

RUTHERFORD COUNTY
TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
(A COMPONENT UNIT OF RUTHERFORD COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA)



BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2014

RUTHERFORD COUNTY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
(A Component Unit of Rutherford County, North Carolina)

Basic Financial Statements
For the Year Ended June 30, 2014

Authority Members

Jeff Bradley
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Denise Holland
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**GOULD KILLIAN
CPA GROUP, P.A.**
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Independent Auditors' Report

Board of Directors
Rutherford County Tourism Development Authority
Rutherfordton, North Carolina

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Rutherford County Tourism Development Authority, a component unit of Rutherford County, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2014, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Authority's 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 opinion 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. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of 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 entity'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 opinion.

Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Rutherford County Tourism Development Authority, as of June 30, 2014, and the changes in financial position and budgetary comparison for the General Fund 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 on pages 3-7 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 standard 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.

Donald Killian CPA Group, P.A.

Asheville, North Carolina
December 29, 2014

Management's Discussion and Analysis

As management of Rutherford County Tourism Development Authority (the "Authority"), we offer readers of the Authority's financial statements this narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities for the period July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014. We encourage readers to read the information presented here in conjunction with additional information that we have furnished in the Authority's financial statements which follow this narrative.

Financial Highlights

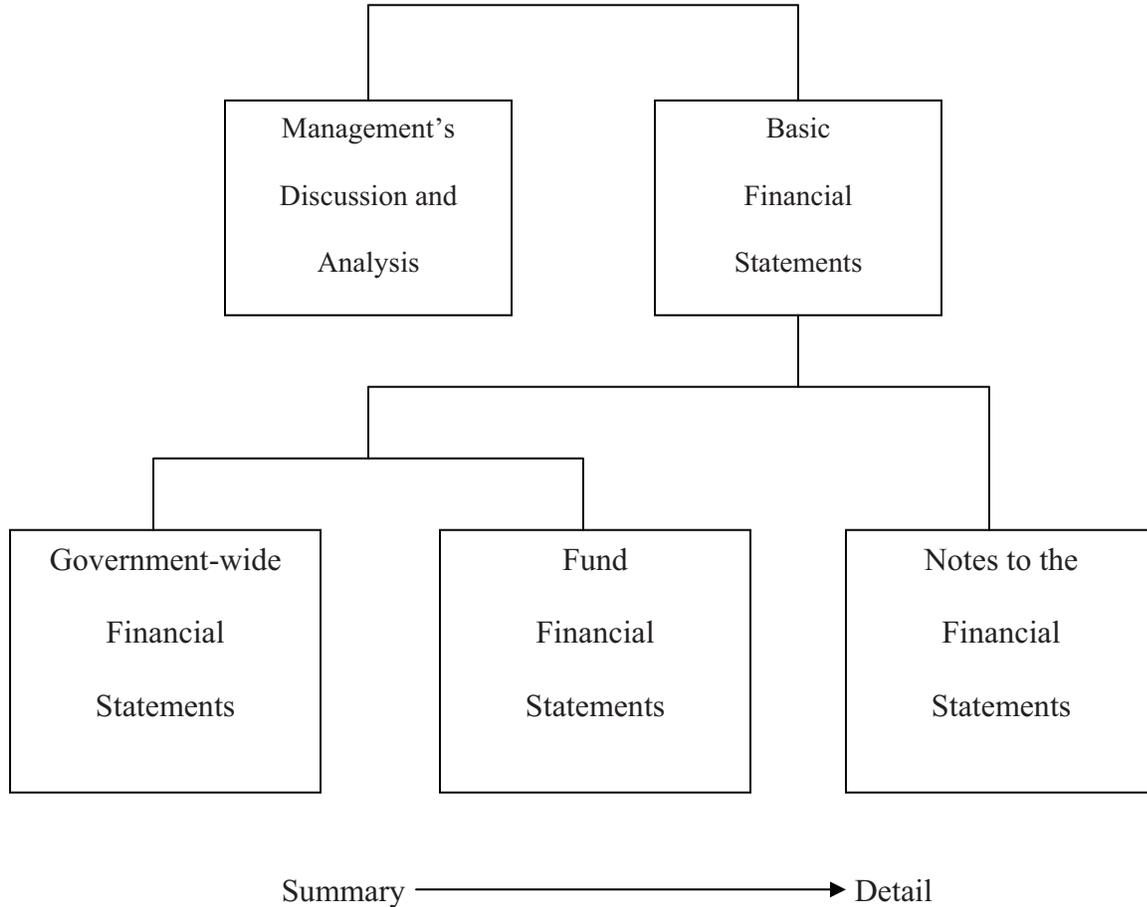
- The assets of the Authority exceeded its liabilities at the close of the period ended June 30, 2014 by \$494,457 (*Net Position*).
- The Authority's total Net Position decreased by \$90,338.
- The Authority's available fund balance at the end of the year represented 22.3 percent of total General Fund expenditures.

Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis is intended to serve as an introduction to the Authority's basic financial statements. The Authority's basic financial statements consist of three components: 1) government-wide financial statements, 2) fund financial statements, and 3) notes to the financial statements. The Authority is considered a special purpose government rather than a general government. In addition, the Authority engages only in governmental activities and operates only one program.

Required Components of Annual Financial Report

Figure 1



Basic Financial Statements

The first two statements (Exhibits 1 and 2) in the basic financial statements are the **Government-wide Financial Statements**. They provide both short and long-term information about the Authority's financial status.

The next statements (Exhibits 3 through 5) are **Fund Financial Statements**. These statements focus on the activities of the individual parts of the Authority's government. These statements provide more detail than the government-wide statements. There are two parts to the Fund Financial Statements: 1) the governmental funds statements and 2) the budgetary comparison statement.

The next section of the basic financial statements is the **Notes to the Financial Statements**. The Notes explain in detail some of the data contained in those statements.

Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide the reader with a broad overview of the Authority's finances, similar in format to a financial statement of a private-sector business. The government-wide statements provide short and long-term information about the Authority's financial status as a whole.

The two government-wide statements report the Authority's net position and how they have changed. Net position is the difference between the Authority's total assets and, deferred outflows of resources, and the total liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. Measuring net position is one way to gauge the Authority's financial condition.

The government-wide statements are comprised of a single category – governmental activities. The government-wide financial statements are on Exhibits 1 and 2 of this report.

Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements provide a more detailed look at the Authority's most significant activities. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Authority, like all other governmental entities in North Carolina, uses fund accounting to ensure and reflect compliance (or non-compliance) with finance-related legal requirements, such as the General Statutes of North Carolina or the Authority's budget ordinance. All of the funds of the Authority belong in one category, governmental funds.

Governmental Funds – Governmental funds are used to account for those functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. The Authority's activities are accounted for in governmental funds. These funds focus on how assets can readily be converted into cash flow in and out, and what monies are left at year end that will be available for spending in the next year. Governmental funds are reported using the current financial resources focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. As a result, the governmental fund financial statements give the reader a detailed short-term view that helps to determine if there are more or less financial resources available to finance the Authority's programs.

The Authority adopts an annual budget for its General Fund, as required by the General Statutes. The budget is a legally adopted document. The budget authorizes the Authority to obtain funds from identified sources to finance current period activities. The budgetary statement provided for the General Fund demonstrates how well the Authority complied with the budget ordinance.

Notes to the Financial Statements – The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements are on pages 13 through 20 of this report.

Government-Wide Financial Analysis

**Rutherford County Tourism Development Authority's
Net Position**

Figure 2

	Governmental Activities	
	2014	2013
Assets:		
Total current assets	\$ 295,222	\$ 450,978
Construction in process	-	169,577
Leasehold improvements, net	217,680	-
Total assets	512,902	620,555
Liabilities:		
Total current liabilities	18,445	35,760
Total liabilities	18,445	35,760
Net Position:		
Net investment in capital assets	217,680	169,577
Restricted	84,453	80,054
Unrestricted	192,324	335,164
Total net position	\$ 494,457	\$ 584,795

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as one useful indicator of a government's financial condition. The assets of the Authority exceeded liabilities by \$494,457 as of June 30, 2014. The Authority's net position decreased by \$90,338 during the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014.

**Rutherford County Tourism Development Authority's
Changes in Net Position**

Figure 3

	Governmental Activities	
	2014	2013
Revenues:		
Occupancy tax	\$ 603,670	\$ 588,596
Interest earned	85	254
Miscellaneous revenue	952	28,287
Total revenues	604,707	617,137
Expenses:		
Economic and physical development	695,045	695,355
Total expenses	695,045	695,355
Change in Net Position	(90,338)	(78,218)
Net Position - beginning	584,795	663,013
Net Position - ending	\$ 494,457	\$ 584,795

Financial Analysis of the Authority's Funds

As noted earlier, the Authority uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

Governmental Funds. The focus of the Authority's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of usable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the Authority's financing requirements. Specifically, unreserved fund balance can be a useful measure of a government's net resources available for spending at the end of the fiscal year.

The General Fund is the only operating fund of the Authority. At the end of the fiscal year, available fund balance of the General Fund was \$165,500, and the fund balance restricted for stabilization by state statute was \$84,453. As a measure of the General Fund's liquidity, it may be useful to compare both available fund balance and total fund balance to total fund expenditures. Available fund balance represents 22.3 percent of total General Fund expenditures, while total fund balance also represents 38.2 percent of that same amount.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights. Fiscal Year 2013 – 2014 was the first full year of operations of the Lake Lure Welcome Center completing one of the major initiatives the Board has had over the years. The Visitor Information Network project continues to be implemented as a multi-year initiative to help with information and directional signage throughout the County. During the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014, the Board took action and eliminated two full-time staff members to control costs when revenues were forecasted to be 4% down. To help control costs and continue services needed at the Welcome Centers, full-time positions were converted to part-time positions.

Economic Factors and Budget Highlights for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015

The TDA plans for the continued growth and implementation of the Visitor Information Network, a long-range project to provide visitor information via the use of technology, signage, information stands and walk-in centers. Current economic conditions indicate that the amount of revenue collected will continue to rise with recent developments at the Tryon International Equestrian Center located near our County borders. Recent collections have been 8-10% attributable to great weather and the new events held at the Equestrian Center.

Requests for Information

This report is designed to provide an overview of the Authority's finances for those with an interest in this area. Questions concerning any of the information found in this report or requests for additional information should be directed to the Executive Director, Rutherford County Tourism Development Authority, 130 West 6th Street, Rutherfordton, NC.

**RUTHERFORD COUNTY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
(A COMPONENT UNIT OF RUTHERFORD COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA)**

Statement of Net Position
June 30, 2014

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
Assets:	
Current assets:	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 210,769
Accounts and taxes receivable	84,453
Total current assets	<u>295,222</u>
Noncurrent assets:	
Leasehold Improvements, net	<u>217,680</u>
Total assets	<u><u>512,902</u></u>
Liabilities:	
Current liabilities:	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	11,269
Compensated absences	7,176
Total current liabilities	<u>18,445</u>
Total liabilities	<u><u>18,445</u></u>
Net position:	
Net investment in capital assets	217,680
Restricted for stabilization by State statute	84,453
Unrestricted	192,324
Total net position	<u><u>\$ 494,457</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

**RUTHERFORD COUNTY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
(A COMPONENT UNIT OF RUTHERFORD COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA)**

Statement of Activities
For the year ended June 30, 2014

Functions/Programs	Expenses	Program Revenues	Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position
		Charges for Services	Total Governmental Activities
Economic and physical development	\$ 695,045	\$ -	\$ (695,045)
Total	\$ 695,045	\$ -	(695,045)
General revenues:			
			603,670
			85
			952
			604,707
			(90,338)
			584,795
			\$ 494,457

