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## **KPM CPAs and Advisors provides yearly financial audit results to Greene County**

Today members of KPM CPAs and Advisors presented the results of the County's annual financial audit to the Greene County Commission.

Greene County has once again received an unmodified or clean opinion, which is the best opinion a county can receive. This indicates no weaknesses or instances of regulatory noncompliance were found. For more than two decades, Greene County has received a clean opinion from this outside review.

In addition to the daily checks and balances performed internally, Greene County participates in this independent, external audit as a means to verify it is fairly and accurately presenting its financial statement of revenue collected and amounts spent. This annual audit also allows the County to participate in a variety of federal grant programs and it affects the County's rating with Moody's Investor Services. Greene County currently has an Aa2 issuer rating, which is based on factors such as sound financial operation, healthy operating reserves, modest debt and pension burdens, and a diverse tax base.

The KPM audit is conducted yearly and is not connected to the Missouri State Auditors recently released findings. The KPM audit is an audit of the financial statements and the Missouri State Audit is a performance audit.

During the process, members of KPM work with the Greene County Auditor's Office to review items such as revenue reporting, contracts, invoices, internal controls and purchasing. Once complete, the firm issues a report and opinion. Audit results are typically released each July, but processes were slightly delayed this year due to COVID-19.

"At Greene County we put a premium on transparency and sound financial practices and this KPM audit is one more way to add value to our efforts and validate our processes," said Greene County Auditor Cindy Stein.

Presiding Commissioner Bob Dixon commended the Greene County Auditor's Office for its role in the audit as well as the staff's ongoing commitment to providing guidance and leadership with the ever-evolving rules and regulations governing the County's accounting.

"This audit really helps demonstrate to citizens that Greene County officeholders, department heads and employees work hard every day to be good stewards of taxpayer funds and we can all be proud of this year's favorable opinion from KPM," said Dixon.

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Greene County is the State of Missouri's fourth most populous county, serving more than 275,000 people (2010 census). Its mission is to provide all citizens of Greene County, including those in its cities, a safe and thriving community through excellent customer service, unparalleled dedication, and the efficient use of taxpayer dollars. The Greene County Commission is the executive body of Greene County operating under guidelines established in the Revised Statutes of the State of Missouri. Within that authority the Commission enacts ordinances, resolutions and policies, supervises the activities of county departments, fixes salaries, adopts the annual budget, provides for construction and other services, and conducts hearings on planning and zoning matters.

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