed to exceed the budget.

Response – We did not realize the note issuance costs were required to be budgeted. In the future we will amend the budget when required.

Conclusion – Response accepted.

- (2) Questionable Expenditures – No expenditures we believe may not meet the requirements of public purpose as defined in an Attorney General's opinion dated April 25, 1979 were noted.
- (3) Travel Expense – No expenditures of County money for travel expenses of spouses of County officials or employees were noted.
- (4) Business Transactions – The following business transactions between the County and County officials or employees were noted:

Name, Title and Business Connection	Transaction Description	Amount
Jim Norton, Conservation Board Member, owner of Hartley Farm and Home Center, Inc.	Supplies, building materials and parts	\$ 7,167

In the opinion of the O'Brien County Attorney, the transactions with Hartley Farm and Home Center, Inc. do not represent a conflict of interest.

- (5) Bond Coverage – Surety bond coverage of County officials and employees is in accordance with statutory provisions. The amount of coverage should be reviewed annually to ensure the coverage is adequate for current operations.
- (6) Board Minutes – No transactions were found that we believe should have been approved in the Board minutes but were not.
- (7) Deposits and Investments – No instances of non-compliance with the deposit and investment provisions of Chapters 12B and 12C of the Code of Iowa and the County's investment policy were noted.
- (8) Resource Enhancement and Protection Certification – The County properly dedicated property tax revenue to conservation purposes as required by Chapter 455A.19(1)(b) of the Code of Iowa in order to receive the additional REAP funds allocated in accordance with subsections (b)(2) and (b)(3).

O'Brien County

Schedule of Findings

Year ended June 30, 2006

- (9) County Extension Office – The County Extension Office is operated under the authority of Chapter 176A of the Code of Iowa and serves as an agency of the State of Iowa. This fund is administered by an Extension Council separate and distinct from County operations and, consequently, is not included in Exhibits A or B.

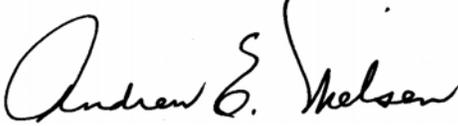
Disbursements during the year ended June 30, 2006 for the County Extension Office did not exceed the amount budgeted.

O'Brien County

Staff

This audit was performed by:

Kay F. Dunn, CPA, Manager
James L. Blekfeld, CPA, Senior Auditor
Scott P. Boisen, Senior Auditor
Chad D. Lehman, Staff Auditor
Dorothy A. Stover, Staff Auditor
Brian P. Schenkelberg, Assistant Auditor

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew E. Nielsen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "A" and "N".

Andrew E. Nielsen, CPA
Deputy Auditor of State