

ROCKWALL COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 30, 2016

I. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Reporting Entity

Rockwall County (the “County”) was founded in 1873 and operates under the laws of the State of Texas and subsequent court orders providing the following services: public safety (law enforcement and detention facilities, contracts for fire and ambulance service), public welfare (social services, public health), highways and streets, judicial administration and records, library, public improvements, and general administrative services.

The accompanying financial statements present the County and its component units, entities for which the government is considered to be financially accountable. Blended component units, although legally separate entities, are, in substance, part of the County’s operations. Discretely presented component units are reported in a separate column in the government-wide financial statements to emphasize they are legally separate from the County. Currently the County does not have any entities that meet the criteria of blended or discretely presented component units.

B. Government-wide and Fund Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net position and the statement of activities) report information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the County. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. Governmental activities, which normally are supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenue, are reported separately from business-type activities, which rely, to a significant extent, on fees and charges for support. The County has no business-type activities.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment is offset by program revenue. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Certain indirect costs have been included as part of the program expenses reported for the various functional activities. Program revenue includes 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment, and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Taxes and other items not properly included among program revenue are reported instead as general revenue. Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds. Major individual governmental funds and major individual enterprise funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements.