

BLACK HILLS SPECIAL SERVICES COOPERATIVE

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORTS,
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

JUNE 30, 2017

CASEY  PETERSON
Leading the Way.

RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA
GILLETTE, WYOMING

Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
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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*

Board of Directors
Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Sturgis, South Dakota

We have audited, in accordance with the 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 the governmental activities and the general fund of Black Hills Special Services Cooperative, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2017, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Black Hills Special Services Cooperative basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated January 18, 2018.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Black Hills Special Services Cooperative's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) 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 Black Hills Special Services Cooperative's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Black Hills Special Services Cooperative's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* 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 a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. We did identify a certain deficiency in internal control that we consider to be a significant deficiency and which is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as item 2017-001.



Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Black Hills Special Services Cooperative'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*.

Black Hills Special Services Cooperative's Response to Findings

Black Hills Special Services Cooperative's response to the finding identified in our audit is described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs. Black Hills Special Services Cooperative'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 and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose. As required by South Dakota Codified Law 4-11-11, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Casey Peterson, LTD.

Casey Peterson, Ltd.

Rapid City, South Dakota
January 18, 2018

Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance
for Each Major Program and on Internal Control
Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance

Board of Directors
Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Sturgis, South Dakota

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

We have audited Black Hills Special Services Cooperative's compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of Black Hills Special Services Cooperative's major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2017. Black Hills Special Services Cooperative's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs.

Management's Responsibility

Management is responsible for compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and the terms and conditions of its federal awards applicable to its federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on compliance for each of Black Hills Special Services Cooperative's major federal programs based on our audit of the types of compliance requirements referred to above. We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Those standards and the Uniform Guidance require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about Black Hills Special Services Cooperative's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures, as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. However, our audit does not provide a legal determination of Black Hills Special Services Cooperative's compliance.

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

In our opinion, Black Hills Special Services Cooperative, complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended June 30, 2017.



Report on Internal Control over Compliance

Management of Black Hills Special Services Cooperative is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above. In planning and performing our audit of compliance, we considered Black Hills Special Services Cooperative's internal control over compliance with the types of requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each major federal program to determine the auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing an opinion on compliance for each major federal program and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Black Hills Special Services Cooperative's internal control over compliance.

A deficiency in internal control over compliance exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. A *material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance 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 compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, we identified certain deficiencies in internal control over compliance, as described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs as items 2017-002 and 2017-003 that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

Black Hills Special Services Cooperative's responses to the internal control over compliance findings identified in our audit are described in the accompanying Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs. Black Hills Special Services Cooperative's responses were not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of compliance and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the responses.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose. However, as required by South Dakota Codified Law 4-11-11, this report is a matter of public record, and its distribution is not limited.



Casey Peterson, Ltd.

Rapid City, South Dakota
January 18, 2018

**Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
June 30, 2017**

SUMMARY OF INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S RESULTS

- a. The Independent Auditor's Report expresses an unmodified opinion on the financial statements of Black Hills Special Services Cooperative.
- b. No material weaknesses relating to the audit of the financial statements are reported in the 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*.
- c. A significant deficiency in internal control relating to the audit of the financial statements is reported in the 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*.
- d. There was no noncompliance material to the financial statements, which would be required to be reported in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*.
- e. The independent auditor's report on compliance for the major federal award programs for Black Hills Special Services Cooperative expresses an unmodified opinion on all major federal programs.
- f. No noncompliance or material weaknesses in internal control related to major federal programs were reported in the Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program and Report on Internal Control Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance.
- g. Significant deficiencies in internal control related to major federal programs were reported in the Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program and Report on Internal Control Over Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance.
- h. Audit findings that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR section 200.516(a) are reported within this schedule.
- i. The federal awards tested as major programs were:

<u>CFDA Numbers</u>	<u>Name of Federal Program</u>
1. 84.365	English Language Acquisition State Grants
2. 84.126	Rehabilitation Services Vocational Rehabilitation Grants to States
3. 84.224	Assistive Technology
4. 93.464	ACL Assistive Technology

- j. The dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B federal award programs was \$750,000.
- k. Black Hills Special Services Cooperative qualified as a low-risk entity.

FINDINGS - FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT

Significant Deficiency

Internal Control over Financial Reporting and Internal Control over Compliance

2017-001 *Condition:* The following errors were detected on the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards as a result of audit procedures:

- Errors in coding of State and Federal receipts affecting a major program. The cumulative corrections were material to the grant and increased federal expenditures reported on the SEFA by \$17,297.

Black Hills Special Services Cooperative Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs June 30, 2017

- An error in the amount presented on the Schedule of Expenditures Federal Awards for one program. Federal expenditures reported on the SEFA were overstated by approximately \$22,000, which is material to the grant. There were sufficient expenditures to support the correct amount of revenue and this error did not affect compliance with grant requirements.
- A grant was reported under one CFDA number; however, the CFDA number and federal department changed with a new grant agreement effective October 1, 2016.

Criteria: Internal controls should be in place to reconcile the SEFA to the general ledger and grant agreements.

Cause: The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is prepared primarily using grant revenue. This process will not detect errors if grant receipts are incorrectly recorded, which occurred during the year. Due to the numerous grants received by BHSSC, not all grants are traced to underlying grant agreements to ensure program information, such as CFDA number and Federal agency, are reported correctly.

Effect: Errors exist in amounts reported on the SEFA due to the insufficient reconciliation of federal grant revenue, grant expenditures, and other program information.

Auditor's Recommendation: We recommend management develop a system to reconcile the SEFA to the underlying accounting records and grant agreements. This includes comparing the amounts recorded for both grant expenditures and grant receipts and investigating any differences, especially for cost reimbursement grants. Management should review the SEFA periodically throughout the year and note significant changes such as a change in pass through agencies or CFDA number.

View of Responsible Officials: Management agrees with the finding. A response can be found in the Corrective Action Plan.

FINDINGS - MAJOR FEDERAL AWARDS PROGRAM AUDIT

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Rehabilitation Services Vocational Rehabilitation Grants to States, CFDA 84.126

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Assistive Technology, CFDA 84.224

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

ACL Assistive Technology, CFDA 93.464

Significant Deficiency

Internal Control over Financial Reporting and Internal Control over Compliance

2017-002 See finding 2017-001 for the condition, criteria, cause, effect, auditor's recommendation, and view of responsible officials.

FINDINGS - FEDERAL PROGRAM NOT AUDITED AS A MAJOR PROGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

WIA/WIOA Dislocated Worker Formula Grants, CFDA 17.278

Significant Deficiency

Internal Control over Financial Reporting and Internal Control over Compliance

2017-003 See finding 2017-001 for the condition, criteria, cause, effect, auditor's recommendation, and view of responsible officials.



Black Hills Special Services Cooperative

Post Office Box 218, Sturgis, South Dakota 57785-0218

Phone: (605) 347-4467 • Fax: (605) 347-5223 • Website: www.bhssc.org

Belle Fourche, Custer, Douglas, Edgemont, Haakon, Hill City, Hot Springs, Lead/Deadwood, Meade, Oelrichs, Rapid City, Spearfish

PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

FINDINGS - FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT

There were no findings reported in the prior year financial statement audit.

FINDINGS - MAJOR FEDERAL AWARDS PROGRAM AUDIT

CORPORATION FOR NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Foster Grandparent Program, CFDA 94.011

Significant Deficiency in Internal Control over Compliance

2016-001 *Condition:* The Cooperative requested and received reimbursement for expenses used as local match.

Auditor's Recommendation: We recommend that management develop a system to track in-kind expenses separately from reimbursable expenses, either through separate account coding or other method that management deems feasible. Draw requests should be reviewed and agreed to the underlying accounting records to identify errors or needed corrections.

Current Status: No similar findings were noted in the 2017 audit.



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CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN (UNAUDITED)

Black Hills Special Services Cooperative respectfully submits the following corrective action plan for the year ended June 30, 2017.

Name and address of independent public accounting firm:

Casey Peterson, Ltd.
909 Saint Joseph Street, Ste 101
Rapid City, South Dakota 57701

The findings from the 2017 schedule of findings and questioned costs are discussed below. The findings are numbered consistently with the numbers assigned in the schedule.

FINDINGS - FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT

Significant Deficiency

Internal Control over Financial Reporting and Internal Control over Compliance

2017-001 *Condition:* The following errors were detected on the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards as a result of audit procedures:

- Errors in coding of State and Federal receipts affecting a major program. The cumulative corrections were material to the grant and increased federal expenditures reported on the SEFA by \$17,297.
- An error in the amount presented on the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards for one program. Federal expenditures reported on the SEFA were overstated by approximately \$22,000, which is material to the grant. There were sufficient expenditures to support the correct amount of revenue and this error did not affect compliance with grant requirements.
- A grant was reported under one CFDA number; however, the CFDA number and federal department changed with a new grant agreement effective October 1, 2016.

Criteria: Internal controls should be in place to reconcile the SEFA to the general ledger and grant agreements.

Auditor's Recommendation: We recommend management develop a system to reconcile the SEFA to the underlying accounting records and grant agreements. This includes comparing the amounts recorded for both grant expenditures and grant receipts and investigating any differences, especially for cost reimbursement grants. Management should review the SEFA periodically throughout the year and note significant changes such as a change in pass through agencies or CFDA number.

Management's Response: Management will implement a system to reconcile the SEFA to the accounting records utilized for tracking grant revenue and expense activity. CFDA numbers will be verified periodically and any time there is a new agreement or amendment.



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CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN (UNAUDITED) (CONTINUED)

FINDINGS - MAJOR FEDERAL AWARDS PROGRAM AUDIT

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Rehabilitation Services Vocational Rehabilitation Grants to States, CFDA 84.126

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Assistive Technology, CFDA 84.224

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

ACL Assistive Technology, CFDA 93.464

Significant Deficiency

Internal Control over Financial Reporting and Internal Control over Compliance

2017-002 See finding 2017-001 for the condition, criteria, auditor's recommendation, and management's response.

FINDINGS - FEDERAL PROGRAM NOT AUDITED AS A MAJOR PROGRAM

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

WIA/WIOA Dislocated Worker Formula Grants, CFDA 17.278

Significant Deficiency

Internal Control over Financial Reporting and Internal Control over Compliance

2017-003 See finding 2017-001 for the condition, criteria, auditor's recommendation, and management's response.

If the US Department of Education has questions regarding this plan, please call Georgia Sandgren, Business Manager, at (605) 347-4467.

Sincerely,

Heidi Anderson, Business Manager

Black Hills Special Services Cooperative

Sturgis, South Dakota

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Independent Auditor's Report

Board of Directors
Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Sturgis, South Dakota

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and the general fund of Black Hills Special Services Cooperative, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2017, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit 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. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Organization's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and the general fund of Black Hills Special Services Cooperative, as of June 30, 2017, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.



Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis, budgetary comparison information, Schedule of Funding Progress for Retiree Health Insurance Coverage, Schedule of Net Pension Liability (Asset), and Schedule of Pension Contributions on pages 15 - 25, 52 - 54, 55, 56, and 57 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Black Hills Special Services Cooperative's basic financial statements. The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is required for purposes of additional analysis as required by 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, and is also not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

The list of cooperative officials and corrective action plan have not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on them.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated January 18, 2018 on our consideration of Black Hills Special Services Cooperative's internal control over financial reporting and on 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 or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in considering Black Hills Special Services Cooperative's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Casey Peterson, LTD.

Casey Peterson, Ltd.

Rapid City, South Dakota
January 18, 2018

Black Hills Special Services Cooperative Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited) June 30, 2017

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

This section of Black Hills Special Services Cooperative's (BHSSC) annual financial report presents discussion and analysis of BHSSC's financial performance during the fiscal year ended on June 30, 2017. Please read it in conjunction with BHSSC's financial statements, which follow this section.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- BHSSC's total net position from governmental and business-type activities decreased \$761,052. The adjustment for the Net Pension Liability of \$834,099 accounts for more than the entire decrease.
- BHSSC's change in net position from governmental activities decreased \$761,052. Current Assets increased \$821,951 while Capital Assets decreased \$5,435 and Net Pension Assets decreased \$3,004,440 or 100%. Net Pension Assets were replaced by Net Pension Liability. Total Liabilities increased \$3,014,328 which includes the Net Pension Liability. The increase in Total Liabilities is due to the new Net Pension Liability of \$834,099. There continues to be upfront funding for a project and that upfront funding is recognized as a liability.
- During the year, BHSSC's revenues generated from governmental programs were \$761,052 less than the \$26,962,568 governmental program expenditures.
- The total cost of BHSSC's programs increased 6.27 percent. The increase in expenditures is due to the incorporation of expenses for the government-wide financial statements. The number of staff decreased from the previous year by 3.57 percent, due to the elimination of some programs.
- The Statement of Net Position reported a \$761,052 current year deficit. The \$761,052 deficit is attributed to adjustment for the Pension Plan. Non-pension revenues were in excess of expenditures by \$81,634. Both revenues and expenditures were below budgeted levels.
- Depreciation expenses exceeded capital purchases by \$4,622. After surplus assets were deleted, Net Capital Assets decreased by \$5,435. Vehicles made up the capital assets that were purchased this year. Leasing is used as an alternative to the purchase of other capital assets.
- Compensated Absences also known as Accrued Leave decreased by \$14,838. The number of employees carrying a leave balance decreased by 6.52 percent. The total number of hours that those employees were carrying increased by 3.19 percent. The decrease in leave balances is attributed to the decrease in staff with leave balances and a decrease in the average wage for the staff carrying a leave balance. The average rate at which that leave would be paid has decreased 19.09 percent resulting in the overall net decrease in accrued leave payable.
- Outstanding Obligations include net OPEB (Other Post Employment Benefits) Obligation for postemployment healthcare of \$251,995, a 0.80 percent decrease. That obligation will continue as long as the Cooperative allows retirees who are at least age 55 with ten years of continuous service to continue on the healthcare plan until age 65. The eligible retiree must pay the monthly premium.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This annual report consists of three parts: management's discussion and analysis (this section), the basic financial statements, and required supplementary information. The basic financial statements include two kinds of statements that present different views of BHSSC:

- The first two statements are government-wide financial statements that provide both long-term and short-term information about BHSSC's overall financial status.

See independent auditor's report.

**Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited)
June 30, 2017**

- The remaining statements are fund financial statements that focus on individual programs, reporting operations in more detail than the government-wide statements.
- The governmental funds statements tell how general services were financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending.

The financial statements also include notes that explain some of the information in the financial statements and provide more detailed data. The statements are followed by a section of required supplementary information that further explains and supports the information in the financial statements.

Figure A-1 summarizes the major features of these financial statements, including the portion of the government they cover and the types of information they contain. The remainder of the overview section of the management's discussion and analysis explains the structure and contents of each of the statements.

Figure A-1		
	Government-wide Statements	Fund Statements Governmental Funds
Scope	Entire BHSSC government (except fiduciary funds and BHSSC's component units)	The activities of BHSSC that are not proprietary or fiduciary, such as elementary and high school education programs
Required Financial Statements	*Statement of Net Position *Statement of Activities	*Balance Sheet *Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances
Accounting Basis and Measurement Focus	Accrual accounting and economic resources focus	Modified accrual accounting and current financial resources focus
Type of Asset/Liability Information	All assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources, both financial and capital, and short-term and long-term	Only assets expected to be used up and liabilities that come due during the year or soon thereafter; all deferred outflows and inflows of resources; no capital assets included
Type of Inflow/Outflow Information	All revenues and expenses during year, regardless of when cash is received or paid	Revenues for which cash is received during or soon after the end of the year; expenditures when goods or services have been received and payment is due during the year or soon thereafter

See independent auditor's report.

Black Hills Special Services Cooperative Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited) June 30, 2017

Government-wide Financial Statements

The government-wide statements report information about BHSSC as a whole using accounting methods similar to those used by private-sector companies. The statement of net position includes all of the government's assets and liabilities. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are accounted for in the statement of activities regardless of when cash is received or paid.

The two government-wide statements report BHSSC's net position and how they have changed. Net Position (the difference between BHSSC's assets and liabilities) are one way to measure BHSSC's financial position.

- Increases or decreases in BHSSC's net position are indicators of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating, respectively.
- To assess the overall health of BHSSC you need to consider additional nonfinancial factors such as changes in programs and changes in funding.

The government-wide financial statements of BHSSC are reported in the governmental activities category:

- **Governmental Activities** - This category includes BHSSC's basic instructional services, such as special education, alternative education, and residential programs, support services (social work, guidance counselor, nursing, psychology, speech pathology, physical and occupational therapy, improvements of instruction, board of education, administration, fiscal, operation and maintenance of plant services, and transportation services). Tuition, contracts for services, state contracts and grants, federal grants and interest earnings finance these activities.

Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements provide more detailed information about BHSSC's general fund. Funds are accounting devices used to keep track of specific sources of funding and spending for particular purposes. Fund accounting is required by South Dakota State Law.

BHSSC's operations fall under the governmental fund type.

Governmental Funds - All of BHSSC's basic services are included in the governmental funds, which focus on (1) how cash and other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash flow in and out and (2) the balances left at the year-end that are available for spending. Consequently, the governmental funds statements provide a detailed short-term view that helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance BHSSC's programs. Because this information does not encompass the additional long-term focus of the government-wide statements, additional information is provided at the bottom of the governmental funds statements, or on the subsequent page, that explains the relationship (or differences) between them.

See independent auditor's report.

**Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited)
June 30, 2017**

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF BHSSC AS A WHOLE

Net Position

BHSSC's combined statement of net position shows an increase from the previous year.

**Table A-1
Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Statement of Net Position**

	Governmental Activities 2016	Governmental Activities 2017	Total Percentage Change
Current and Other Assets	\$ 9,361,517	\$ 7,179,028	-23.31%
Capital Assets	313,472	308,037	-1.73%
Total Assets	<u>\$ 9,674,989</u>	<u>\$ 7,487,065</u>	-22.61%
Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>\$ 5,609,538</u>	<u>\$ 5,617,630</u>	0.14%
Long-term Debt Outstanding	\$ 431,256	\$ 2,685,233	522.65%
Other Liabilities	2,408,882	3,169,233	31.56%
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 2,840,138</u>	<u>\$ 5,854,466</u>	106.13%
Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>\$ 4,433,108</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	-100.00%
Net Position:			
Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$ 313,472	\$ 308,037	-1.73%
Restricted	4,180,870	3,346,773	
Unrestricted	3,516,939	3,595,419	2.23%
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 8,011,281</u>	<u>\$ 7,250,229</u>	-9.50%
Beginning Net Position	\$ 7,447,085	\$ 8,011,281	
Increase in Net Position	564,196	(761,052)	
Percentage of Increase in Net Position	7.58%	-9.50%	

BHSSC's decrease in Total Assets can be contributed to an increase in Current Assets which was more than offset by the elimination of Net Pension Assets and the decrease in Capital Assets. The increase in Other Liabilities was compounded by the addition of the Net Pension Liability. The decrease in Total Assets of \$2,187,924 when combined with the increase in Total Liabilities of \$3,014,328 results in the decrease in Net Position of \$761,052. The Statement of Net Position reports all financial and capital resources. The statement presents the assets and liabilities in order of relative liquidity. The long-term liabilities of BHSSC, consisting of compensated absences payable, OPEB liability, and Net Pension Liability have been reported in this same manner on the Statement of Net Position. The difference between BHSSC's assets and liabilities is its net position.

