

JOHNSON COUNTY, TEXAS

Notes to the Financial Statements

For The Year Ended September 30, 2014

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - Continued

Budgetary Data - continued

Annual appropriated budgets are adopted for the General fund, certain special revenue funds (Road and Bridge Fund, Lateral Road Fund, Right of Way Fund, Records Management and Preservation Fund, Records Archive – County Clerk Fund, Records Archive – District Clerk Fund, Court Records Preservation Fund, Justice of the Peace Technology Fund, Courthouse Security Fund, County/District Court Technology Fund, District Court Records Technology Fund, Justice Court Building Security Fund, Juvenile Justice Alternative Education Fund, Juvenile Probation Fees Fund, Juvenile Case Manager Fund, District Attorney Forfeiture Fund, Sheriff Forfeiture Fund, Law Library Fund, Special Crimes Operations Fund, Pre-Trial Bond Supervision Fund, Guardianship Fee Fund, Indigent Health Care Fund, Indigent Defense Formula/Improvement Fund, Election Services Contract Fund, Historical Commission Account Fund), and the General Debt Service fund.

Prior to May 1 of each year, or as soon thereafter as practical, the County Judge, assisted by the County Auditor, prepares a proposed operating budget for the subsequent fiscal year beginning the following October 1st. The proposed operating budget establishes estimated revenues and other resources available for appropriation. Proposed expenditures may not exceed estimated revenues, other resources, and available fund balances.

Subsequent to May 15 and after proper publication of notice, a public hearing is conducted by the Commissioners Court to obtain taxpayer comments. If an increase to the effective tax rate of more than 3% is proposed as a result of the proposed budget, additional notices and public hearings are required.

After the public hearing(s) the Commissioners Court makes appropriate budget changes and adopts the budget through the passage of an order at a regularly scheduled meeting. A separate order is adopted to levy the taxes necessary to finance the budgeted expenditures.

Although the level of budgetary control is total revenues plus available fund balance, the County adopts its budget at a line-item level for managerial control purposes. Line item level is defined for revenue purposes as the type of revenue to be derived and for expenditure purposes by department and type of expenditures (salaries and wages, and employee benefits; operating expenses/expenditures; and capital outlay).

At the discretion of Commissioners Court, transfers of line item budgets within a fund may be made. Amendments to provide for items not included in the original budget may be made by the Commissioners Court upon finding and declaration of the existence of an emergency sufficient to require action. County management has no prerogative to amend the budget without the approval of Commissioners Court. Appropriations not exercised in the current year lapse at the end of the year. Numerous supplemental budget amendments in the general and special revenue funds were deemed necessary due to the timing of planned expenditures and construction projects.

Encumbrances

Encumbrances represent commitments related to unperformed contracts for goods or services. Encumbrance accounting - under which purchase orders, contracts and other commitments for the expenditure of resources are recorded to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation - is utilized. Encumbrances outstanding at year-end do not constitute expenditures or liabilities because the commitments will be honored during the subsequent year. As of September 30, 2014, the County had no encumbrances outstanding.