

STATE OF MINNESOTA

Office of the State Auditor



Rebecca Otto
State Auditor

MANAGEMENT AND COMPLIANCE REPORT

SIBLEY COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
(A COMPONENT UNIT OF SIBLEY COUNTY)

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014

Description of the Office of the State Auditor

The mission of the Office of the State Auditor is to oversee local government finances for Minnesota taxpayers by helping to ensure financial integrity and accountability in local governmental financial activities.

Through financial, compliance, and special audits, the State Auditor oversees and ensures that local government funds are used for the purposes intended by law and that local governments hold themselves to the highest standards of financial accountability.

The State Auditor performs approximately 150 financial and compliance audits per year and has oversight responsibilities for over 3,300 local units of government throughout the state. The office currently maintains five divisions:

Audit Practice - conducts financial and legal compliance audits of local governments;

Government Information - collects and analyzes financial information for cities, towns, counties, and special districts;

Legal/Special Investigations - provides legal analysis and counsel to the Office and responds to outside inquiries about Minnesota local government law; as well as investigates allegations of misfeasance, malfeasance, and nonfeasance in local government;

Pension - monitors investment, financial, and actuarial reporting for approximately 700 public pension funds; and

Tax Increment Financing - promotes compliance and accountability in local governments' use of tax increment financing through financial and compliance audits.

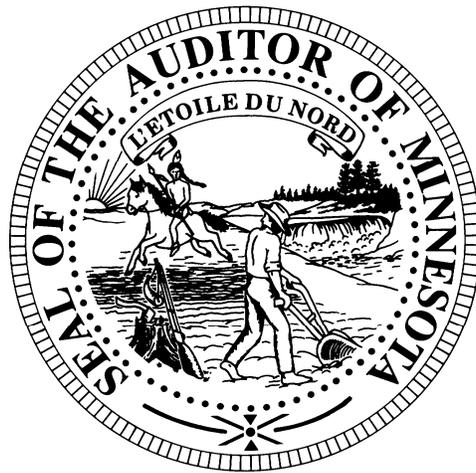
The State Auditor serves on the State Executive Council, State Board of Investment, Land Exchange Board, Public Employees Retirement Association Board, Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, and the Rural Finance Authority Board.

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**SIBLEY COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
(A COMPONENT UNIT OF SIBLEY COUNTY)**

Year Ended December 31, 2014



Management and Compliance Report

**Audit Practice Division
Office of the State Auditor
State of Minnesota**

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**SIBLEY COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
GAYLORD, MINNESOTA**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
Schedule of Findings and Recommendations	1
Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with <i>Government Auditing Standards</i>	4

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**SIBLEY COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM
GAYLORD, MINNESOTA**

**SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2014**

**I. FINDINGS RELATED TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AUDITED IN
ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS***

INTERNAL CONTROL

PREVIOUSLY REPORTED ITEM NOT RESOLVED

Finding 2013-001

Audit Adjustments

Criteria: A deficiency in internal control over financial reporting exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements of the financial statements on a timely basis. Auditing standards define a material weakness as a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the County's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis.

Condition: During our audit, we proposed audit adjustments which were reviewed and approved by the appropriate staff and are reflected in the financial statements. By definition, however, independent external auditors cannot be considered part of the County's internal control.

Context: The Sibley County Library System is a component unit of Sibley County, and the financial information is included in Sibley County's financial statements, which are prepared by County staff. Sibley County's inability to detect material misstatements in the financial statements increases the likelihood that the financial statements would not be fairly presented.

Effect: The following audit adjustments were necessary to be recorded for December 31, 2014:

- Total adjustments of \$105,203 were made to eliminate the cash balances of the branch libraries, which are not considered to be Sibley County Library System funds.

- An adjustment of \$30,078 was made to properly record the reversing entry for unavailable revenue.

Cause: County employees' assigned functions were changed due to some personnel changes. The County informed us that employees did not fully understand how to include the cash balances of the branch libraries.

Recommendation: We recommend the County review internal controls currently in place and design and implement procedures to improve internal controls over financial reporting which will prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements in the financial statements. The updated controls should include review of the balances and supporting documentation by a qualified individual to identify potential misstatements.

Client's Response:

Sibley County recognizes the importance and need for internal controls over financial reporting. The staff responsible for implementing and enforcing such internal controls are the County Auditor and the Accountant, of which both were new to their position for the 2014 financial audit. Both of these positions are expected to become more knowledgeable as they enter the next audit cycle. Sibley County continues to work towards implementing formalized policies and procedures for all accounting functions with limited time and resources.