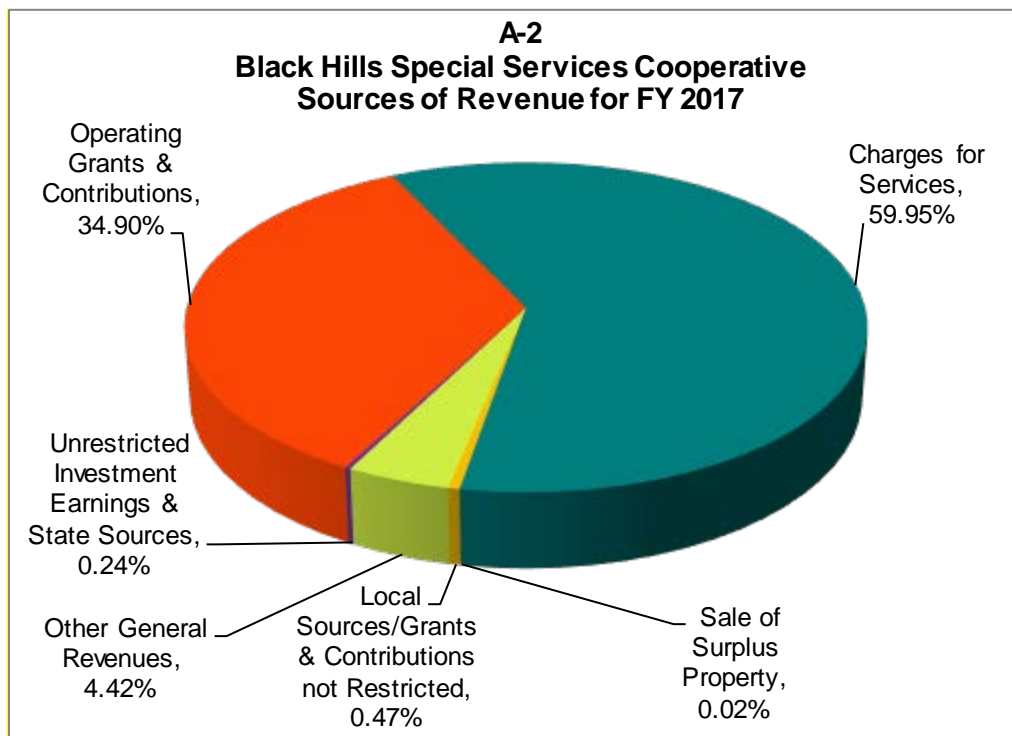
See independent auditor's report.

**Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited)
June 30, 2017**

Changes in Net Position

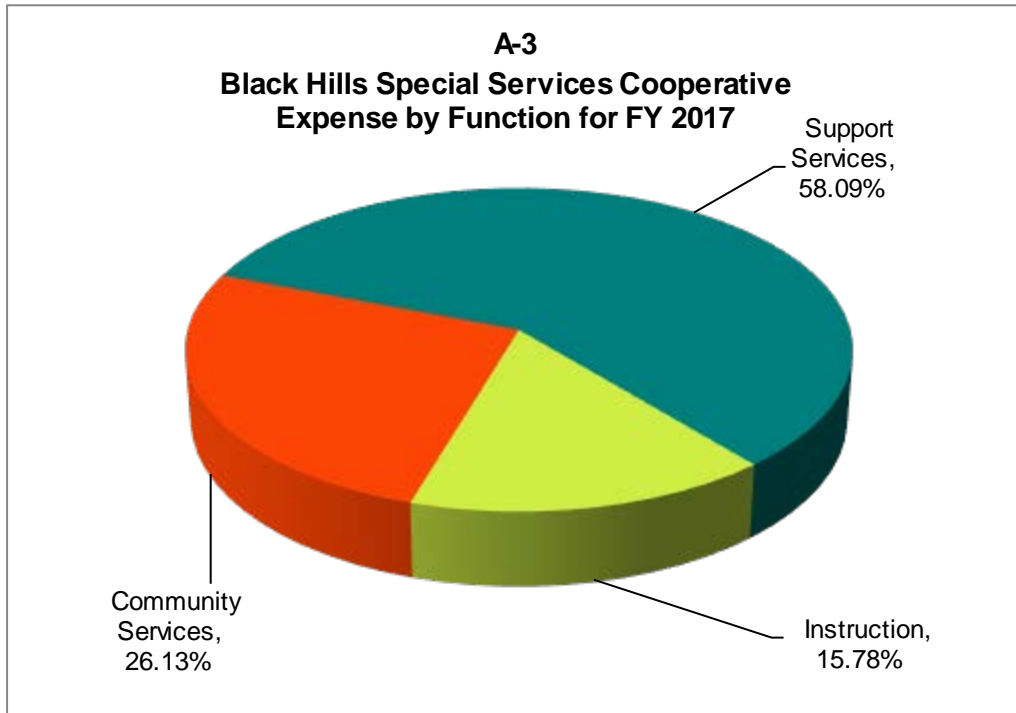
BHSSC's revenues totaled \$26,201,516. (See Table A-2.) Almost 60 percent of BHSSC's Program Revenue continues to come from Charges for Services. Almost 35 percent of the revenue is derived from Operating Grants & Contributions (federal, state and local sources) and the remaining 5 percent comes from State and Other General Revenues. Operating Grants & Contributions was up by more than 37 percent while Charges for Services is up by more than 7.5 percent. State Sources were down to less than 1 percent and Other General Revenue was down almost 2.5 percent from last year (See Figure A-2). BHSSC's total revenues increased by 1.02 percent, to \$26,201,516. The changes in sources between 2016 and 2017 were due to a change in the distribution assignment of those sources. The availability of grant sources continues to become more limited. Continuing to provide and expand contracted services to local districts and the state help to maintain local and state sources.

BHSSC's expenses cover a range of services, encompassing Instruction, Support Services, and Community Services. (See Figure A-3). The total cost of all programs increased by 6.27 percent. Personnel costs increased due to an increase in the wages for staff with the anticipation of the Fair Labor Standards Act's new Overtime Rules that went into effect December 1, 2016. Purchased services were relatively unchanged as were expenditures for supplies and materials and other expenditures. The Coop's administrative and business activities, plus operation and maintenance of facilities and transportation costs (which decreased in expenditures by 8.96 percent) decreased to 7.40 percent of total allowable costs. Total expenditures increased and administrative expenses decreased, resulting in the decrease in administration's share of overall expenses.



See independent auditor's report.

**Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited)
June 30, 2017**



GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES

Table A-2 considers the operations of the governmental activities.

**Table A-2
Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Changes in Net Position**

	Total Government Activities 2016	Total Government Activities 2017	Total Percentage Change 2016 - 2017
Revenues			
Program Revenues:			
Charges for Services	\$ 15,041,112	\$ 15,705,811	4.42%
Operating Grants & Contributions	9,568,411	9,144,759	-4.43%
General Revenues:			
State Sources	-	51,813	0.00%
Revenue from Unrestricted Contributions	129,222	124,307	-3.80%
Unrestricted Investment Earnings	4,859	10,992	126.22%
Other General Revenues	1,181,104	1,158,836	-1.89%
Gain on Disposal of Assets	12,260	4,998	100.00%
Total Revenues	<u>\$ 25,936,968</u>	<u>\$ 26,201,516</u>	1.02%

See independent auditor's report.

**Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited)
June 30, 2017**

	Total Government Activities <u>2016</u>	Total Government Activities <u>2017</u>	Total Percentage Change 2016 - 2017
Expenses:			
Instruction	5,997,138	4,255,026	-29.05%
Support Services	13,691,783	15,662,045	14.39%
Community Services	5,606,118	7,045,497	25.68%
Cocurricular Activities	75,074	-	-100.00%
Nonprogrammed Charges	<u>2,659</u>	<u>-</u>	-100.00%
Total Expenses	<u>25,372,772</u>	<u>26,962,568</u>	6.27%
Increase in Net Position	<u>\$ 564,196</u>	<u>\$ (761,052)</u>	-234.89%

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF BHSSC'S FUNDS

The General Fund decreased by \$426,208 this year after the year-end adjustments for fund statement presentation. The management team continues to meet regularly to review budgets, income and program expenditures. The monthly report that summarizes expenditures to date, revenues to date and projected receivables, continues to facilitate this process. Directors receive the report each month and the report is reviewed by the management team at their regularly scheduled meetings.

BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS

The Budget for Revenues and Expenditures totaled \$29,149,716. Over the course of the year the Board revised the budget one time. These amendments were for additional contracts and grants awarded during the year.

BHSSC's final budget for the general fund anticipated that revenues and expenditures would be equal, the actual results for the year was a \$81,634 surplus before the fund statement adjustments.

- Revenues were \$2,948,202 lower than budgeted before adjustments. Revenues from local sources increased while state and federal sources decreased.
- Expenditures were \$3,029,835 lower than budgeted before adjustments. Expenditures were down in Instruction and up in Support Services and Community Services. The decrease in expenditures in Instruction is attributed to the recoding of the after-school program from Instruction to Community Services. Cocurricular Activities services were discontinued at the end of the last fiscal year.

See independent auditor's report.

**Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited)
June 30, 2017**

CAPITAL ASSET ADMINISTRATION

By the end of 2017, BHSSC had a \$308,037 net investment in capital assets, including various machinery and equipment. (See Table A-3.) This amount represents a net decrease (including additions and deletions) of \$5,435 or 1.73 percent.

**Table A-3
Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Capital Assets
(Net of Depreciation)**

	Governmental Activities 2016	Governmental Activities 2017
Machinery and Equipment	\$ 313,472	\$ 308,037
Total Capital Assets (Net)	\$ 313,472	\$ 308,037

Capital assets purchased were vehicles, servers, and a commercial dishwasher. More capital purchases were made during the year than in the previous year. However, that increase was slightly offset by the additional depreciation and deleted assets.

LONG-TERM DEBT

At year-end, BHSSC had \$414,376 in outstanding debt, which was down \$16,880 because of a decrease of \$14,838 in Compensated Absences and a decrease of \$2,042 in the OPEB liability. Compensated Absences were down 8.37 percent and OPEB Liability was down 0.80 percent. There was a net decrease of 3.91 percent as shown on Table A-4 below.

**Table A-4
Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Outstanding Debt and Obligations**

	Governmental Activities 2016	Governmental Activities 2017	Total Dollar Change FY 2017	Total Percentage Change FY 2017
Compensated Absences	\$ 177,219	\$ 162,381	\$ (14,838)	-8.37%
OPEB Liability	254,037	251,995	(2,042)	-0.80%
Total Outstanding Debt and Obligations	\$ 431,256	\$ 414,376	\$ (16,880)	-3.91%

BHSSC is liable for the accrued annual leave payable to the Class 2 salaried and paid personal leave for Class 4 hourly employees. The maximum accumulated leave is capped at 240 hours.

The OPEB Liability is required to be reevaluated every two years. That reevaluation was conducted for fiscal year 2017.

See independent auditor's report.

**Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited)
June 30, 2017**

ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGETS AND RATES

BHSSC's current economic position experienced improvement slightly from the previous fiscal year. This improvement is due in part to a higher indirect cost rate. Continuing accountability from department heads has helped guard against losses. While local school districts are being asked to provide quality education with insignificant increases in funding and increased federal regulations, the districts' and the state's benefit from services provided by BHSSC, increasing demand for those services. The continued decrease in expenses for administration when compared to the decrease in total expenses will result in a decreased indirect cost rate in the future, which has a negative impact of the overall future profits. The lower indirect rate is beneficial for those agencies that purchase services and award grants to BHSSC. BHSSC does not have the authority to tax or bond. BHSSC is also not eligible for state aid with the current formula. BHSSC's Title XIX/HCBS population remains stable however; the funding structure for Title XIX/HCBS will change in the coming years. Funding from the state to school districts is also relatively stable. The funding to schools is proposed to remain flat in the upcoming year. Other funding sources may continue to be eliminated entirely. The cost of providing health insurance to staff saw no increase this year. The healthcare plan is anticipating that it should only have a minimal, if any, increase in the next year. The overall budget for next year should slightly decrease from the current year.

CONTACTING BHSSC'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide citizens, taxpayers, customers, investors and creditors with a general overview of BHSSC's finances and to demonstrate BHSSC's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional information, contact BHSSC's Business Office, P.O. Box 218, Sturgis, SD 57785.

See independent auditor's report.

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BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Statement of Net Position
June 30, 2017

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
ASSETS	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 3,890,775
Accounts Receivable	325,829
Due from Other Governments	2,916,487
Inventory of Supplies	45,937
Capital Assets:	
Machinery and Equipment	1,185,969
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(877,932)</u>
Total Capital Assets, Net of Depreciation	<u>308,037</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>7,487,065</u>
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	
Pension-related Deferred Outflows	<u>5,617,630</u>
TOTAL DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	<u>5,617,630</u>
LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable	745,767
Unearned Revenue	2,423,466
Long-term Liabilities:	
Due Within One Year	162,381
Due In More Than One Year	251,995
Net Pension Liability	<u>2,270,857</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>5,854,466</u>
NET POSITION	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	308,037
Restricted:	
Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability	3,346,773
Unrestricted	<u>3,595,419</u>
TOTAL NET POSITION	<u><u>\$ 7,250,229</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

**Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended June 30, 2017**

<u>Functions/Programs</u>	<u>Expenses</u>
Primary Government:	
Governmental Activities:	
Instruction	\$ 4,255,026
Support Services	15,662,045
Community Services	<u>7,045,497</u>
Total Governmental Activities	<u>\$ 26,962,568</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

<u>Program Revenues</u>		<u>Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position</u>
<u>Charges for Services</u>	<u>Operating Grants and Contributions</u>	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
\$ 2,726,144	\$ 4,227,612	\$ 2,698,730
6,537,830	3,962,372	(5,161,843)
<u>6,441,837</u>	<u>954,775</u>	<u>351,115</u>
<u>\$ 15,705,811</u>	<u>\$ 9,144,759</u>	<u>(2,111,998)</u>

GENERAL REVENUES

Revenue from State Sources	51,813
Revenue from Contributions Not Restricted to Specific Programs	124,307
Unrestricted Investment Earnings	10,992
Other General Revenues	<u>1,163,834</u>
Total General Revenues	<u>1,350,946</u>
DECREASE IN NET POSITION	(761,052)
NET POSITION - BEGINNING	<u>8,011,281</u>
NET POSITION - ENDING	<u>\$ 7,250,229</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

**Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Balance Sheet - Governmental Fund
June 30, 2017**

	General Fund
ASSETS	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 3,890,775
Accounts Receivable	325,829
Due from Other Governments	2,916,487
Inventory of Supplies	45,937
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 7,179,028
LIABILITIES	
Accounts Payable	\$ 745,767
Unearned Revenue	2,423,466
TOTAL LIABILITIES	3,169,233
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	
Grants Received Outside the Period of Availability	921,513
TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	921,513
FUND BALANCE	
Nonspendable:	
For Inventory	45,937
Unassigned	3,042,345
TOTAL FUND BALANCE	3,088,282
TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES	\$ 7,179,028

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

**Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Reconciliation of the Governmental Fund Balance
Sheet to the Statement of Net Position
June 30, 2017**

Total Fund Balance - Governmental Fund	\$ 3,088,282
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position are different because:	
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.	308,037
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported as liabilities in the funds. Long-term liabilities at year-end consist of:	
Compensated Absences	(162,381)
OPEB Liability	(251,995)
Net Pension Liability	(2,270,857)
Assets, including grants and other receivables that are not available to pay for current period expenditures, are deferred in the governmental funds.	921,513
Pension related deferred outflows are components of pension liability (asset) and changes are not reported in the funds	<u>5,617,630</u>
Net Position - Governmental Activities	<u><u>\$ 7,250,229</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance -
Governmental Fund
For the Year Ended June 30, 2017

	<u>General Fund</u>
REVENUES	
Revenue from Local Sources:	
Tuition and Fees	\$ 1,735,932
Transportation Fees	41,305
Earnings on Investments and Deposits	10,992
Other Revenue from Local Sources	14,587,849
Revenue from State Sources	4,905,771
Revenue from Federal Sources	<u>4,420,971</u>
TOTAL REVENUES	<u>25,702,820</u>
EXPENDITURES	
Instructional:	
Regular Programs	1,231,388
Special Programs	2,516,685
Adult Continuing Education Programs	<u>375,795</u>
Total Instructional	<u>4,123,868</u>
Support Services:	
Pupils	4,332,480
Instruction Staff	4,092,465
General Administration	1,272,137
Other Administrative Support Services	135,879
Business	2,209,575
Central	1,147,443
Special Education	850,116
Other Support Services	1,016,864
Resale Services	<u>6,254</u>
Total Support Services	<u>15,063,213</u>
Community Services	<u>6,830,838</u>
Capital Outlay	<u>101,963</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u>26,119,882</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

	<u>General Fund</u>
Excess of Expenditures Over Revenues	<u>(417,062)</u>
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	
Proceeds from Insurance	5,889
Proceeds from the Sale of Capital Assets	<u>4,998</u>
Total Other Financing Sources	<u>10,887</u>
EXCESS OF EXPENDITURES OVER REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES	(406,175)
Change in Nonspendable Fund Balance	<u>(20,033)</u>
Net Change in Fund Balance	(426,208)
FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING	<u>3,514,490</u>
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	<u><u>\$ 3,088,282</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Reconciliation of the Governmental Fund Statement of Revenues,
Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance to the Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended June 30, 2017

Net Change in Fund Balance, Prior to Change in Fund Balance Reserves - Governmental Fund	\$ (406,175)
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:	
Governmental funds use the purchases method of accounting for inventory whereby changes in inventory are accounted for through a nonspendable fund balance and inventory is recorded as an expenditure when purchased. However, the governmental activities use the consumption method whereby inventory is recorded as an expense when consumed.	(20,033)
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities the costs of those assets are allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which depreciation expense exceeded capital outlays in the current period.	(5,434)
The recognition of revenues in the governmental funds differs from the recognition in the governmental activities in the fact that revenue accruals in the fund financial statements require the amounts to be "available."	487,809
Governmental funds do not reflect the change in compensated absences and post employment benefits, but the Statement of Activities reflects the change in compensated absences and post employment benefits through expenses.	16,880
Pension revenues in the statement of activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds.	<u>(834,099)</u>
Change in Net Position - Governmental Activities	<u>\$ (761,052)</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Notes to the Financial Statements
June 30, 2017

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements of Black Hills Special Services Cooperative are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Black Hills Special Services Cooperative applies all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements.

A. REPORTING ENTITY

Black Hills Special Services Cooperative (the Cooperative) was established in 1980 as a joint venture among member school districts for the purpose of providing vital educational services for both youth and adults. The Board of Directors of the Cooperative is comprised of one representative from each member school district. The Board of Directors is responsible for adopting the Cooperative's budget and setting service fees at a level adequate to fund the adopted budget. The member school districts retain no equity interest in the net position of the Cooperative, but do have a responsibility to fund deficits of the Cooperative in proportion to their relative participation. There are no component units included within the reporting entity.

B. RELATED ORGANIZATIONS

Related organizations are excluded from the financial reporting entity because the Cooperative's accountability for these organizations does not extend beyond making appointments or because management has determined the assets the Cooperative has the ability to access are not significant. The Cooperative's only related organization is described below:

Black Hills Education Benefits Plan - The Cooperative participates in a cooperative service unit with several other school districts. See Note 9 "Joint Venture" for specific disclosure. Joint ventures do not meet the criteria for inclusion in the financial reporting entity as a component unit, but are discussed in these notes because of the nature of their relationship with the Cooperative.

C. GOVERNMENT-WIDE AND FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Government-wide Financial Statements

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities display information about the Cooperative. These statements include the financial activities of the overall Cooperative. Governmental activities are generally financed through grants and other non-exchange transactions.

The Statement of Net Position reports all financial and capital resources in a net position format (assets and deferred outflows of resources minus liabilities and deferred inflows of resources equal net position). Net position is displayed in three components, as applicable; net investment in capital assets, restricted, and unrestricted.

The Statement of Activities presents a comparison between direct expense and program revenues for each function of the Cooperative's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function and, therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include (a) charges paid by recipients of goods and services offered by the programs and (b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues.

Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Notes to the Financial Statements
June 30, 2017

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Fund Financial Statements

Fund financial statements of the reporting entity are organized into funds, each of which is considered to be a separate accounting entity. The funds are accounted for by providing a separate set of self-balancing accounts that constitute its' assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources fund equity, revenues and expenditures. The Cooperative has one fund, which is classified as a governmental fund and therefore does not present proprietary or fiduciary fund categories.

D. FUND TYPES AND MAJOR FUND

An emphasis is placed on major funds within the governmental categories. A fund is considered major if it is a primary operating fund of the Cooperative.

The Cooperative only has one fund. This fund is described below.

Governmental Funds

General Fund - The General Fund is established by South Dakota Codified Laws (SDCL) 13-16-3 to meet the general operational costs of the Cooperative. The General Fund is always a major fund.

E. MEASUREMENT FOCUS AND BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

Measurement focus is a term used to describe "how" transactions are recorded within the various financial statements. Basis of accounting refers to "when" revenues and expenditures or expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements, regardless of the measurement focus.

Measurement Focus

Government-wide Financial Statements

In the government-wide Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities, the governmental activities are presented using the "economic resources" measurement focus, applied on the accrual basis of accounting.

Fund Financial Statements

In the fund financial statements the "current financial resources" measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting are applied to the governmental fund types.

Basis of Accounting

Government-wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, regardless of when the related cash flows take place. Non-exchange transactions, in which the Cooperative gives (or receives) value without directly receiving (or giving) equal value in exchange, include grants and donations. Revenues from grants and donations are recognized in the fiscal year during which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied.

Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Notes to the Financial Statements
June 30, 2017

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Fund Financial Statements

In the fund financial statements, the governmental fund is reported using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized when measurable and available. The Cooperative considers significant revenues reported in the governmental fund to be available if the revenues are collected within sixty days after year-end.

Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on general long-term debt, claims and judgments, compensated absences, and changes in the OPEB liability, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent they have matured. General capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in the governmental fund. Proceeds of general long-term debt and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources. Under the terms of grant agreements, the Cooperative funds certain programs by a combination of specific cost-reimbursement grants and general revenues. Thus, when program expenses are incurred, there is both restricted and unrestricted net position available to finance the program. It is the Cooperative's policy to first apply cost-reimbursement grant resources to such programs, followed by general revenues.

F. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

Accounts receivable are considered by management to be fully collectible, and accordingly, no allowance for doubtful accounts is considered necessary.

G. INVENTORY

Inventory is stated at the lower of cost or market. The cost valuation method is first-in, first-out.

In the government-wide financial statements, inventory items are initially recorded as assets and charged to expense in the various functions of government as they are consumed.

In the General Fund inventory consist of expendable supplies held for consumption. The cost is recorded as an expenditure at the time individual inventory items are purchased. Reported inventories are equally offset by a non-spendable portion of fund balance which indicates that they do not constitute "available spendable resources" even though they are a component of net current assets.

H. CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital assets include a building, machinery, and equipment that are used in operations and that have initial useful lives extending beyond a single reporting period.

Government-wide Financial Statements

All capital assets are valued at historical cost or estimated historical cost if actual historical cost is not available. Donated capital assets are valued at their estimated fair value on the date donated.

Depreciation expense is calculated using the straight-line method. Depreciation of exhaustible fixed assets for machinery and equipment is recorded as an allocated expense in the Statement of Activities. The net capital assets are reflected in the Statement of Net Position.

Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Notes to the Financial Statements
June 30, 2017

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Capitalization thresholds (the dollar value above which asset acquisitions are added to the capital asset accounts), depreciation methods, and estimated useful lives of capital assets reported in the Statement of Net Position are as follows:

	Capitalization Threshold	Depreciation Method	Estimated Useful Life
Machinery and Equipment	\$5,000	Straight line	5 - 15 yrs

Fund Financial Statements:

In the fund financial statements, capital assets used in governmental fund operations are accounted for as capital expenditures of the governmental fund upon acquisition.

I. LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

The accounting treatment of long-term liabilities differs between the government-wide and fund financial statements.

Government-wide Financial Statements

All long-term liabilities to be repaid from governmental resources are reported as liabilities in the government-wide statements when incurred. The long-term liabilities consist of compensated absences, and other post-employment benefits (OPEB) liability. Note 12 provides more information on the OPEB liability. Accounting policies related to compensated absences payable are as follows:

Annual vacation is earned by salaried employees as outlined in their individual contracts. Vacation can be accrued up to 160 hours. Paid personal leave is earned by hourly employees based upon length of service. Paid personal leave can be accrued up to 160 hours. Upon termination, employees are entitled to receive compensation for their accrued vacation or paid personal leave balance.

Sick leave is earned by salaried employees as per their individual contracts. Sick leave can be accrued to 480 or 640 hours, depending on employment class. Upon termination, salaried and certified employees are not entitled to receive compensation for accrued sick leave balances.

Fund Financial Statements

In the fund financial statements, debt proceeds are reported as revenues and payment of principal and interest is reported as expenditures when they become due. Compensated absences and OPEB obligations are recorded as expenditures when paid.

J. DEFERRED OUTFLOWS/INFLOWS OF RESOURCES

The Cooperative reports increases in net position that relate to future periods as deferred outflows of resources in a separate section of its government-wide statement of net position. The only deferred outflow of resources reported is a deferred amount arising from the Cooperative's pension plan for qualified retirees as discussed in Note 7. There are no deferred outflows of resources reported in the fund balance sheet.

The Cooperative's governmental funds report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This section reflects a decrease in net position that applies to a future period or periods. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, governmental fund revenues are not recognized until available (collected no later than 60 days after the end of the Cooperative's fiscal year). The Cooperative reports earned but unavailable grants and charges for services as deferred inflows of resources in the governmental fund. The Cooperative reports pension-related deferred inflows of resources in the government-wide financial statements.

Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Notes to the Financial Statements
June 30, 2017

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

K. UNEARNED REVENUE

The governmental funds report various grants and payments received in advance of the eligibility criteria for revenue recognition as unearned revenue.

L. NET POSITION AND FUND BALANCE

Government-wide Financial Statements:

It is the Cooperative's policy to first use restricted net position, prior to the use of unrestricted net position, when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position are available. Net position reported in the Statement of Net Position includes the following:

Net Investment in Capital Assets - Consists of capital assets, including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation (if applicable) and reduced by the outstanding balances of borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, or improvement of those assets.

Restricted - Consists of net position with constraints placed on its use either by (a) external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws and regulations of other governments; or (b) law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Unrestricted - Represents all other net position that does not meet the definition of "restricted" or "net investment in capital assets."

Fund Financial Statements:

The Cooperative classifies governmental fund balances as follows:

Nonspendable - Includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are either not in spendable form or are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

Restricted - Constraints are placed on the use of resources by either (a) externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments, or (b) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Assigned - Amounts that are constrained by the Cooperative's intent to be used for specific purposes but are not restricted. Amounts can be assigned by committees of the Board of Directors or management of the Cooperative.

Unassigned - Represents fund balance that has not been assigned to other funds and that has not been restricted or assigned.

The Cooperative uses restricted amounts first when both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available unless there are legal documents or contracts that prohibit doing this, such as a grant agreement requiring dollar for dollar spending. Additionally, the Cooperative would first use assigned and then unassigned amounts of fund balance when expenditures are made.

The Cooperative does not have a formal minimum fund balance policy.

M. PROGRAM REVENUE

In the Statement of Activities, reported program revenue is derived directly from the program itself or from other parties, as a whole. Program revenues are classified into two categories, as follows:

Charges for Services - These arise from charges to customers, applicants, or others who purchase, use, or directly benefit from the goods, services, or privileges provided, or are otherwise directly affected by the services.

Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Notes to the Financial Statements
June 30, 2017

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Program Revenues - Operating Grants and Contributions - These arise from mandatory and voluntary non-exchange transactions with other governments, organizations, or individuals that are restricted for use in a particular program.

NOTE 2 - DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

Statutes impose various restrictions on deposits and investments. These restrictions are summarized below:

Deposits - The Cooperative's deposits are made in qualified public depositories as defined by SDCL 4-6A-1, 13-16-15, 13-16-15.1, and 13-16-18.1. Qualified depositories are required by SDCL 4-6A-3 to maintain at all times, segregated from their other assets, eligible collateral having a value equal to at least 100 percent of the public deposit accounts which exceed deposit insurance such as the FDIC and NCUA. In lieu of pledging eligible securities, a qualified public depository may furnish irrevocable standby letters of credit issued by federal home loan banks accompanied by written evidence of that bank's public debt rating which may not be less than "AA", or a qualified public depository may furnish a corporate surety bond of a corporation authorized to do business in South Dakota.

Investments - In general, SDCL 4-5-6 permits the Cooperative's funds to be invested in (a) securities of the United States and securities guaranteed by the United States Government either directly or indirectly or (b) repurchase agreements fully collateralized by securities described in (a) or in shares of an open-end, no-load mutual fund administered by an investment company whose investments are in securities described in (a) and repurchase agreements described in (b). Also, SDCL 4-5-9 requires that investments shall be in the physical custody of the political subdivision or may be deposited in a safekeeping account with any bank or trust company designated by the political subdivision as its fiscal agent.

Credit Risk - State law limits eligible investments for the Cooperative, as discussed above. The Cooperative has no investment policy that would further limit its investment choices. As of June 30, 2017, the Cooperative did not have any investments.

Custodial Credit Risk - Deposits - The risk that, in the event of a depository failure, the Cooperative's deposits may not be returned to it. The Cooperative does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk.

Interest Rate Risk - The Cooperative does not have a formal investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates.

NOTE 3 - DUE FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTS

Amounts due from other governments include reimbursements from state and federal grants and charges for services.

Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Notes to the Financial Statements
June 30, 2017

NOTE 4 - CHANGES IN CAPITAL ASSETS

A summary of changes in capital assets for the year ended June 30, 2017 is as follows:

	<u>Balance</u> <u>June 30, 2016</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deletions</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>June 30, 2017</u>
Capital Assets Being Depreciated:				
Machinery and Equipment	\$ 1,104,677	\$ 101,962	\$ 20,670	\$ 1,185,969
Subtotals	<u>1,104,677</u>	<u>101,962</u>	<u>20,670</u>	<u>1,185,969</u>
Less: Accumulated Depreciation				
Machinery and Equipment	791,205	107,397	20,670	877,932
Subtotal	<u>791,205</u>	<u>107,397</u>	<u>20,670</u>	<u>877,932</u>
Net Capital Assets	<u>\$ 313,472</u>	<u>\$ (5,435)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 308,037</u>

Depreciation expense was charged to governmental functions as follows:

Instruction	\$ 1,203
Support Services	104,693
Community Services	<u>1,501</u>
	<u>\$ 107,397</u>

NOTE 5 - LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

The following is a summary of changes in long-term liabilities for the year ended June 30, 2017:

	<u>Balance</u> <u>June 30, 2016</u>	<u>Increase</u>	<u>Decrease</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>June 30, 2017</u>	<u>Due Within</u> <u>One Year</u>
Compensated Absences	\$ 177,219	\$ 239,430	\$ 254,268	\$ 162,381	\$ 162,381
OPEB Liability	<u>254,037</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,042</u>	<u>251,995</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>\$ 431,256</u>	<u>\$ 239,430</u>	<u>\$ 256,310</u>	<u>\$ 414,376</u>	<u>\$ 162,381</u>

NOTE 6 - OPERATING LEASES

Numerous operating leases exist for buildings, vehicles, and equipment which expire at various dates through 2021. Operating lease expense for the year ended June 30, 2017 was \$829,735. One operating lease for a building is with an employee of the Cooperative and is a month-to-month operating lease. The lease expense related to this lease for the year ended June 30, 2017 was \$2,400. The Cooperative also subleases a portion of the office space leased through an operating lease at one of its locations. The revenue received for the year ended June 30, 2017 was \$5,368.

Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Notes to the Financial Statements
June 30, 2017

NOTE 6 - OPERATING LEASES (CONTINUED)

The following are the minimum payments on existing operating leases:

Year Ending June 30,	Amount
2018	\$ 721,678
2019	104,432
2020	83,611
2021	31,272

NOTE 7 - PENSION PLAN

Plan Information

All employees working more than 20 hours per week during the school year participate in the South Dakota Retirement System (SDRS), a cost-sharing, multiple employer defined benefit pension plan administered by SDRS to provide retirement benefits for employees of the State of South Dakota and its political subdivisions. The SDRS provides retirement, disability and survivor benefits. The right to receive retirement benefits vests after three years of credited service. Authority for establishing, administering and amending plan provisions are found in South Dakota Codified Law 3-12. The SDRS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. That report may be obtained by writing to the SDRS, PO Box 1098, Pierre, SD 57501-1098 or by calling (605) 773-3731.

Benefits Provided

SDRS has three different classes of employees, Class A, Class B public safety, and Class B judicial. Class A retirement benefits are determined as 1.7 percent prior to 2008 and 1.55 percent thereafter of the employee's final 3-year average compensation times the employee's years of service. Employees with 3 years of service are eligible to retire at age 55. Class B public safety benefits are determined as 2.4 percent for service prior to 2008 and 2.0 percent thereafter of employee final average compensation. Class B judicial benefits are determined as 3.733 percent for service prior to 2008 and 3.333 percent thereafter of employee final average compensation. All Class B employees with 3 years of service are eligible to retire at age 45. Employees are eligible for service-related disability benefits regardless of length of service. Three years of service is required for nonservice-related disability eligibility. Disability benefits are determined in the same manner as retirement benefits but are payable immediately without an actuarial reduction. Death benefits are a percent of the employee's final average salary.

The annual increase in the amount of the SDRS benefits payable each July 1st is indexed to the consumer price index (CPI) based on SDRS funded status:

- If the SDRS market value funded ratio is:
 - 100% or more - 3.1% COLA
 - 80.0% to 99.9%, index with the CPI
 - 90.0% to 99.9% funded - 2.1% minimum and 2.8% maximum COLA
 - 80.0% to 90.0% funded - 2.1% minimum and 2.4% maximum COLA
 - Less than 80% - 2.1% COLA

All benefits except those depending on the Member's Accumulated Contributions are annually increased by the Cost-of-Living Adjustment.

Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Notes to the Financial Statements
June 30, 2017

NOTE 7 - PENSION PLAN (CONTINUED)

Contributions

Per SDCL 3-12, contribution requirements of the active employees and the participating employers are established and may be amended by the SDRS Board. Covered employees are required by state statute to contribute the following percentages of their salary to the plan; Class A Members, 6.0% of salary; Class B Judicial Members, 9.0% of salary; and Class B Public Safety Members, 8.0% of salary. State statute also requires the employer to contribute an amount equal to the employee's contribution. State statute also requires the employer to make an additional contribution in the amount of 6.2 percent for any compensation exceeding the maximum taxable amount for social security for general employees only. The Cooperative's share of contributions to the SDRS for the years ended June 30, 2017, 2016, and 2015, were \$800,137, \$766,880, and \$774,673, respectively, equal to the required contributions each year.

Pension Liabilities (Assets), Pension Expense (Revenue), and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources to Pensions

At June 30, 2016, SDRS was 96.89% funded and, accordingly, had a net pension liability. The proportionate share of the components of the net pension liability (asset) of South Dakota Retirement System, for the Cooperative as of the measurement period ending June 30, 2016 and reported by the Cooperative as of June 30, 2017 are as follows:

Proportionate Share of Total Pension Liability	\$ 72,949,551
Less: Proportionate Share of Net Pension Restricted for Pension Benefits	<u>70,678,694</u>
Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability (Asset)	<u>\$ 2,270,857</u>

At June 30, 2017, the Cooperative reported a liability of \$2,270,857 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2016 and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was based on a projection of the Cooperative's share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the contributions of all participating entities. June 30, 2016, the Cooperative's proportion was .672% which is a decrease of .036% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2015.

Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Notes to the Financial Statements
June 30, 2017

NOTE 7 - PENSION PLAN (CONTINUED)

For the year ended June 30, 2017, the Cooperative recognized pension expense of \$834,097. At June 30, 2017 the Cooperative reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Difference Between Expected and Actual Experience	\$ 790,536	\$ -
Changes in Assumption	1,360,136	-
Net Difference Between Projected and Actual Earnings on Pension Plan Investments	2,525,960	-
Changes in Proportion and Difference between Cooperative Contributions and Proportionate Share of Contributions	140,861	-
Cooperative Contributions Subsequent to the Measurement Date	800,137	-
Total	\$ 5,617,630	\$ -

\$800,137 is reported as deferred outflow of resources related to pensions resulting from Cooperative contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ending June 30, 2018. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension revenue as follows:

Year Ended June 30,	
2016	\$ 1,304,373
2017	805,793
2018	1,640,312
2019	1,067,015
2020	-
Thereafter	-
Total	\$ 4,817,493

Actuarial Assumptions

The total pension liability (asset) in the June 30, 2016 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation	3.25 percent
Salary Increases	5.83 percent at entry to 3.87 percent after 30 years of service
Investment Rate of Return	7.25 percent through 2017 and 7.50 percent thereafter, net of pension plan investment expense

Mortality rates were based on the RP-2000 Employee Mortality Table for males and females, as appropriate.

Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Notes to the Financial Statements
June 30, 2017

NOTE 7 - PENSION PLAN (CONTINUED)

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2016 valuation were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2011. The mortality assumptions were revised based on an extension of the experience study including mortality experience through June 30, 2013.

Investment portfolio management is the statutory responsibility of the South Dakota Investment Council (SDIC), which may utilize the services of external money managers for management of a portion of the portfolio. SDIC is governed by the Prudent Man Rule (i.e., the council should use the same degree of care as a prudent man). Current SDIC investment policies dictate limits on the percentage of assets invested in various types of vehicles (equities, fixed income securities, real estate, cash, private equity, etc.). The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighing the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. Best estimates of real rates of return for each major asset class included in the pension plan's target asset allocation as of June 30, 2016 (see the discussion of the pension plan's investment policy) are summarized in the following table using geometric means:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
Global Equity	58.0%	4.5%
Fixed Income	30.0%	1.8%
Real Estate	10.0%	4.6%
Cash	<u>2.0%</u>	0.7%
Total	<u>100%</u>	

Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.25% through 2017 and 7.50% thereafter. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that employee contributions will be made at the current contribution rate and that matching employer contributions from will be made at rates equal to the member rate. Based on these assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of Liability (Asset) to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following presents the Cooperative's proportionate share of net pension liability (asset) calculated using the discount rate of 7.25% through 2017 and 7.50% thereafter, as well as what the Cooperative's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset) would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage point lower (6.25/6.50%) or 1-percentage point higher (8.25/8.50%) than the current rate:

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
Cooperative's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	<u>\$ 12,707,685</u>	<u>\$ 2,270,857</u>	<u>\$ (6,241,497)</u>

Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Notes to the Financial Statements
June 30, 2017

NOTE 7 - PENSION PLAN (CONTINUED)

Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position

Detailed information about the plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued SDRS financial report.

NOTE 8 - RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Cooperative was formed through a joint venture between twelve school districts. The school districts are Belle Fourche School District 9-1, Custer School District 16-1, Douglas School District 51-1, Edgemont School District 23-1, Haakon School District 27-1, Hill City School District 51-2, Hot Springs School District 23-2, Lead-Deadwood School District 40-1, Meade School District 46-1, Oelrichs School District 23-3, Rapid City School District 51-4, and Spearfish School District 40-2. The Cooperative receives annual membership fees, tuition fees, and other service fees from its member school districts in return for providing technical assistance, consultation or specialty services such as psychology or therapy services.

For the year ended June 30, 2017, the Cooperative earned revenue of \$6,057,982 as a result of membership fees, services fees, and tuition from member school districts.

The Cooperative also contracts with some of the member school districts to provide meal services, busing, and transportation. As a result of these contracts, the Cooperative paid \$200,911 to contracted member school districts for the year ended June 30, 2017.

NOTE 9 - JOINT VENTURE

The Cooperative participates in the Black Hills Educational Benefits Cooperative (BHEBC), a cooperative service unit formed for the purpose of providing health insurance services to the member school districts.

The members of the joint venture are Black Hills Special Services Cooperative, New Underwood School District 51-3, Wall School District 51-5, Custer School District 16-1, Oelrichs School District 23-3, and Belle Fourche School District 9-1.

BHEBC's governing board is comprised of two representatives from each member district. The Board is responsible for adopting the budget and setting service fees at a level adequate to fund the adopted budget. Members are not liable for claims in excess of BHEBC's assets.

Separate financial statements may be obtained by writing to BHEBC, PO Box 218, Sturgis SD 57785. At June 30, 2017, this joint venture had unaudited total assets of \$5,698,777, liabilities of \$340,828, equity of \$5,357,948 and no long-term debt.

