



SCOTT FITZPATRICK
MISSOURI STATE AUDITOR

To the County Commission
and
Officeholders of Webster County, Missouri

The Office of the State Auditor contracted for an audit of Webster County's financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2024, through the state Office of Administration, Division of Purchasing and Materials Management. The audit includes an audit of each county officer in fulfillment of our duties under Section 29.230.1, RSMo. A copy of this audit, performed by McBride, Lock & Associates, LLC, Certified Public Accountants, is attached.

Scott Fitzpatrick
State Auditor

March 2026
Report No. 2026-029



Scott Fitzpatrick
Missouri State Auditor

RECOMMENDATION SUMMARY

Recommendations in the contracted audit of Webster County

Prosecuting Attorney Bank
Reconciliations

The Prosecuting Attorney's office implement a process to properly reconcile the balance per the bank to a recorded book balance to ensure that all activity in the bank is recorded in the system and vice versa. This balance should also be compared to a total balance of liabilities for amounts owed to individuals or entities on all cases being handled by the office.

Public Administrator's Internal
Controls

The Public Administrator implement procedures to ensure that payments are only initiated by authorized signers on bank accounts, and that the Public Administrator review the bank reconciliations performed each month to provide oversight of segregated duties.

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

WEBSTER COUNTY, MISSOURI

For the Year Ended
December 31, 2024

McBRIDE, LOCK & ASSOCIATES, LLC

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

KANSAS CITY

WEBSTER COUNTY, MISSOURI

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INTRODUCTORY SECTION

WEBSTER COUNTY, MISSOURI
List of Elected Officials 2024

County Commission

Presiding Commissioner – Paul Ipock

Commissioner, Northern District – Dale Fraker

Commissioner, Southern District – Randy Owens

Other Elected Officials

Assessor – Austin Graybill

Circuit Clerk – Stephanie Vestal

Collector – Kevin Farr

County Clerk – Stanley D. Whitehurst

Coroner – Michael Taylor

Prosecuting Attorney – Benjamin J. Berkstresser

Public Administrator – Danielle Boggs

Recorder – Stacy Atkinson

Sheriff – Roye Cole

Surveyor – Gary Drennan

Treasurer – Todd Hungerford

FINANCIAL SECTION

McBRIDE, LOCK & ASSOCIATES, LLC

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the County Commission and
Officeholders of Webster County, Missouri

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Webster County, Missouri, which comprise the Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Cash – All Governmental Funds – Regulatory Basis and the Statement of Fiduciary Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Cash – Regulatory Basis as of December 31, 2024, and the related Statements of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Cash – Budget and Actual – Regulatory Basis for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements.

Unmodified Opinion on Regulatory Basis of Accounting

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the cash balances of each fund of Webster County, Missouri, as of December 31, 2024, and their respective cash receipts and disbursements, and budgetary results for the year then ended, in accordance with the financial reporting provisions prescribed or permitted by Missouri law as described in Note 1.

Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter discussed in the Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles section of our report, the financial statements referred to above do not present fairly, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the financial position of Webster County, Missouri, as of December 31, 2024, or the changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended.

Basis for Opinion

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. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of Webster County, Missouri, and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Basis for Adverse Opinion on U.S. Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

As described in Note 1, the financial statements are prepared by Webster County, Missouri on the basis of the financial reporting provisions prescribed or permitted by Missouri law, which is a basis of accounting other than accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, to meet the requirements of Missouri law. The effects on the financial statements of the variances between the regulatory basis of accounting described in Note 1 and accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, although not reasonably determinable, are presumed to be material and pervasive.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles prescribed or permitted by Missouri law. Management is also responsible for 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.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Webster County, Missouri's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 County's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the

financial statements.

- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about Webster County, Missouri's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements that collectively comprise Webster County, Missouri's basic financial statements. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards, as required by Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information 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. The 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.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated March 2, 2026, on our consideration of Webster County, Missouri'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 solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of Webster County, Missouri's 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 Webster County, Missouri's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

(Original Signed by McBride, Lock & Associates, LLC)

McBride, Lock & Associates, LLC
Kansas City, Missouri
March 2, 2026

WEBSTER COUNTY, MISSOURI
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN CASH
- ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS - REGULATORY BASIS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

Fund	Cash and Investments January 1	Receipts	Disbursements	Cash and Investments December 31
General Revenue	\$ 786,058	\$ 6,423,675	\$ 5,674,680	\$ 1,535,053
General Revenue Savings	2,495,817	-	-	2,495,817
GR30	591,481	807,245	620,114	778,612
Assessment	173,961	494,215	500,385	167,791
Election Services	42,157	7,297	577	48,877
Tax Maintenance	166,321	80,629	43,469	203,481
Recorder's	125,625	33,800	7,658	151,767
Recorder's Technology	22,435	8,997	11,288	20,144
Road & Bridge	22,254	2,693,043	2,547,391	167,906
Capital Improvement (Road)	7,868	3,883,331	3,644,722	246,477
U.S. Hwy 60 Local Match	2,766,819	-	590,263	2,176,556
Paving (Escrow)	-	17,125	-	17,125
Justice Center Operations	18,262	4,428,973	4,392,160	55,075
Justice Center Savings	314,189	256,461	314,189	256,461
Sheriff's Revolving	124,114	22,772	96,059	50,827
Sheriff's	17,566	29,263	7,460	39,369
Law Enforcement Training Sheriff	23,240	4,858	-	28,098
Community Crime Education & Prevention	23,222	9,123	5,390	26,955
Law Enforcement Sales Tax	-	1,265,219	1,265,219	-
Inmate Prisoner Detainee Security	7,495	227,576	208,525	26,546
Prosecuting Attorney Administrative Handling Costs	11,028	4,716	7,040	8,704
Prosecuting Attorney Delinquent Tax	18,763	1,793	582	19,974
Law Enforcement Training Prosecuting Attorney	14,721	5,154	779	19,096
Law Enforcement Restitution	38,810	22,224	-	61,034
Local Emergency Planning Committee	26,474	1,598	2,067	26,005
Opioid Settlement	137,665	276,773	-	414,438
Children's Trust	1,657	1,261	1,200	1,718
Crisis Disbursement Services	1,619	1,370	1,745	1,244
Senior Citizens Services Board	56,709	277,307	287,612	46,404
Senate Bill 40 Board	338,717	461,195	488,991	310,921
WC Partners Targeted Case Management	351,127	1,488,982	1,497,819	342,290
Total	<u>\$ 8,726,174</u>	<u>\$ 23,235,975</u>	<u>\$ 22,217,384</u>	<u>\$ 9,744,765</u>

The accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

WEBSTER COUNTY, MISSOURI
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN CASH
- BUDGET AND ACTUAL - REGULATORY BASIS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	GENERAL REVENUE FUND	
	Budget	Actual
RECEIPTS		
Property taxes	\$ 26,500	\$ 22,721
Sales taxes	4,301,841	4,301,841
Intergovernmental	308,402	238,975
Charges for services	866,800	878,277
Interest	318,775	374,831
Other	233,903	103,525
Transfers in	504,505	503,505
Total Receipts	<u>\$ 6,560,726</u>	<u>\$ 6,423,675</u>
DISBURSEMENTS		
County Commission	\$ 152,828	\$ 149,399
County Clerk	219,479	178,851
Elections	269,160	232,344
Buildings and grounds	479,744	435,136
Emergency Management	103,724	76,591
Employee fringe benefits	382,898	377,290
Treasurer	85,476	74,553
Collector	185,744	194,845
Recorder of Deeds	158,486	157,382
Surveyor	12,550	8,201
Circuit Judge & Operations	307,162	127,659
Associate Court	29,950	23,793
Circuit Clerk	71,300	38,212
Treatment Court	42,880	38,645
Public Administrator	143,342	134,622
Prosecuting Attorney	539,340	509,963
Coroner	88,429	78,080
Other County government	463,549	374,247
Transfers out	2,515,867	2,464,867
Emergency fund	290,025	-
Total Disbursements	<u>\$ 6,541,933</u>	<u>\$ 5,674,680</u>
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 18,793	\$ 748,995
CASH AND INVESTMENTS, JANUARY 1	<u>786,058</u>	<u>786,058</u>
CASH AND INVESTMENTS, DECEMBER 31	<u>\$ 804,851</u>	<u>\$ 1,535,053</u>

The accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

WEBSTER COUNTY, MISSOURI
 STATEMENTS OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN CASH
 - BUDGET AND ACTUAL - REGULATORY BASIS
 YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	GENERAL REVENUE					
	SAVINGS FUND		GR30 FUND		ASSESSMENT FUND	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
RECEIPTS						
Property taxes	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Sales taxes	-	-	759,148	759,148	-	-
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	86,000	73,912
Charges for services	-	-	-	-	395,850	394,218
Interest	-	-	40,000	48,097	14,500	18,236
Other	-	-	-	-	50	7,849
Transfers in	-	-	-	-	50,000	-
Total Receipts	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 799,148</u>	<u>\$ 807,245</u>	<u>\$ 546,400</u>	<u>\$ 494,215</u>
DISBURSEMENTS						
Salaries	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 339,386	\$ 350,504
Employee fringe benefits	-	-	-	-	93,700	81,288
Materials and supplies	-	-	-	-	6,000	4,344
Services and other	-	-	902,500	620,114	80,720	59,867
Capital outlay	1,000,000	-	-	-	6,000	4,382
Construction	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers out	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Disbursements	<u>\$ 1,000,000</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 902,500</u>	<u>\$ 620,114</u>	<u>\$ 525,806</u>	<u>\$ 500,385</u>
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER)						
DISBURSEMENTS	\$ (1,000,000)	\$ -	\$ (103,352)	\$ 187,131	\$ 20,594	\$ (6,170)
CASH AND INVESTMENTS, JANUARY 1	<u>2,495,817</u>	<u>2,495,817</u>	<u>591,481</u>	<u>591,481</u>	<u>173,961</u>	<u>173,961</u>
CASH AND INVESTMENTS, DECEMBER 31	<u>\$ 1,495,817</u>	<u>\$ 2,495,817</u>	<u>\$ 488,129</u>	<u>\$ 778,612</u>	<u>\$ 194,555</u>	<u>\$ 167,791</u>

The accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

WEBSTER COUNTY, MISSOURI
 STATEMENTS OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN CASH
 - BUDGET AND ACTUAL - REGULATORY BASIS
 YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	ELECTION SERVICES FUND		TAX MAINTENANCE FUND		RECORDER'S FUND	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
RECEIPTS						
Property taxes	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Sales taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intergovernmental	4,500	2,921	-	-	-	-
Charges for services	2,000	1,617	65,000	68,578	17,500	25,397
Interest	2,500	2,759	10,100	12,051	6,000	8,403
Other	100	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers in	500	-	-	-	-	-
Total Receipts	\$ 9,600	\$ 7,297	\$ 75,100	\$ 80,629	\$ 23,500	\$ 33,800
DISBURSEMENTS						
Salaries	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Employee fringe benefits	-	-	-	-	-	-
Materials and supplies	500	-	100	424	3,000	521
Services and other	6,100	577	60,600	24,452	13,500	4,434
Capital outlay	32,500	-	5,500	11,593	-	2,703
Construction	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers out	-	-	20,000	7,000	-	-
Total Disbursements	\$ 39,100	\$ 577	\$ 86,200	\$ 43,469	\$ 16,500	\$ 7,658
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	\$ (29,500)	\$ 6,720	\$ (11,100)	\$ 37,160	\$ 7,000	\$ 26,142
CASH AND INVESTMENTS, JANUARY 1	42,157	42,157	166,321	166,321	125,625	125,625
CASH AND INVESTMENTS, DECEMBER 31	\$ 12,657	\$ 48,877	\$ 155,221	\$ 203,481	\$ 132,625	\$ 151,767

The accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

WEBSTER COUNTY, MISSOURI
 STATEMENTS OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN CASH
 - BUDGET AND ACTUAL - REGULATORY BASIS
 YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	RECORDER'S TECHNOLOGY FUND		ROAD & BRIDGE FUND		CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT (ROAD) FUND	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
RECEIPTS						
Property taxes	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 934,249	\$ 905,716	\$ -	\$ -
Sales taxes	-	-	-	-	2,530,494	2,530,494
Intergovernmental	-	-	1,509,870	1,513,345	1,469,673	660,222
Charges for services	11,000	7,709	-	-	55,500	78,733
Interest	1,500	1,288	150,000	159,469	45,000	20,351
Other	-	-	21,625	64,513	227,000	147,026
Transfers in	-	-	-	50,000	446,505	446,505
Total Receipts	<u>\$ 12,500</u>	<u>\$ 8,997</u>	<u>\$ 2,615,744</u>	<u>\$ 2,693,043</u>	<u>\$ 4,774,172</u>	<u>\$ 3,883,331</u>
DISBURSEMENTS						
Salaries	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,165,338	\$ 1,161,422	\$ -	\$ -
Employee fringe benefits	-	-	391,174	322,464	-	-
Materials and supplies	-	-	355,600	310,032	1,050,000	945,131
Services and other	7,000	8,058	442,725	448,674	1,160,010	1,214,578
Capital outlay	4,500	3,230	235,350	254,799	409,000	414,678
Construction	-	-	-	-	1,500,000	623,830
Transfers out	-	-	-	50,000	446,505	446,505
Total Disbursements	<u>\$ 11,500</u>	<u>\$ 11,288</u>	<u>\$ 2,590,187</u>	<u>\$ 2,547,391</u>	<u>\$ 4,565,515</u>	<u>\$ 3,644,722</u>
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	\$ 1,000	\$ (2,291)	\$ 25,557	\$ 145,652	\$ 208,657	\$ 238,609
CASH AND INVESTMENTS, JANUARY 1	<u>22,435</u>	<u>22,435</u>	<u>22,254</u>	<u>22,254</u>	<u>7,868</u>	<u>7,868</u>
CASH AND INVESTMENTS, DECEMBER 31	<u>\$ 23,435</u>	<u>\$ 20,144</u>	<u>\$ 47,811</u>	<u>\$ 167,906</u>	<u>\$ 216,525</u>	<u>\$ 246,477</u>

The accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

WEBSTER COUNTY, MISSOURI
STATEMENTS OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN CASH
- BUDGET AND ACTUAL - REGULATORY BASIS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	U.S. HWY 60 LOCAL MATCH FUND		PAVING (ESCROW) FUND		JUSTICE CENTER OPERATIONS FUND	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
RECEIPTS						
Property taxes	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Sales taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	262,000	272,054
Charges for services	-	-	17,000	16,874	550,650	537,723
Interest	-	-	100	251	8,000	10,003
Other	-	-	-	-	86,300	46,136
Transfers in	-	-	-	-	3,560,270	3,563,057
Total Receipts	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 17,100</u>	<u>\$ 17,125</u>	<u>\$ 4,467,220</u>	<u>\$ 4,428,973</u>
DISBURSEMENTS						
Salaries	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,210,713	\$ 2,305,098
Employee fringe benefits	-	-	-	-	713,685	626,395
Materials and supplies	-	-	-	-	64,000	183,531
Services and other	590,263	590,263	-	-	1,078,983	980,112
Capital outlay	-	-	-	-	200,000	200,343
Construction	-	-	-	-	162,000	96,681
Transfers out	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Disbursements	<u>\$ 590,263</u>	<u>\$ 590,263</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 4,429,381</u>	<u>\$ 4,392,160</u>
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS						
	\$ (590,263)	\$ (590,263)	\$ 17,100	\$ 17,125	\$ 37,839	\$ 36,813
CASH AND INVESTMENTS, JANUARY 1						
	<u>2,766,819</u>	<u>2,766,819</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,262</u>	<u>18,262</u>
CASH AND INVESTMENTS, DECEMBER 31						
	<u>\$ 2,176,556</u>	<u>\$ 2,176,556</u>	<u>\$ 17,100</u>	<u>\$ 17,125</u>	<u>\$ 56,101</u>	<u>\$ 55,075</u>

The accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

WEBSTER COUNTY, MISSOURI
STATEMENTS OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN CASH
- BUDGET AND ACTUAL - REGULATORY BASIS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	JUSTICE CENTER SAVINGS FUND		SHERIFF'S REVOLVING FUND		SHERIFF'S FUND	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
RECEIPTS						
Property taxes	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Sales taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charges for services	325,000	249,918	15,000	16,050	22,500	20,696
Interest	12,500	6,543	6,000	6,722	500	1,728
Other	-	-	-	-	-	6,839
Transfers in	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Receipts	<u>\$ 337,500</u>	<u>\$ 256,461</u>	<u>\$ 21,000</u>	<u>\$ 22,772</u>	<u>\$ 23,000</u>	<u>\$ 29,263</u>
DISBURSEMENTS						
Salaries	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Employee fringe benefits	-	-	-	-	-	-
Materials and supplies	-	-	-	544	2,250	4,128
Services and other	-	-	4,750	2,728	38,000	3,332
Capital outlay	-	-	-	-	-	-
Construction	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers out	337,500	314,189	90,000	92,787	-	-
Total Disbursements	<u>\$ 337,500</u>	<u>\$ 314,189</u>	<u>\$ 94,750</u>	<u>\$ 96,059</u>	<u>\$ 40,250</u>	<u>\$ 7,460</u>
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS						
	\$ -	\$ (57,728)	\$ (73,750)	\$ (73,287)	\$ (17,250)	\$ 21,803
CASH AND INVESTMENTS, JANUARY 1	<u>314,189</u>	<u>314,189</u>	<u>124,114</u>	<u>124,114</u>	<u>17,566</u>	<u>17,566</u>
CASH AND INVESTMENTS, DECEMBER 31	<u>\$ 314,189</u>	<u>\$ 256,461</u>	<u>\$ 50,364</u>	<u>\$ 50,827</u>	<u>\$ 316</u>	<u>\$ 39,369</u>

The accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

WEBSTER COUNTY, MISSOURI
 STATEMENTS OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN CASH
 - BUDGET AND ACTUAL - REGULATORY BASIS
 YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING SHERIFF FUND		COMMUNITY CRIME EDUCATION & PREVENTION FUND		LAW ENFORCEMENT SALES TAX FUND	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
RECEIPTS						
Property taxes	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Sales taxes	-	-	-	-	1,265,219	1,265,219
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charges for services	3,000	3,299	-	-	-	-
Interest	500	1,559	1,250	1,617	-	-
Other	-	-	5,000	7,506	-	-
Transfers in	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Receipts	\$ 3,500	\$ 4,858	\$ 6,250	\$ 9,123	\$ 1,265,219	\$ 1,265,219
DISBURSEMENTS						
Salaries	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Employee fringe benefits	-	-	-	-	-	-
Materials and supplies	-	-	12,500	5,390	-	-
Services and other	26,500	-	500	-	-	-
Capital outlay	-	-	-	-	-	-
Construction	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers out	-	-	-	-	1,265,219	1,265,219
Total Disbursements	\$ 26,500	\$ -	\$ 13,000	\$ 5,390	\$ 1,265,219	\$ 1,265,219
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	\$ (23,000)	\$ 4,858	\$ (6,750)	\$ 3,733	\$ -	\$ -
CASH AND INVESTMENTS, JANUARY 1	23,240	23,240	23,222	23,222	-	-
CASH AND INVESTMENTS, DECEMBER 31	\$ 240	\$ 28,098	\$ 16,472	\$ 26,955	\$ -	\$ -

The accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

WEBSTER COUNTY, MISSOURI
STATEMENTS OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN CASH
- BUDGET AND ACTUAL - REGULATORY BASIS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	INMATE PRISONER DETAINEE SECURITY FUND		PROSECUTING ATTORNEY ADMINISTRATIVE HANDLING COSTS FUND		PROSECUTING ATTORNEY DELINQUENT TAX FUND	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
	RECEIPTS					
Property taxes	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Sales taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	-	-
Charges for services	167,500	143,230	8,000	4,169	3,500	615
Interest	500	3,493	250	547	1,000	1,178
Other	1,500	3,353	-	-	-	-
Transfers in	77,500	77,500	-	-	-	-
Total Receipts	<u>\$ 247,000</u>	<u>\$ 227,576</u>	<u>\$ 8,250</u>	<u>\$ 4,716</u>	<u>\$ 4,500</u>	<u>\$ 1,793</u>
DISBURSEMENTS						
Salaries	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Employee fringe benefits	-	-	-	-	-	-
Materials and supplies	-	205	-	-	-	-
Services and other	247,000	208,320	8,000	7,040	7,500	582
Capital outlay	-	-	-	-	-	-
Construction	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers out	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Disbursements	<u>\$ 247,000</u>	<u>\$ 208,525</u>	<u>\$ 8,000</u>	<u>\$ 7,040</u>	<u>\$ 7,500</u>	<u>\$ 582</u>
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	\$ -	\$ 19,051	\$ 250	\$ (2,324)	\$ (3,000)	\$ 1,211
CASH AND INVESTMENTS, JANUARY 1	<u>7,495</u>	<u>7,495</u>	<u>11,028</u>	<u>11,028</u>	<u>18,763</u>	<u>18,763</u>
CASH AND INVESTMENTS, DECEMBER 31	<u>\$ 7,495</u>	<u>\$ 26,546</u>	<u>\$ 11,278</u>	<u>\$ 8,704</u>	<u>\$ 15,763</u>	<u>\$ 19,974</u>

The accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

WEBSTER COUNTY, MISSOURI
 STATEMENTS OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN CASH
 - BUDGET AND ACTUAL - REGULATORY BASIS
 YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING PROSECUTING ATTORNEY FUND		LAW ENFORCEMENT RESTITUTION FUND		LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANNING COMMITTEE FUND	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
RECEIPTS						
Property taxes	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Sales taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	2,300	-
Charges for services	3,500	4,135	25,000	22,224	-	-
Interest	750	1,019	1,750	-	1,200	1,598
Other	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers in	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Receipts	<u>\$ 4,250</u>	<u>\$ 5,154</u>	<u>\$ 26,750</u>	<u>\$ 22,224</u>	<u>\$ 3,500</u>	<u>\$ 1,598</u>
DISBURSEMENTS						
Salaries	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Employee fringe benefits	-	-	-	-	-	-
Materials and supplies	-	-	-	-	-	-
Services and other	18,000	779	60,000	-	13,204	2,067
Capital outlay	-	-	-	-	-	-
Construction	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers out	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Disbursements	<u>\$ 18,000</u>	<u>\$ 779</u>	<u>\$ 60,000</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 13,204</u>	<u>\$ 2,067</u>
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	\$ (13,750)	\$ 4,375	\$ (33,250)	\$ 22,224	\$ (9,704)	\$ (469)
CASH AND INVESTMENTS, JANUARY 1	<u>14,721</u>	<u>14,721</u>	<u>38,810</u>	<u>38,810</u>	<u>26,474</u>	<u>26,474</u>
CASH AND INVESTMENTS, DECEMBER 31	<u>\$ 971</u>	<u>\$ 19,096</u>	<u>\$ 5,560</u>	<u>\$ 61,034</u>	<u>\$ 16,770</u>	<u>\$ 26,005</u>

The accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

WEBSTER COUNTY, MISSOURI
 STATEMENTS OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN CASH
 - BUDGET AND ACTUAL - REGULATORY BASIS
 YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	OPIOID SETTLEMENT		CHILDREN'S TRUST FUND		CRISIS DISBURSEMENT	
	FUND				SERVICES FUND	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
RECEIPTS						
Property taxes	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Sales taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	2,000	1,245
Charges for services	-	-	1,200	1,185	200	125
Interest	-	-	50	76	-	-
Other	275,000	276,773	-	-	-	-
Transfers in	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Receipts	<u>\$ 275,000</u>	<u>\$ 276,773</u>	<u>\$ 1,250</u>	<u>\$ 1,261</u>	<u>\$ 2,200</u>	<u>\$ 1,370</u>
DISBURSEMENTS						
Salaries	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Employee fringe benefits	-	-	-	-	-	-
Materials and supplies	-	-	-	-	-	-
Services and other	375,000	-	1,200	1,200	2,200	1,745
Capital outlay	-	-	-	-	-	-
Construction	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers out	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Disbursements	<u>\$ 375,000</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,200</u>	<u>\$ 1,200</u>	<u>\$ 2,200</u>	<u>\$ 1,745</u>
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER)						
DISBURSEMENTS	\$ (100,000)	\$ 276,773	\$ 50	\$ 61	\$ -	\$ (375)
CASH AND INVESTMENTS, JANUARY 1	<u>137,665</u>	<u>137,665</u>	<u>1,657</u>	<u>1,657</u>	<u>1,619</u>	<u>1,619</u>
CASH AND INVESTMENTS, DECEMBER 31	<u>\$ 37,665</u>	<u>\$ 414,438</u>	<u>\$ 1,707</u>	<u>\$ 1,718</u>	<u>\$ 1,619</u>	<u>\$ 1,244</u>

The accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

WEBSTER COUNTY, MISSOURI
STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN CASH
- BUDGET AND ACTUAL - REGULATORY BASIS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

	SENIOR CITIZENS SERVICES BOARD FUND		SENATE BILL 40 BOARD FUND		WC PARTNERS TARGETED CASE MANAGEMENT FUND	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
	RECEIPTS					
Property taxes	\$ 271,000	\$ 268,208	\$ 364,000	\$ 434,788	\$ -	\$ -
Sales taxes	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intergovernmental	-	-	-	-	1,653,192	1,481,278
Charges for services	-	-	-	-	-	-
Interest	5,900	7,700	-	26,407	475	6,115
Other	6,500	1,399	-	-	-	1,589
Transfers in	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Receipts	<u>\$ 283,400</u>	<u>\$ 277,307</u>	<u>\$ 364,000</u>	<u>\$ 461,195</u>	<u>\$ 1,653,667</u>	<u>\$ 1,488,982</u>
DISBURSEMENTS						
Salaries	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 755,946	\$ 790,138
Employee fringe benefits	-	-	-	-	235,762	281,641
Materials and supplies	500	470	-	-	30,000	11,413
Services and other	294,200	287,142	590,325	488,991	363,656	252,820
Capital outlay	-	-	-	-	180,473	161,807
Construction	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers out	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Disbursements	<u>\$ 294,700</u>	<u>\$ 287,612</u>	<u>\$ 590,325</u>	<u>\$ 488,991</u>	<u>\$ 1,565,837</u>	<u>\$ 1,497,819</u>
RECEIPTS OVER (UNDER) DISBURSEMENTS	\$ (11,300)	\$ (10,305)	\$ (226,325)	\$ (27,796)	\$ 87,830	\$ (8,837)
CASH AND INVESTMENTS, JANUARY 1	<u>56,709</u>	<u>56,709</u>	<u>338,717</u>	<u>338,717</u>	<u>351,127</u>	<u>351,127</u>
CASH AND INVESTMENTS, DECEMBER 31	<u>\$ 45,409</u>	<u>\$ 46,404</u>	<u>\$ 112,392</u>	<u>\$ 310,921</u>	<u>\$ 438,957</u>	<u>\$ 342,290</u>

The accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of these statements.