II. OTHER ITEM FOR CONSIDERATION

GASB Statement No. 68, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the independent organization that establishes standards of accounting and financial reporting for state and local governments. Effective for your calendar year 2015 financial statements, the GASB changed those standards as they apply to employers that provide pension benefits.

GASB Statement 68 significantly changes pension accounting and financial reporting for governmental employers that prepare financial statements on the accrual basis by separating pension accounting methodology from pension funding methodology. Statement 68 requires employers to include a portion of the Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA) total employers' unfunded liability, called the "net pension liability" on the face of the Sibley County Library System's government-wide statement of financial position, which is reported in Sibley County's financial statements. The Sibley County Library System's financial position will be immediately impacted by its unfunded share of the pension liability.

Statement 68 changes the amount employers report as pension expense and defers some allocations of expenses to future years—deferred outflows or inflows of resources. It requires pension costs to be calculated by an actuary; whereas, in the past pension costs were equal to the amount of employer contributions sent to PERA during the year. Additional footnote disclosures and required supplementary information schedules are also required by Statement 68.

The net pension liability that will be reported in the Sibley County Library System's financial statements is an accounting estimate of the proportionate share of PERA's unfunded liability at a specific point in time. That number will change from year to year and is based on assumptions about the probability of the occurrence of events far into the future. Those assumptions include how long people will live, how long they will continue to work, projected salary increases, and how well pension trust investments will do. PERA has been proactive in taking steps toward implementation and will be providing most of the information needed by the employers to report the net pension liability and deferred outflows/inflows of resources.

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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*

Independent Auditor's Report

Members of the Sibley County Library System Board
Sibley County Library System
Gaylord, Minnesota

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of Sibley County, Minnesota, which include as supplementary information the financial statements of the Sibley County Library System, a discretely presented component unit of Sibley County, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2014, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated September 18, 2015. Our report includes a reference to other auditors who audited the financial statements of the Cities of Arlington, Gaylord, Gibbon, Henderson, and Winthrop as described in our report on the Sibley County Library System's financial statements. This report does not include the results of the other auditors' testing of internal control over financial reporting or compliance and other matters that are reported on separately by those auditors. The results of the other auditors' testing of internal controls over financial reporting or compliance and other matters are reported on separately by those auditors for the Cities of Arlington, Gibbon, and Henderson. The financial statements of the Cities of Gaylord and Winthrop were not audited in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Sibley County Library System's internal control over financial reporting to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Sibley

County Library System's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Sibley County Library System's internal control over financial reporting.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and, therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. However, as described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Recommendations, we identified a deficiency in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be a material weakness.

A deficiency in internal control over financial reporting exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A material weakness is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over financial reporting such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Sibley County Library System's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. We consider the deficiency described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Recommendations as item 2013-001 to be a material weakness.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Sibley County Library System's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Minnesota Legal Compliance

The *Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for Political Subdivisions*, promulgated by the State Auditor pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 6.65, contains six categories of compliance to be tested in connection with the audit of the Sibley County Library System's financial statements: contracting and bidding, deposits and investments, conflicts of interest, public indebtedness, claims and disbursements, and miscellaneous provisions. Our audit considered all of the listed categories, except that we did not test for compliance in deposits and investments, claims and disbursements, and miscellaneous provisions because they were tested in conjunction with the audit of the financial statements of Sibley County. We also did not test for contracting and bidding or public indebtedness because the Sibley County Library System did not enter into any contracts that were subject to legal requirements as stipulated by Minnesota statutes or issue any bonds. We did not

test the legal compliance requirements where the activities took place in the various cities included in the Sibley County Library System because we relied upon the city audits completed by other auditors.

In connection with our audit, nothing came to our attention that caused us to believe that the Sibley County Library System failed to comply with the provisions of the *Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for Political Subdivisions*. However, our audit was not directed primarily toward obtaining knowledge of such noncompliance. Accordingly, had we performed additional procedures, other matters may have come to our attention regarding the Sibley County Library System's noncompliance with the above referenced provisions.

Other Matters

Also included in the Schedule of Findings and Recommendations is an other item for consideration. We believe this information to be of benefit to the Sibley County Library System, and we are reporting it for that purpose.

The Sibley County Library System's Response to Findings

The Sibley County Library System's response to the internal control finding identified in our audit has been included in the Schedule of Findings and Recommendations. The Sibley County Library System's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

Purpose of This Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting, compliance, and the provisions of the *Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for Political Subdivisions* and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Sibley County Library System's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Sibley County Library System's internal control over financial reporting and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

/s/Rebecca Otto

REBECCA OTTO
STATE AUDITOR

/s/Greg Hierlinger

GREG HIERLINGER, CPA
DEPUTY STATE AUDITOR

September 18, 2015