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

**RUTHERFORD COUNTY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
(A COMPONENT UNIT OF RUTHERFORD COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA)**

Balance Sheet - Governmental Fund
June 30, 2014

	General Fund
Assets:	
Current assets:	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 210,769
Account and taxes receivable	84,453
Total current assets	\$ 295,222
Liabilities:	
Current liabilities:	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 11,269
Total current liabilities	11,269
Fund Balances:	
Restricted for stabilization by State statute	84,453
Assigned for subsequent year's expenditures	34,000
Unassigned	165,500
Total fund balance	283,953
Total liabilities and fund balance	\$ 295,222
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:	
Total fund balance	\$ 283,953
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and are therefore not reported in the funds.	
Leasehold improvements	217,680
Some liabilities, including compensated absences, are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported in the funds.	
	(7,176)
Net position of governmental activities	\$ 494,457

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

**RUTHERFORD COUNTY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
(A COMPONENT UNIT OF RUTHERFORD COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA)**

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and
Changes in Fund Balance - Governmental Fund
For the year ended June 30, 2014

	<u>General Fund</u>
Revenues:	
Occupancy revenue	\$ 603,670
Interest earned	85
Miscellaneous revenue	952
Total revenues	<u>604,707</u>
 Expenditures:	
Economic and physical development	<u>743,148</u>
 Revenues under expenditures	 (138,441)
 Fund Balances:	
Fund balance - beginning	<u>422,394</u>
Fund balance - ending	<u><u>\$ 283,953</u></u>
 Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:	
 Net change in fund balance - governmental fund	 \$ (138,441)
Depreciation expense, the allocation of those assets over their useful lives that is recorded on the statement of activities but not in the fund statements.	 (24,187)
Capital outlay expenditures recorded in the fund statements but capitalized as assets in the statement of net position	 <u>48,100</u>
 Total change in net position of governmental activities	 <u><u>\$ (114,528)</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

RUTHERFORD COUNTY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
(A COMPONENT UNIT OF RUTHERFORD COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA)

General Fund
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and
Changes in Fund Balance
Budget and Actual
For the year ended June 30, 2014

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual Amounts	Variance Positive/ (Negative)
	Original	Final		
Revenues:				
Occupancy tax	\$ 584,796	\$ 545,218	\$ 602,629	\$ 57,411
Penalties and interest	-	-	1,041	1,041
Interest earned	550	550	85	(465)
Miscellaneous revenue	-	26,269	952	(25,317)
Total revenues	585,346	572,037	604,707	32,670
Expenditures:				
Salaries and benefits	173,319	199,588	155,798	43,790
Professional services	134,990	170,990	171,080	(90)
Public relations and marketing	154,752	209,228	205,329	3,899
Facilities	71,733	77,457	67,150	10,307
Capital outlays	91,873	191,883	142,950	48,933
Miscellaneous	1,357	1,357	841	516
Total expenditures	628,024	850,503	743,148	107,355
Revenues over (under) expenditures	(42,678)	(278,466)	(138,441)	140,025
Other financing sources:				
Appropriated fund balance	42,678	278,466	-	(278,466)
Net change in fund balance	\$ -	\$ -	(138,441)	\$ (138,441)
Fund balance - beginning			422,394	
Fund balance - ending			\$ 283,953	

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

RUTHERFORD COUNTY TOURISM DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
(A Component Unit of Rutherford County, North Carolina)
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
June 30, 2014

Note 1 - Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The accounting policies of the Rutherford County Tourism Development Authority conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applicable to governments. The following is a summary of the more significant accounting policies:

A. Reporting Entity

The Rutherford County Tourism Development Authority (the “Authority”) was created on June 17, 1991 by sections 5 and 6 of chapter 577 of the 1991 Session Laws by Rutherford County to levy a room occupancy tax and by resolution of Rutherford County, North Carolina, under the authority of the North Carolina General Assembly. The act was modified by the provisions of Session Law 2011-115, House Bill 414. The Authority is responsible for promoting travel and tourism in the area. The Authority receives revenue through a five percent occupancy tax which is levied by Rutherford County. The Authority remitted approximately 6% of the occupancy taxes collected for the year to the County to cover administrative costs. The members of the Authority are appointed by Rutherford County, North Carolina. The Authority is included in the reporting entity of Rutherford County under GASB Statement 61. In addition, Rutherford County provides some administrative functions for the Authority including the Authority’s accounting function.