WEBSTER COUNTY, MISSOURI
STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY RECEIPTS, DISBURSEMENTS AND CHANGES IN CASH - REGULATORY BASIS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

Fund/Account	Cash and Cash			Cash and Cash
	Equivalents January 1	Receipts	Disbursements	Equivalents December 31
Treasurer Domestic Shelter	\$ 6,882	\$ 7,592	\$ 6,882	\$ 7,592
Treasurer Unclaimed Fees	5,168	901	217	5,852
Treasurer Fines	33,688	172,108	173,082	32,714
Treasurer Excess Land	129,925	48,853	16,863	161,915
Treasurer CERF	204	463,063	463,118	149
Treasurer Seymour Special Road District	346	110,220	110,104	462
Treasurer Schools	40,943	22,300,099	22,305,603	35,439
Treasurer Junior College	1,616	869,705	870,041	1,280
Treasurer Health Unit	1,424	756,143	756,346	1,221
Treasurer Library	946	644,791	644,984	753
Treasurer Fire Districts	1,988	2,855,195	2,856,806	377
Treasurer Cities	4,845	128,658	127,937	5,566
Treasurer Nursing Homes	-	13,383	13,383	-
Treasurer Deputy Sheriff Salary Supplementation	-	13,333	13,333	-
Treasurer POST	1,252	1,551	2,803	-
Treasurer MOPS	-	160	160	-
Treasurer Domestic Violence Diversion	435	132	-	567
Treasurer Treatment Court	52,275	12,310	7,492	57,093
Victim Restitution	-	143,720	143,720	-
Collector	20,421,031	40,146,737	38,044,544	22,523,224
Recorder	21,840	318,638	315,999	24,479
Prosecuting Attorney	1,817	51,294	50,803	2,308
Sheriff Civil Fees	2,318	84,737	84,610	2,445
Sheriff Turnkey	24,899	302,811	298,126	29,584
Sheriff Evidence	35,017	5,244	-	40,261
Sheriff Magistrate (Bonds)	7	121,973	121,965	15
Sheriff Revolving (CCW)	1,322	16,391	16,100	1,613
Public Administrator	2,219,842	2,060,980	1,650,672	2,630,150
Total	<u>\$ 23,010,030</u>	<u>\$ 71,650,722</u>	<u>\$ 69,095,693</u>	<u>\$ 25,565,059</u>

The accompanying Notes to the Financial Statements are an integral part of this statement.

WEBSTER COUNTY, MISSOURI
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 2024

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Webster County, Missouri (“County”) is governed by a three-member board of commissioners. In addition to the three board members, there are eleven elected Constitutional Officers: Assessor, Circuit Clerk, Collector, Coroner, County Clerk, Prosecuting Attorney, Public Administrator, Recorder, Sheriff, Surveyor, and Treasurer.

As discussed further in Note 1, these financial statements are presented using accounting practices prescribed or permitted by Missouri law, which differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, which would include all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements. The differences include use of a prescribed definition of the reporting entity and the cash basis of accounting.

A. Reporting Entity

The County’s operations include tax assessments and collections, state/county courts, county recorder, public safety, economic development, social and human services, and cultural and recreation services.

The financial statements referred to above include the primary government of Webster County, Missouri, which consists of all funds, organizations, institutions, agencies, departments, and offices that are considered to comprise the County’s legal entity under the regulatory basis of accounting. Financial data of other entities that may be considered to be component units of the County under generally accepted accounting principles is not included.

In accordance with the regulatory basis of accounting, the financial statements of the County do not include the activity of the Circuit Court, which is part of the Missouri court system and is considered to be a state function, including the operations of the Circuit Clerk (other than the portion that is funded by the General Revenue Fund) and all funds under their control.

B. Basis of Presentation

Governmental Funds – Governmental resources are allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based upon the purposes for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled. A fund is considered a separate accounting entity with self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, net assets, revenues/receipts and expenditures/disbursements. The County’s funds are governmental funds. Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions are financed. The County’s expendable financial resources are accounted for through governmental funds.

Fiduciary Funds – Fiduciary funds consist of custodial funds. Custodial funds account for assets held by the County as an agent of individuals, private organizations, taxing units, other governments and/or funds. Budgets are not adopted for the County’s custodial funds.

C. Basis of Accounting

The financial statements are prepared on the cash basis of accounting; accordingly, amounts are recognized when received or disbursed in cash. This basis of accounting differs from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Those principles require revenues to be recognized when they become available and measurable or when they are earned, and expenditures or expenses to be recognized when the related liabilities are incurred.

D. Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

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

1. In accordance with Chapter 50, RSMo, the County's policy is to adopt a budget for each governmental fund.
2. On or before January 15, each elected officer and department director will transmit to the County Commission and County Clerk, who serves as budget officer, the budget request and revenue estimates for their office or department for the budget year.
3. The County Clerk submits to the County Commission a proposed budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1. The proposed budget includes estimated revenues and proposed expenditures, on the cash basis of accounting, for all budgeted funds. Budgeting of appropriations is based upon an estimated fund balance at the beginning of the year as well as estimated revenues to be received.
4. State law requires that, at the individual fund level, budgeted expenditures not exceed budgeted revenues plus anticipated beginning fund balance.
5. A public hearing is conducted to obtain public comment on the budget. Prior to its approval by the County Commission, the budget document is available for public inspection, which usually takes place the third and fourth weeks of January.
6. Prior to February 1, the budget is legally enacted by a vote of the County Commission.
7. Subsequent to its formal approval of the budget, the County Commission has the authority to make necessary adjustments to the budget by a formal vote of the Commission. Budgeted amounts are as originally adopted, or as amended by the County Commission throughout the year.
8. Budgets are prepared and adopted on the cash basis of accounting.
9. Adoption of a formal budget is required by law.
10. Section 50.740, RSMo prohibits expenditures in excess of the approved budgets. Actual expenditures exceeded the budgeted amount for the Sheriff's Revolving Fund.

- E. Property taxes are based on the voter-approved tax levy applied to the real and personal assessed property values. Property taxes attach as an enforceable lien on property as of January 1. Taxes are levied on September 1 and tax bills are mailed to taxpayers in October and November, at which time they are payable. All unpaid property taxes become delinquent as of January 1 of the following year.

The assessed valuations of the tangible taxable property included within the County's boundaries for the calendar year 2024 for purposes of taxation were:

Real Estate	\$ 404,887,462
Personal Property	143,898,872
Railroad and Utilities	<u>32,389,017</u>
Total	<u>\$ 581,175,351</u>

For calendar year 2024, the County Commission approved a tax levy per \$100 of assessed valuation of tangible taxable property as follows:

General Revenue	\$ -
Road & Bridge	0.1746
Senate Bill 40 Board	0.0736
Senior Citizens Services Board	0.0464

F. Cash Deposits and Investments

Deposits and investments are stated at cost, which approximates market. Cash balances for all the County Treasurer funds are pooled and invested to the extent possible. Interest earned from these balances is allocated to each of the funds based on the funds' average daily cash balance. Cash equivalents may include repurchase agreements and any other instruments with an original maturity of ninety days or less. State law authorizes the deposit of funds in banks and trust companies or the investment of funds in bonds or treasury certificates of the United States, other interest-bearing obligations guaranteed as to both principal and interest by the United States, or any instrumentality thereof, certain municipal bonds authorized by Missouri statute, or time certificates of deposit. Funds in the form of cash on deposit or time certificates of deposit are required to be insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or collateralized by authorized investments held in the County's name at third-party banking institutions. Details of these cash and investment balances are presented in Note 2.