NOTE 10 - CONCENTRATION OF BUSINESS RELATIONSHIP

The Cooperative engages in significant business transactions with the West River Foundation (the Foundation). The nature of these transactions results in a concentration of business relationship. The various transactions between the Cooperative and Foundation are as follows:

The Cooperative leases a majority of its building space from the Foundation. During the year ended June 30, 2017, the Cooperative paid \$608,025 for operating leases for vehicles and rent. In addition, the Cooperative also purchased \$48,613 of equipment, supplies, and services from the Foundation. The Foundation also reimburses the Cooperative for its use of the Cooperative's administrative and clerical personnel and other expenses. For the year ended June 30, 2017, the Foundation remitted \$21,163 for these services.

Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Notes to the Financial Statements
June 30, 2017

NOTE 10 - CONCENTRATION OF BUSINESS RELATIONSHIP (CONTINUED)

The Cooperative has contract agreements with the Foundation for administration of various programs, such as the West River Business Service Center, and for purchases of goods and services. During the year ended June 30, 2017, the Foundation paid the Cooperative \$1,242,327 for these services. In addition, as of June 30, 2017, the Cooperative had outstanding accounts receivable of \$161,236 due from the Foundation, and \$13,599 in accounts payable due to the Foundation.

NOTE 11 - RISK MANAGEMENT

The Cooperative is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During the year ended June 30, 2017, the Cooperative managed its risks as follows:

Employee Health Insurance

The Cooperative joined together with other educational units in the state to form a public entity risk pool as discussed in Notes 9 and 12. This is a public entity risk pool currently operating as a common risk management and insurance program for the six member school districts. The Cooperative pays a monthly premium to the pool to provide health insurance coverage for its employees. The pool purchases reinsurance coverage with the premiums it receives from the members. The coverage provides a deductible of \$1,500 per person up to \$3,000 per family. The plan also provides for coinsurance of 70 or 80 percent up to \$5,000. The coverage also includes a \$1,000,000 lifetime maximum payment per person.

The Cooperative does not carry additional health insurance coverage to pay claims in excess of this upper limit. Settled claims resulting from these risks have never exceeded the liability coverage.

Liability Insurance

The Cooperative purchases liability insurance for risks related to torts; theft or damage to property; and errors and omissions of public officials from a commercial insurance carrier. In prior years, settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded the Cooperative's liability coverage.

Worker's Compensation

The Cooperative purchases insurance for worker's compensation from a commercial insurance carrier. In prior years, settled claims resulting from these risks have not exceeded the Cooperative's liability coverage.

Unemployment Benefits

The Cooperative provides coverage for unemployment benefits by paying into the Unemployment Compensation Fund established by state law and managed by the State of South Dakota.

Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Notes to the Financial Statements
June 30, 2017

NOTE 12 - POST-EMPLOYMENT HEALTHCARE PLAN

Plan Description

The Cooperative offers a health insurance plan, established under SDCL 13-10-3, through Black Hills Educational Benefits Cooperative (BHEBC), which is a cooperative service unit formed for the purpose of providing health insurance services to member school districts as previously described in Notes 9 and 11. The members participate in a cost-sharing plan by pooling their participants to receive better insurance premiums than the members would receive individually. The premiums of the covered retirees are established by BHEBC, but the Cooperative's board determines retiree and employer contribution rates. Because of this cost-sharing structure, the health insurance plan would fall under a cost sharing multiple-employer OPEB plan arrangement. However, the members have not committed to share the annual OPEB costs, actuarial accrued liabilities, plan assets, or unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities and each member is receiving a separate actuarial report. Because the OPEB costs are not shared, each member's separate actuarial valuation falls under the accounting for single-employer OPEB plans. The health insurance plan does not issue separately stated stand-alone financial statements.

An employee of the Cooperative who is eligible to participate in the group health plan is covered. A covered individual who retires from the Cooperative and is at least age 55, has ten years of continuous service with the Cooperative and is currently participating in the group insurance plan at the time of retirement is eligible for health insurance. Spousal and dependent coverage is provided as long as the required contributions are paid. Spouses may continue coverage after the retiree's coverage terminates until the spouse is eligible for Medicare. Non-spouse dependents may continue coverage for a maximum of 36 months or until the dependent is eligible for Medicare, whichever is shorter. The eligible retiree must pay monthly contributions based on 100% of the full active employee premium rate. The eligible retiree must pay monthly contributions based on 100% of the full active premium rates for either single or family coverage. All coverage ceases when the retiree or spouse attains age 65 or becomes eligible for Medicare except for COBRA continuation if elected.

Annual OPEB Cost

The Cooperative's annual other post-employment benefit (OPEB) cost is calculated based on the annual required contribution (ARC) of the employer, and amount actuarially determined in accordance with the parameters of GASB Statement 45. The ARC represents a level of funding that, if paid on an ongoing basis, is projected to cover normal cost each year and amortize any unfunded actuarial liabilities over a period not to exceed thirty years. The following table shows the financial components of the plan:

ARC	\$ 12,842
Interest on Net OPEB	12,067
Adjustment to ARC	<u>(16,058)</u>
Annual OPEB Cost	8,851
Contributions Made	<u>(10,893)</u>
Change in Net OPEB Obligation	(2,042)
Net OPEB Obligation - Beginning	<u>254,037</u>
Net OPEB Obligation - Ending	<u>\$ 251,995</u>

Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Notes to the Financial Statements
June 30, 2017

NOTE 12 - POST-EMPLOYMENT HEALTHCARE PLAN (CONTINUED)

The Cooperative's annual OPEB cost data and net OPEB obligation was as follows:

Fiscal Year Ended	Annual OPEB Cost	Contributions	Percentage of Annual OPEB Cost Contributed	Net OPEB Obligation
6/30/2015	\$ 18,686	\$ -	0.00%	\$ 267,225
6/30/2016	17,789	30,977	174.14%	254,037
6/30/2017	8,851	10,893	123.07%	251,995

Funded Status and Funding Progress

Actuarial valuations of an ongoing plan involve estimates of the value of reported amounts and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future. Examples include assumptions about future employment, mortality, and the healthcare cost trend. Amounts determined regarding the funded status of the plan and the annual required contributions of the employer are subject to continual revision as actual results are compared with past expectations and new estimates are made about the future.

The Schedule of Funding Progress, presented as required supplementary information following the notes to the financial statements, presents multiyear trend information that shows whether the actuarial value of plan assets is increasing or decreasing over time relative to the actuarial accrued liabilities for benefits.

Actuarial Methods and Assumptions

Projections of benefits for financial reporting purposes are based on the substantive plan (the plan as understood by the employer and plan members) and include the types of benefits provided at the time of each valuation and the historical pattern of sharing of benefit costs between the employer and plan members to that point.

The actuarial methods and assumptions used include techniques that are designed to reduce short-term volatility in actuarial accrued liabilities and the actuarial value of assets, consistent with the long-term perspective of the calculations.

The projected unit credit actuarial cost method was used to determine the annual required contribution.

The actuarial value of assets must be determined based on some recognition of the fair market value of assets. Initially, the actuarial value of assets is to be equal to the fair market value of assets. This method will be formally adopted after decisions regarding the OPEB Plan's funding and investment policy are made.

The unfunded accrued liability is being amortized as a level dollar amount on an open basis over a period of thirty years.

Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Notes to the Financial Statements
June 30, 2017

NOTE 12 - POST-EMPLOYMENT HEALTHCARE PLAN (CONTINUED)

The actuarial assumptions include:

The assumed claim costs were determined from the self-insured premiums and underlying claim experience of the OPEB Plans actuarial age adjustment factors. The retiree participation rate is 25% for employees currently electing coverage. The assumed retirement rates are as follows:

<u>Age</u>	<u>Rate</u>
55	10.0%
56-57	2.5%
58-59	5.0%
60-61	10.0%
62	25.0%
63-64	10.0%
65 and Over	100.0%

The actuarial present value of future benefits is the present value necessary today to provide for a benefit payment or series of benefit payments in the future for all plan participants. It is determined by discounting the future benefit payments at the assumed investment return of 4.75% and reflects the probability of payment. Both the rate of return and the healthcare cost trend rate include assumed inflation rate of 3.0%. The health care cost trend rates are as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Expense Rate</u>
2017	5.0%
2018	5.0%
2019	5.0%
2020	5.0%
2021	5.0%

NOTE 13 - SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The Cooperative has evaluated subsequent events through the date of the independent auditor's report, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

**Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Budgetary Comparison Schedule -
General Fund - Budgetary Basis
For the Year Ended June 30, 2017**

	<u>Budgeted Amounts</u>		<u>Actual</u>	Variance
	<u>Original</u>	<u>Final</u>		Favorable (Unfavorable)
REVENUES				
Revenue from Local Sources:				
Tuition and Fees	\$ 1,683,500	\$ 1,683,500	\$ 1,735,932	\$ 52,432
Transportation Fees	680,000	680,000	41,305	(638,695)
Earnings on Investments and Deposits	5,000	5,000	10,992	5,992
Other Revenue from Local Sources	15,546,869	15,546,869	14,587,849	(959,020)
Revenue from State Sources	6,305,676	6,350,326	4,905,771	(1,444,555)
Revenue from Federal Sources	4,874,020	4,874,020	4,420,971	(453,049)
Total Revenues	<u>29,095,065</u>	<u>29,139,715</u>	<u>25,702,820</u>	<u>(3,436,895)</u>
EXPENDITURES				
Instruction:				
Regular Programs	1,372,000	1,372,000	1,231,388	140,612
Special Programs	2,425,212	2,425,213	2,528,719	(103,506)
Adult Continuing Education Programs	353,264	353,264	375,795	(22,531)
Total Instruction	<u>4,150,476</u>	<u>4,150,477</u>	<u>4,135,902</u>	<u>14,575</u>
Support Services:				
Pupils	4,350,755	4,350,755	4,332,480	18,275
Instruction Staff	4,332,736	4,332,737	4,092,465	240,272
General Administration	1,321,916	1,321,916	1,277,496	44,420
Other Administrative Support Services	119,148	119,148	135,879	(16,731)
Business	4,343,699	4,343,699	2,294,145	2,049,554
Central	1,112,376	1,112,376	1,147,443	(35,067)
Special Education	839,946	839,946	850,116	(10,170)
Other Support Services	1,170,343	1,170,344	1,016,864	153,480
Resale Services	5,000	5,000	6,254	(1,254)
Total Support Services	<u>17,595,919</u>	<u>17,595,921</u>	<u>15,153,142</u>	<u>2,442,779</u>
Community Services	<u>7,358,670</u>	<u>7,403,317</u>	<u>6,830,838</u>	<u>572,479</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>29,105,065</u>	<u>29,149,715</u>	<u>26,119,882</u>	<u>3,029,833</u>

See independent auditor's report and the accompanying notes
to the required supplementary information.