The Authority has received not-for-profit status under Internal Revenue Code Section 501(c)(6).

B. Basis of Presentation

Government-wide Statements. The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the primary government (the “Authority”). These statements include the financial activities of the overall government.

The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the Authority’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 fees and charges paid by the recipients of goods or services offered by the programs. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, are presented as general revenues.

Fund Financial Statements. The fund financial statements provide information about the Authority’s funds. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major governmental funds.

The Authority has the following major governmental fund:

General Fund - The General Fund is the general operating fund of the Authority. It is used to account for all financial resources, except those that are required to be accounted for in another fund.

The General Fund is the Authority's only fund for the year ended June 30, 2014.

C. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting

In accordance with North Carolina General Statutes, all funds of the Authority are maintained during the year using the modified accrual basis of accounting.

Government-wide Financial Statements. The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus. 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.

Governmental Fund Financial Statements. Governmental funds are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized when measurable and available. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred.

The Authority recognizes assets of non-exchange transactions in the period when the underlying transaction occurs, when an enforceable legal claim has arisen, or when all eligibility requirements are met. Revenues are recognized on the modified accrual basis of accounting when they are measurable and available. Non-exchange transactions occur when one government provides (or receives) value to (or from) another party without receiving (or giving) equal or nearly equal value in return. The Authority considers all revenues available if they are collected within 90 days after year end.

D. Budgetary Data

The Authority's budgets are adopted as required by the North Carolina General Statutes. An annual budget is adopted for the General Fund. All annual appropriations lapse at fiscal year end.

All budgets are prepared using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Expenditures may not legally exceed appropriations at the line item level for all annually budgeted funds. Any revisions that alter total expenditures of any fund must be approved by the governing board. The budget ordinance must be adopted by July 1 of the fiscal year, or the governing board must adopt an interim budget that covers that time until the annual ordinance can be adopted.

E. Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

F. Assets, Liabilities and Fund Equity**Deposits**

All deposits of the Authority are made in board-designated official depositories and are collateralized as required by North Carolina General Statute 159-31. The Authority may designate as an official depository any bank or savings and loan association whose principal office is located in North Carolina. Also, the Authority may establish time deposit accounts such as NOW and SuperNOW accounts, money market accounts, and certificates of deposit.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

All bank deposits are demand deposits and are considered cash and cash equivalents.

Accounts Receivable

The Authority's revenue comes from the collection of a hotel occupancy tax. The tax is paid in the month following the retail sales. Therefore, any tax on hotel stays through June 30 that has not been collected by the County is considered receivable by the Authority.

Capital Assets

Purchased or constructed capital assets are reported at cost or estimated historical cost. Donated capital assets are recorded at their estimated fair value at the date of donation. Minimum capitalization cost is \$5,000. The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets' lives are not capitalized. The cost associated with wayfinding signs are not capitalized.

Net Position/Fund Balance***Net Position***

Net position in the government-wide financial statements is classified as net investment in capital assets, restricted and unrestricted. Restricted net position represents constraints on resources that are imposed by law through State statute.

Fund Balance

In the governmental fund financial statements, fund balance is composed of five classifications designed to disclose the hierarchy of constraints placed on how fund balance can be spent.

The governmental fund types classify fund balances as follows:

Nonspendable Fund Balance – This classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are either (a) not in spendable form or (b) legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The Authority does not have any amounts that fall into this classification.

Restricted Fund Balance – This classification includes amounts that are restricted to specific purposes externally imposed by creditors or imposed by law.

Restricted for Stabilization by State Statute – the portion of fund balance that is restricted by State Statute [G.S. 159-8(a)].

