

NEWS RELEASE: Feb. 3, 2009

Greene County receives clean audit

The Greene County Commission received a clean audit of the county's 2007 financial statements by an external auditor Monday.

Andrew Marmouget, a Certified Public Accountant with Davis, Lynn & Moots, P.C., presented the audit report to the commission with an "unqualified" opinion, which is the highest audit rating available for a public entity.

"That's the best opinion you can receive on your financial statements," said Marmouget.

The audit report showed the county's \$30 million in non-infrastructure assets exceeded its \$18 million in liabilities. The county's revenues also exceeded expenses, \$103.4 million to \$101 million. Marmouget pointed out that 2007 audit was the first in many years in which revenues in the E-911 fund exceeded expenditures.

Associate Commissioner Harold Bengsch said it was good to see the E-911 fund no longer requires an annual bailout by the county's General Revenue fund, thanks to funding from the 1/8-cent 911 Sales Tax, which Greene County voters approved in 2007.

"We owe it to the voters who understood this issue, for deciding to do something about it," said Bengsch.

The report also found the county compliant with all federal grant program requirements, enabling the county to receive \$11.1 in federal grants in 2007 — including \$8.5 million reimbursed to the county from the Federal Emergency Management Agency for ice storm and flood recovery.

The one deficiency noted in the audit report was a lack of general ledger accounting system in 2007, an issue which has since been rectified by the countywide implementation of an Eden accounting software package, which began in 2008 and continues today.

The commission applauded the tireless effort and dedication Greene County Auditor Cindy Stein has shown while implementing the new system.

"Cindy Stein has worked day and night to make sure we have successfully transferred to this new system," said Associate Commissioner Roseann Bentley.

"Of all the individuals involved, Ms. Stein deserves the lion's share of credit, as well as our thanks, for bringing us all under one accounting system," added Presiding Commissioner Dave Coonrod.

For more information, call Greene County Auditor Cindy Stein at 417-868-4120; or Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Greene County Public Information Officer, at 417-829-6019 or 417-379-5713.

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