G. Interfund Activity

During the course of operations, interfund activity occurs for purposes of providing supplemental funding, reimbursements for goods provided or services rendered, or short and long-term financing. Interfund activities are reported as "transfers in" by the recipient fund and as "transfers out" by the disbursing fund. However, interfund reimbursements have been eliminated from the financial statements in order that reimbursed expenditures are reported only in the funds incurring the costs.

2. CASH AND INVESTMENTS

The County maintains a cash and temporary investment pool that is available for use by all funds. Each fund's portion of this pool is displayed on the financial statements within the "Cash and Investments" caption. Cash includes deposits and short-term investments with maturities that are less than ninety days. Investments consist of certificates of deposit with original maturities that are greater than ninety days.

Custodial Credit Risk - Deposits – Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, a government’s deposits may not be returned to it. Missouri statutes require that all deposits with financial institutions be collateralized in an amount at least equal to uninsured deposits. At December 31, 2024, the County had the following cash and investment balances:

	<u>Carrying Value</u>	<u>Bank Balance</u>	<u>FDIC Coverage</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 7,719,560	\$ 7,883,241	\$ 500,000
Investments	<u>2,025,205</u>	<u>2,025,205</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Governmental Funds	<u>\$ 9,744,765</u>	<u>\$ 9,908,446</u>	<u>\$ 500,000</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalents - Fiduciary Funds	\$ 25,565,059	\$ 22,771,809	\$ 2,606,335

The remainder of the balances not covered by FDIC deposit insurance at December 31, 2024 were covered by pledged collateral securities or other acceptable collateral held by the County or by its safekeeping bank agent in the County’s name, except for \$373,724 held by the Public Administrator for one ward in one bank in excess of FDIC coverage.

3. COUNTY EMPLOYEES’ RETIREMENT PLANS

A. Missouri Local Government Employees Retirement System (LAGERS)

1) Plan Description

Webster County participates in the Missouri Local Government Employees Retirement System (LAGERS), an agent multiple-employer public employee retirement system that acts as a common investment and administrative agent for local government entities in Missouri. LAGERS is a defined benefit pension plan which provides retirement, disability, and death benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. LAGERS was created and is governed by statute, Section 70.600-70.755, RSMo. As such, it is the system’s responsibility to administer the law in accordance with the expressed intent of the General Assembly. The plan is qualified under the Internal Revenue Code Section 401 (a) and is tax exempt.

The Missouri Local Government Employees Retirement System issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. That report may be obtained by writing to LAGERS, P.O. Box 1665, Jefferson City, Missouri 65102 or by calling 1-800-447-4334, or by the following website, www.molagers.org.

2) Pension Benefits

Benefits are available to all full-time employees working in a LAGERS covered department. Benefits vest when an employee earns five years (60 months) of service credit in the system. Normal retirement age is 60 (General) or 55 (Police), and early retirement is 55 (General) and 50 (Police). Benefits are paid out using a formula that is based on the employee's final average salary and amount of credited service time.

3) Funding Policy

Full-time employees of Webster County contribute 2% of annual salary to the pension plan. The June 30th statutorily required contribution rates were 8.7% (General), 10.2% (Police), and 9.3% (Public Safety) of annual covered payroll for 2024. The contribution requirements of plan members are determined by the governing body of the political subdivision. The contribution provisions of the political subdivision are established by state statute. For the year ended December 31, 2024, the County contributed \$539,672 to LAGERS.

B. County Employees' Retirement Fund (CERF)

The County Employees' Retirement Fund was established by the State of Missouri to provide pension benefits for County officials and employees.

1) Plan Description

The Retirement Fund is a cost-sharing multiple employer defined benefit pension plan covering any county elective or appointed officer or employee whose performance requires the actual performance of duties during not less than one thousand (1,000) hours per calendar year in each county of the state, except for any city not within a county and any county of the first classification having a charter form of government. It does not include county prosecuting attorneys covered under Sections 56.800 to 56.840, RSMo, circuit clerks and deputy circuit clerks covered under the Missouri State Retirement System, county sheriffs covered under Sections 57.949 to 57.997, RSMo and certain personnel not defined as an employee per Section 50.1000(8), RSMo. The Fund was created by an act of the legislature and was effective August 28, 1994.

The general administration and the responsibility for the proper operation of the Fund and the investment of the Fund are vested in a board of directors of eleven persons.

2) Pension Benefits

Beginning January 1, 1997, employees attaining the age of sixty-two years may retire with full benefits with eight or more years of creditable service. The monthly benefit for County Employees is determined by selecting the highest benefit calculated using three different prescribed formulas (flat-dollar formula, targeted replacement ratio formula, and prior plan's formula). A death benefit of \$10,000 will be paid to the designated beneficiary of every active member upon his or her death.

Upon termination of employment, any member who is vested is entitled to a deferred annuity, payable at age sixty-two. Early retirement is at age fifty-five. Any member with

less than eight years of creditable service forfeits all rights in the Fund but will be paid his or her accumulated contributions.

The County Employees' Retirement Fund issues audited financial statements. Copies of these statements may be obtained from the Board of Directors of CERF by writing to CERF, 2121 Schotthill Woods Drive, Jefferson City, MO 65101, by calling 1-877-632-2373, or by the following website, www.mocerf.org.

3) Funding Policy

In accordance with State Statutes, the Plan is partially funded through various fees collected by counties and remitted to the CERF. Further, all participants hired on or after February 24, 2002 are required to contribute an additional 4% of their gross compensation to CERF, starting January 1, 2003. An active LAGERS participant who was employed with the County prior to February 24, 2002, is not required to make contributions. The County has elected not to make contributions on behalf of employees. During 2024, the County collected and remitted to CERF employee withholdings and fees collected of \$463,118, for the year then ended.

C. Prosecuting Attorney Retirement Fund

In accordance with Section 56.807, RSMo, the County contributes monthly to the Missouri Office of Prosecution Services for deposit to the credit of the Missouri Prosecuting Attorneys and Circuit Attorney Retirement System Fund. Once remitted, the State of Missouri is responsible for administration of this plan. The County contributed \$15,504 for the year ended December 31, 2024.

D. Other Retirement Plan

Webster County Senate Bill 40 has a voluntary 457(b) plan which is paid by a deduction from employee's salary. Webster County Senate Bill 40 also has a 401(a) plan which is paid by the employer. These contributions qualify under the Internal Revenue Code and are tax exempt. Employee contributions collected and remitted by the Senate Bill 40 Board to the 457(b) plan for the year ended December 31, 2024 were \$21,341. Employer contributions by the Senate Bill 40 Board to the 401(a) plan for the year ended December 31, 2024 were \$17,240.

4. POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

The County does not provide post-employment benefits except as mandated by the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (COBRA). The requirements established by COBRA are fully funded by employees who elect coverage under the Act, and no direct costs are incurred by the County.

5. CLAIMS, COMMITMENT AND CONTINGENCIES

A. Compensated Absences

The County provides employees with up to 160 hours of paid vacation based upon the number of years of continuous service. This ranges from receiving 40 hours between the first year and

second year of service, 80 hours between three years and six years of service, 120 hours between the seventh and eleventh years of service, and 160 hours after 12 years of service. For eligible part-time employees, vacation time will be pro-rated. Upon termination from county employment, an employee is reimbursed for unused vacation for that year. Vacation time shall be used in its entirety within the year earned and any unused vacation will be forfeited at the end of the anniversary date.

The County's sick leave policy states that regular full-time and eligible part-time employees are eligible for sick leave. The County provides employees with a maximum of nine weeks (360 hours) of sick leave to accrue at 1.85 hours per pay period for full-time employees. For eligible part-time employees, the number of hours earned is pro-rated. Upon termination of employment from the County, accumulated sick leave is payable at the rate of 25% of 360 total accumulated hours provided the employee provides two weeks' written notice and works all scheduled shifts during those two weeks. Upon involuntary termination, employees may not be eligible to receive compensation for any unused, earned sick time.

B. Federal and State Assisted Programs

The County has received proceeds from several federal and state grants. Periodic audits of these grants, when performed, could result in the disallowance of certain costs. Accordingly, such audits could result in the refund of grant monies to the grantor agencies. Management believes that any required refunds, if determined necessary, will be immaterial and, therefore, no provision has been made in the accompanying financial statements for the potential refund of grant monies.

C. Litigation

The County was involved in pending litigation as of the audit report date. The County's management and legal counsel anticipate that potential claims, if any, against the County resulting from such litigation would not have a material effect on the financial position of the County.

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

The County is exposed to various risks of losses related to torts; theft of, damage to and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters, and has established a risk management strategy that attempts to minimize losses and the carrying costs of insurance. There have been no significant reductions in coverage from the prior year and settlements have not exceeded coverage in the past three years.

7. LONG-TERM DEBT

The County had the following long-term debt outstanding as of December 31, 2024:

- A. In November 2017, the county approved the issuance of Certificates of Participation (COPS), Series 2017, for the Law Enforcement Center project. The date of the certificates is December 6, 2017 for \$9,970,000. The COPS expire in 2042.

Fiscal Year Ending December 31,	Principal	Interest	Total
2025	\$ 355,000	\$ 266,363	\$ 621,363
2026	365,000	255,712	620,712
2027	380,000	244,763	624,763
2028	390,000	233,362	623,362
2029	400,000	221,663	621,663
2030-2034	2,195,000	919,800	3,114,800
2035-2039	2,555,000	554,213	3,109,213
2040-2042	1,745,000	118,969	1,863,969
Totals	<u>\$ 8,385,000</u>	<u>\$ 2,814,845</u>	<u>\$ 11,199,845</u>

- B. On August 12, 2024, the county entered into a \$124,560, 60-month capital lease for a 2024 John Deere 85 P-Tier Excavator for the Road & Bridge department. The lease is to be paid in annual payments of \$28,242, which includes interest of 6.5%.

Fiscal Year Ending December 31,	Principal	Interest	Total
2025	\$ 21,791	\$ 6,451	\$ 28,242
2026	23,250	4,992	28,242
2027	24,807	3,435	28,242
2028	26,470	1,772	28,242
Totals	<u>\$ 96,318</u>	<u>\$ 16,650</u>	<u>\$ 112,968</u>

- C. On August 20, 2024, the County entered into three \$202,333, 48-month capital leases for 2025 Mack GR64F Trucks for the Road & Bridge department. The leases are to be paid in annual payments of \$39,978 each, which includes interest of 3.41%. The final payments of \$110,000 are to be made on September 20, 2027.

Fiscal Year Ending December 31,	Principal	Interest	Total
2025	\$ 86,228	\$ 33,706	\$ 119,934
2026	92,195	27,739	119,934
2027	308,642	21,358	330,000
Totals	<u>\$ 487,065</u>	<u>\$ 82,803</u>	<u>\$ 569,868</u>

The following schedule shows changes in long-term debt during the year ended December 31, 2024:

Description	Balance 12/31/2023	Additions	Payments	Balance 12/31/2024	Interest Paid
Certificates of Participation	\$ 8,725,000	\$ -	\$(340,000)	\$ 8,385,000	\$279,963
John Deere Excavator	-	124,560	(28,242)	96,318	-
Mack Trucks	-	606,999	(119,934)	487,065	-

8. OPERATING LEASES

At December 31, 2024, the Senate Bill 40 Board has one non-cancellable 60-month lease for office space with a monthly payment of \$3,500 that was entered into on July 1, 2024.

Fiscal Year Ending December 31,	Amount
2025	\$ 42,000
2026	42,000
2027	42,000
2028	42,000
2029	21,000

9. CHANGE IN REPORTING ENTITY

The County has changed the definition of the reporting entity at January 1, 2024 to remove the Domestic Violence Diversion and Treatment Court, which are Circuit Court controlled funds required to be excluded on the regulatory basis, and to include the WC Partners Targeted Case Management Fund which is controlled by the Senate Bill 40 Board. This change had the effect of increasing the County's cash balances at January 1, 2024 by \$298,416.

10. RESTATEMENT

The balance of the General Revenue Savings Fund at January 1, 2024 has been restated to include funds held by the County in a Missouri Securities Investment Program (MOSIP) account which were not included in the prior audit balance. This restatement had the effect of increasing the County cash balances at January 1, 2024 by \$2.4 million.

11. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The County has evaluated events subsequent to December 31, 2024 to assess the need for potential recognition or disclosure in the financial statements. Such events were evaluated through March 2, 2026, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

COMPLIANCE SECTION

McBRIDE, LOCK & ASSOCIATES, LLC

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

To the County Commission and
Officeholders of Webster County, Missouri

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 Webster County, Missouri which comprise the Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Cash – All Governmental Funds – Regulatory Basis and the Statement of Fiduciary Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Cash – Regulatory Basis as of December 31, 2024, and the related Statements of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Cash – Budget and Actual – Regulatory Basis for the year then ended, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise Webster County, Missouri’s basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated March 2, 2026.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Webster County, Missouri's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of Webster County, Missouri’s internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Webster County, Missouri'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 County’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. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Webster County, Missouri'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 financial statements. 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*.

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.

(Original Signed by McBride, Lock & Associates, LLC)

McBride, Lock & Associates, LLC
Kansas City, Missouri
March 2, 2026

McBRIDE, LOCK & ASSOCIATES, LLC

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE

To the County Commission and
Officeholders of Webster County, Missouri

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited Webster County, Missouri’s compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the OMB *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of Webster County, Missouri’s major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2024. Webster County, Missouri’s major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor’s results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, Webster County, Missouri 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 December 31, 2024.

Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

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; and 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). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditor’s Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of Webster County, Missouri and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of Webster County, Missouri’s compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to Webster County, Missouri’s federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on Webster County, Missouri's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about Webster County, Missouri's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding Webster County, Missouri's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of Webster County, Missouri's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances 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 Webster County, Missouri's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Report on 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 Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant

deficiencies over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

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.

(Original Signed by McBride, Lock & Associates, LLC)

McBride, Lock & Associates, LLC
Kansas City, Missouri
March 2, 2026

WEBSTER COUNTY, MISSOURI
SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS

Federal Assistance Listing Number	Federal Grantor/Pass-Through Grantor/Program Title	Pass-Through Entity Identifying Number	Federal Expenditures
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION			
20.205	Passed through Missouri Department of Transportation - Highway Planning and Construction	BRO-R112(005)	\$ 7,348
		BRO-R112(001)	7,305
		BRO-R112(006)	<u>633,106</u>
	Total 20.205		<u>\$ 647,759</u>
20.600	Passed through Missouri Safety Center - State and Community Highway Safety (Highway Safety Cluster)	24-PT-02-071	13,090
20.607	Alcohol Open Container Requirements	24-154-AL-076	23,512
		24-154-AL-077	<u>4,113</u>
	Total 20.607		<u>\$ 27,625</u>
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES			
93.323	Passed through Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services - Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Infectious Diseases	N/A	156,940
93.563	Passed through Missouri Department of Social Services - Child Support Services	N/A	235
		ER10223C107	<u>30,447</u>
	Total 93.563		<u>\$ 30,682</u>
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY			
97.042	Passed through Missouri Department of Public Safety - Emergency Management Performance Grants	EMK-2023-EP-0004-100	11,211
		EMK-2024-EP-05000-097	<u>5,436</u>
	Total 97.042		<u>\$ 16,647</u>
	Total Expenditures of Federal Awards		<u><u>\$ 892,743</u></u>

See accompanying Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards

WEBSTER COUNTY, MISSOURI
NOTES TO THE SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

NOTE A – BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA) includes the federal award activity of Webster County, Missouri for the year ended December 31, 2024. The information in this schedule is presented in accordance with the 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). Therefore, some amounts presented in this schedule may differ from amounts presented in, or used in the preparation of, the financial statements.

NOTE B – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Expenditures are reported on the cash basis of accounting. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance), wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowed or are limited as to reimbursement. The County has elected not to use the 10 percent de minimis indirect cost rate as allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

NOTE C – SUBRECIPIENTS

The County did not pass any federal awards through to subrecipients during the year ended December 31, 2024.

WEBSTER COUNTY, MISSOURI
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

SECTION I – SUMMARY OF AUDITOR’S RESULTS

Financial Statements:

Type of auditor’s report issued on whether the financial statements audited were prepared in accordance with GAAP: Adverse

Type of auditor’s report issued on whether the financial statements were prepared in accordance with the regulatory basis: Unmodified

The special purpose framework used as a basis of accounting was not required by state law.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting:

- Material weakness(es) identified? Yes No
- Significant deficiencies identified that are not considered to be material weaknesses? Yes None Reported
- Noncompliance material to financial statements noted? Yes No

Federal Awards:

Internal Control Over Major Programs:

- Material weakness(es) identified? Yes No
- Significant deficiencies identified that are not considered to be material weaknesses? Yes None Reported

Type of Auditor’s Report Issued on Compliance For Major Programs: Unmodified

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with Uniform Guidance section 200.516? Yes No

Identification of Major Programs:

<u>Assistance Listing Number(s)</u>	<u>Name of Federal Program or Cluster</u>
20.205	Highway Planning and Construction

Dollar Threshold Used to Distinguish Between Type A and Type B Programs: \$750,000

Auditee Qualified as low-risk: Yes No

SECTION II – FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FINDINGS

MATERIAL WEAKNESSES IN INTERNAL CONTROL

None

SIGNIFICANT INTERNAL CONTROL DEFICIENCIES

None Noted

ITEMS OF NONCOMPLIANCE

None

SECTION III – FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

None

WEBSTER COUNTY, MISSOURI
SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS

In accordance with the Uniform Guidance, this section reports the follow-up on action taken by Webster County, Missouri on the applicable findings in the prior audit report issued for the year ended December 31, 2023.

There were no findings noted in the prior audit report.

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McBRIDE, LOCK & ASSOCIATES, LLC

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

March 2, 2026

To the County Commission
Webster County, Missouri

We have audited the regulatory basis financial statements of Webster County, Missouri for the year ended December 31, 2024. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards (and, if applicable, *Government Auditing Standards* and the Uniform Guidance), as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated May 14, 2025. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

Significant Audit Matters

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by Webster County, Missouri are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2024. We noted no transactions entered into by the County during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. Since the County is reporting on the cash basis of accounting, there are no particularly sensitive estimates affecting the financial statements.

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. There were no misstatements detected during the audit.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated March 2, 2026.

Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the County's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the County's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

In planning and performing our audit of the Statement of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Cash – All Governmental Funds – Regulatory Basis, the Statement of Fiduciary Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Cash – Regulatory Basis, and the related Statements of Receipts, Disbursements and Changes in Cash – Budget and Actual – Regulatory Basis – All Governmental Funds as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, we considered Webster County's internal control in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on internal control. We issued our report on our consideration of internal control over financial reporting dated March 2, 2026. However, during our audit we became aware of matters that are opportunities for strengthening internal controls.

Prosecuting Attorney Bank Reconciliations

During our audit, we noted that the Prosecuting Attorney's office does not perform formal bank reconciliations on a monthly basis. Without timely reconciliations of bank balances to book balances, the risk of misstatements due to error or misappropriation is heightened. We recommend the Prosecuting

Attorney's office implement a process to properly reconcile the balance per the bank to a recorded book balance to ensure that all activity in the bank is recorded in the system and vice versa. This balance should also be compared to a total balance of liabilities for amounts owed to individuals or entities on all cases being handled by the office.

Public Administrator's Internal Controls

During our review of the Public Administrator's disbursement process, it was noted that the Deputy has the ability to issue electronic payments for disbursements despite not being an authorized signer on the bank accounts maintained by the office on behalf of appointed wards. It was also noted that bank reconciliations are performed by the Public Administrator's assistant, and the reconciliations are not reviewed by the Public Administrator. The Public Administrator approves invoices for payment and receives notification when electronic payments are made. We recommend the Public Administrator implement procedures to ensure that payments are only initiated by authorized signers on bank accounts, and that the Public Administrator review the bank reconciliations performed each month to provide oversight of segregated duties.

Other Matters

We were engaged to report on the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards, which accompanies the financial statements but is not Required Supplementary Information. With respect to this supplementary information, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with accounting principles prescribed or permitted by Missouri law, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements. We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

Restriction on Use

This information is intended solely for the information and use of the County Commission and management of Webster County, Missouri and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,

(Original Signed by McBride, Lock & Associates, LLC)

McBride, Lock & Associates, LLC