Committed Fund Balance – portion of fund balance that can only be used for specific purposes imposed by majority vote by the Authority’s board of directors. Any changes or removal of specific purpose requires majority action by the board of directors. The Authority does not have any amounts that fall into this classification.

Assigned Fund Balance – portion of fund balance that the Authority intends to use for specific purposes.

Subsequent year’s expenditures – the portion of fund balance that is appropriated in the next year’s budget.

Unassigned – the portion of total fund balance that has not been restricted, committed, or assigned to specific purposes or other funds.

The Authority does not have a revenue spending policy that provides guidance for programs with multiple revenue sources. The Authority does not have a minimum fund balance policy for the General Fund.

Note 2 - Deposits

All the deposits of the Authority are either insured or collateralized by using one of two methods. Under the Dedicated Method, all deposits that exceed the federal depository insurance coverage level are collateralized with securities held by the Authority’s agent in the unit’s name. Under the Pooling Method, which is a collateral pool, all uninsured deposits are collateralized with securities held by the State Treasurer’s agent in the name of the State Treasurer. Since the State Treasurer is acting in a fiduciary capacity for the Authority, these deposits are considered to be held by the Authority’s agent in its name. The amount of the pledged collateral is based on an approved averaging method for non-interest bearing deposits and the actual current balance for interest bearing deposits. Depositories using the Pooling Method report to the State Treasurer the adequacy of their pooled collateral covering uninsured deposits. The State Treasurer does not confirm this information with the Authority or the escrow agent. Because of the inability to measure the exact amounts of collateral pledged for the Authority under the Pooling Method, the potential exists for under-collateralization, and this risk may increase in periods of high cash flows. However, the State Treasurer of North Carolina enforces strict standards of financial stability for each depository that collateralizes public deposits under the Pooling Method. The Authority has no formal policy regarding custodial credit risks for deposits, but relies on the State Treasurer to enforce standards of minimum capitalization for all pooling method financial institutions and to monitor them for compliance. The Authority complies with the provisions of G.S. 159-31 when designating official depositories and verifying the deposits are properly secured.

At June 30, 2014, the Authority’s deposits had a carrying amount and bank balance of \$210,769. Because these funds are held by Rutherford County in their central depository account, it is not possible to determine the amounts covered under Federal Depository Insurance versus the amount covered by collateral held under the pooling method. Therefore, all balances will be considered to be covered by collateral held under the pooling method.

Note 3 – Capital Assets

The Authority's capital assets consist of leasehold improvements for the Lake Lure welcome center. The improvements were anticipated to cost \$220,000. The majority of the costs were funded using appropriated fund balance. The Authority incurred \$241,867 on the project. The welcome center leasehold improvements were completed in July 2013.

Depreciation is calculated over the 10 year life of the lease. Depreciation expense for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014 was \$24,187.

Note 4 - Risk Management

The Authority is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets, errors and omissions, and natural disasters. These risks of loss are handled through commercial insurance coverage.

In accordance with G.S. 159-29, the Authority's finance officer, which has access to \$100 or more at any given time of the Authority's funds, is performance bonded through a commercial surety bond in the amount of \$50,000.

Note 5 - Occupancy Taxes

The Authority, in accordance with State law (S.L. 1998-112), collects the proceeds of a room occupancy tax of five percent of the gross receipts derived from the rental of any room, lodging, or accommodation furnished by a hotel, motel, inn, tourist camp, or similar place within the County that is subject to sales tax imposed by the State under G.S. 105-164.4(a)(3). This tax is in addition to any State or local sales tax.

The occupancy tax collected by the Authority represents 99.8 percent of total revenues and other financing sources of the Authority.

Note 6 - Liabilities**A. Compensated Absences**

The vacation policies of the Authority provides for the accumulation of up to thirty days earned vacation leave with such leave being fully vested when earned. For the Authority's Statement of Net Position, an expense and a liability for compensated absences and the salary-related payments are recorded as the leave is earned.