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance
	Original	Final		Favorable (Unfavorable)
Excess of Expenditures Over Revenues	(10,000)	(10,000)	(417,062)	(407,062)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES				
Proceeds from the Sale of Capital Assets	10,000	10,000	4,998	(5,002)
Proceeds from Insurance	-	-	5,889	5,889
Total Other Financing Sources	10,000	10,000	10,887	887
EXCESS OF EXPENDITURES OVER OVER REVENUES AND OTHER FINANCING SOURCES				
	-	-	(406,175)	(406,175)
Changes in Nonspendable Fund Balance	-	-	(20,033)	(20,033)
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	-	-	(426,208)	(426,208)
FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING	3,514,490	3,514,490	3,514,490	-
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	<u>\$ 3,514,490</u>	<u>\$ 3,514,490</u>	<u>\$ 3,088,282</u>	<u>\$ (426,208)</u>

See independent auditor's report and the accompanying notes
to the required supplementary information.

Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Notes to Required Supplementary Information
June 30, 2017

NOTE 1 - BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The Budgetary Comparison Schedule has been prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting. The Budgetary Comparison Schedule - General Fund - Budgetary Basis presents capital outlay expenditures within each function, while the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance - Governmental Fund presents capital outlay expenditures as a separate function.

NOTE 2 - BUDGETS AND BUDGETARY ACCOUNTING

The Cooperative follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the financial statements:

1. Prior to the first regular board meeting in May of each year, the Cooperative board causes to be prepared a proposed budget for the next fiscal year according to the budgetary standards prescribed by the Auditor General.
2. The proposed budget is considered by the Cooperative Board at the first regular meeting held in the month of May of each year.
3. The proposed budget is published for public review no later than July 15 each year.
4. Public hearings are held to solicit member input prior to the approval of the budget.
5. Before October 1 of each year, the Cooperative board must approve the budget for the ensuing fiscal year.
6. After adoption by the Cooperative board, the operating budget is legally binding and actual expenditures of each fund cannot exceed the amounts budgeted. An exception exists when, if it is determined during the year that sufficient amounts have not been budgeted, state statute allows the adoption of supplemental budgets when moneys are available to increase legal spending authority.
7. A line item for contingencies may be included in the annual budget. Such a line item may not exceed 5 percent of the total Cooperative budget and may be transferred by resolution of the Cooperative to any other budget category, except for capital outlay, that is deemed insufficient during the year.
8. Unexpended appropriations lapse at year-end unless encumbered by resolution of the board. No encumbrances were outstanding at June 30, 2017.
9. Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device during the year for the General Fund.
10. Budgets for the General Fund are adopted on a basis consistent with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).

See independent auditor's report and the accompanying notes
to the required supplementary information.

**Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Schedule of Funding Progress
For Retiree Health Insurance Coverage
For the Year Ended June 30, 2017**

Actuarial Valuation Date	Actuarial Value of Assets (a)	Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) Entry Age (b)	Unfunded AAL (UAAL) (b-a)	Funded Ratio (a/b)	Covered Payroll (c)	UAAL as a Percentage of Covered Payroll ((b- a)/c)
6/30/2013	\$ -	\$ 450,316	\$ 450,316	0.0%	10,884,727	4.1%
6/30/2015	-	207,740	207,740	0.0%	11,060,861	1.9%
6/30/2017	-	115,621	115,621	0.0%	11,339,990	1.0%

See independent auditor's report and the accompanying notes
to the required supplementary information.

**Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Schedule of Net Pension Liability (Asset)
For the Years Ended June 30**

	2017	2016	2015
Cooperative's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	0.6722685%	0.7083794%	0.7114084%
Cooperative's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	\$ 2,270,857	\$ (3,004,440)	\$ (5,125,407)
Cooperative's Covered-employee Payroll	\$ 12,780,404	\$ 12,931,725	\$ 12,439,879
Cooperative's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) as a Percentage of its Covered-employee Payroll	17.77%	-23.23%	-41.20%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability (Asset)	96.89%	104.10%	107.29%

See independent auditor's report and the accompanying notes
to the required supplementary information.

**Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Schedule of Pension Contributions
For the Years Ended June 30**

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ 800,137	\$ 766,880	\$ 774,673
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually-required Contribution	<u>800,137</u>	<u>766,880</u>	<u>774,673</u>
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Cooperative's Covered-employee Payroll	\$ 13,335,609	\$ 12,780,404	\$ 12,931,725
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-employee Payroll	6.0%	6.0%	6.0%

See independent auditor's report and the accompanying notes
to the required supplementary information.

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

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**Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Cooperative Officials
June 30, 2017**

BOARD MEMBERS

Anita Peterson, President
Susan Humiston, Vice President
Bryan Bauer
Amy Cermak
Tammy Clem
Heath Greenough
Jim Hansen
Kim Henningsen
Dennis Krull
Tanya Olson
Orson Ward
Charlie Wheeler

DIRECTOR

Joe Hauge

BUSINESS MANAGER

Georgia Sandgren

See independent auditor's report.

**Black Hills Special Services Cooperative
Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards
For the Year Ended June 30, 2017**

Federal CFDA Number	Federal Program or Cluster Title	Pass-through Entity	Pass-through Entity Identifying Number	Expenditures For the Year Ended June 30, 2017	Passed Through to Subrecipients June 30, 2017
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE					
Child Nutrition Cluster:					
10 . 553	School Breakfast Program (Note 2)	South Dakota Department of Education	2017G-SNP40201	\$ 33,272	\$ -
10 . 555	National School Lunch Program	South Dakota Department of Education	2017G-SNP40201	72,795	-
	Total Child Nutrition Cluster			106,067	-
10 . 578	WIC Grants to States (WGS)	South Dakota Department of Health	16CS090079	68,162	-
	TOTAL U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE			<u>174,229</u>	<u>-</u>
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE					
12 . 404	National Guard Challenge Program	South Dakota Department of Military	162417163/162417164, 162417238/162417239	1,041,669	-
	TOTAL U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE			<u>1,041,669</u>	<u>-</u>
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR					
17 . 264	National Farmworker Jobs Program			530,790	-
17 . 278	WIA/WIOA Dislocated Worker Formula Grants	South Dakota Department of Labor	15-JT-004	196,713	-
	TOTAL U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR			<u>727,503</u>	<u>-</u>
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION					
84 . 002	Adult Education - Basic Grants to States	South Dakota Department of Labor	17-AB-002	215,000	-
84 . 027	Special Education-Grants to States	South Dakota Department of Education	17SC195006, 18SC195006	234,013	-
84 . 027	Special Education-Grants to States	South Dakota Department of Education	2016G-464	14,195	-
84 . 048	Career and Technical Education - Basic Grants to States	South Dakota Department of Education	2017G-CP40201	55,950	53,297
84 . 126	Rehabilitation Services - Vocational Rehabilitation Grants to States	South Dakota Department of Human Services	16SC195118, 17SC195152	42,739	-
84 . 126	Rehabilitation Services - Vocational Rehabilitation Grants to States	South Dakota Department of Human Services	17SC195006, 18SC195006	234,014	-
84 . 126	Rehabilitation Services - Vocational Rehabilitation Grants to States	South Dakota Department of Human Services	17SC195145, 18SC195108	70,138	-
84 . 224	Assistive Technology	South Dakota Department of Human Services	17SC195115-2	113,430	-
84 . 287	Twenty-First Century Community Learning Centers	South Dakota Department of Education	2017G-21CC40201	469,065	-
84 . 365	English Language Acquisition State Grants	South Dakota Department of Education	2017G-TIII40201	234,409	-
84 . 366	Mathematics and Science Partnerships	South Dakota Department of Education	T2B-17-06,T2B-17-07	224,420	-
84 . 418	Promoting Readiness of Minors in Supplemental Security Income	South Dakota Department of Human Services	5195-607-001 16, 9195-605- 001 17	317,481	-
	TOTAL U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION			<u>2,224,854</u>	<u>53,297</u>

See independent auditor's report.

Federal CFDA Number	Federal Program or Cluster Title	Pass-through Entity	Pass-through Entity Identifying Number	Expenditures For the Year Ended June 30, 2017	Passed Through to Subrecipients June 30, 2017
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES					
93 . 464	ACL Assistive Technology	South Dakota Department of Human Services	17SC195107-5	280,385	-
93 . 630	Developmental Disabilities Basic Support and Advocacy Grants	South Dakota Department of Human Services	17SC191085	<u>15,000</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES				<u>295,385</u>	<u>-</u>
CORPORATION OF NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES					
94 .006	AmeriCorps			13,571	-
94 .011	Foster Grandparent Program			101,781	-
94 .013	Volunteers in Service to America			<u>11,375</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL CORPORATION OF NATIONAL AND COMMUNITY SERVICES				<u>126,727</u>	<u>-</u>
SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION					
96 .008	Social Security - Work Incentives Planning and Assistance Program			<u>112,277</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION				<u>112,277</u>	<u>-</u>
GRAND TOTAL				<u>\$ 4,702,644</u>	<u>\$ 53,297</u>

NOTE 1: The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards includes the federal grant activity of the Cooperative and is presented on the modified accrual basis of accounting unless otherwise noted. The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards. Therefore, some amounts presented in this schedule may differ from amounts presented in, or used in the preparation of, the basic financial statements.

NOTE 2: These amounts reflect cash received. Federal reimbursements are based on approved rates for service provided rather than reimbursement for specific expenditures.

NOTE 3: Black Hills Special Services Cooperative did not elect to use the 10% de minimis indirect cost rate.

See independent auditor's report.