The sick leave policies of the Authority provide for an unlimited accumulation of earned sick leave. Sick leave does not vest, but any unused sick leave accumulated at the time of retirement may be used in the determination of length of service for retirement benefit purposes. Since the Authority has no obligation for accumulated sick leave until it is actually taken, no accrual for sick leave has been made by the Authority.

The following is a summary of changes in compensated absences for the year ended June 30, 2014:

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Increases</u>	<u>Decreases</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>	<u>Current Portion</u>
Governmental activities:					
Compensated absences	\$ 7,176	\$ 6,329	\$ 6,329	\$ 7,176	\$ 7,176

B. North Carolina Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System

Plan Description: The Tourism Development Authority contributes to the statewide Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System (LGERS), a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the State of North Carolina. LGERS provides retirement and disability benefits to plan members and beneficiaries. Article 3 of G.S. Chapter 128 assigns the authority to establish and amend benefit provisions to the North Carolina General Assembly. The Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System is included in the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for the State of North Carolina. The State's CAFR includes financial statements and required supplementary information for LGERS. That report may be obtained by writing to the Office of the State Controller, 1410 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1410, or by calling (919) 981-5454.

Funding Policy: For the Authority's employees, the current rate is 7.07% of annual covered payroll. The contribution requirements of members and of the Authority are established and may be amended by the North Carolina General Assembly. The Authority's contributions to LGERS for the years ended June 30, 2014, 2013, and 2012 were \$10,068, \$15,510, and \$12,373, respectively. The contributions made by the Authority equaled the required contributions for the year.

C. Supplemental Retirement Income Plan for General Employees

Plan Description: The Authority contributes to the Supplemental Retirement Income Plan for all full-time employees.

Funding Policy: The Authority contributes each month an amount equal to 3.25% of each full-time employee's salary. Employee contributions are voluntary. An additional amount equal to one percent of an employee's salary is contributed by the Authority each month for those employees who have chosen to contribute at least one percent themselves. All amounts are vested immediately. Contributions for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014 were \$2,983, which consisted of \$2,504 from the Authority and \$479 from the employees.

D. Postemployment Healthcare Benefits

Plan Description: The postemployment healthcare benefits are provided through a cost-sharing multiple employer defined benefit plan administered by the Executive Administrator and the Board of Trustees of the Comprehensive Major Medical Plan (the Plan). The Executive Administrator and the Board of Trustees of the Plan establishes premium rates except as may be established by the General Assembly in an appropriation act. The Plan's benefit and contribution provisions are established by Chapter 135-7, Article 1, and Chapter 135, Article 3 of the General Statutes and may be amended only by the North Carolina General Assembly. By General Statute, the Plan accumulates contributions from employers and any earnings on those contributions in the Retiree Health Benefit Fund. These assets shall be used to provide health benefits to retired and disabled employees and their applicable beneficiaries. These contributions are irrevocable. Also by law, these assets are not subject to the claims of creditors of the employers making contributions to the Plan.

The State of North Carolina issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for the State's Major

Comprehensive Major Medical Plan (also, referred to as the State Health Plan). An electronic version of this report is available by accessing the North Carolina Office of the State Controller's Internet home page <http://www.ncosc.net/> and clicking on "Financial Reports", or by calling the State Controller's Financial Reporting Section at (919) 981-5454.

Funding Policy: The Comprehensive Major Medical Plan is administered by the Executive Administrator and Board of Trustees of the Plan, which establish premium rates except as may be established by the General Assembly in an appropriation act. The healthcare benefits for retired and disabled employees are the same as for active employees, except that the coverage becomes secondary when former employees become eligible for Medicare. For employees first hired on and after October 1, 2006, future coverage as retired employees is subject to the requirement that the future retiree have 20 or more years of retirement service credit in order to receive coverage on a noncontributory basis. Employees first hired on and after October 1, 2006 with 10 but less than 20 years of retirement service credit are eligible for coverage on a partially contributory basis. For such future retirees, the State will pay 50% of the State Health Plan's total noncontributory premium. For employees hired before October 1, 2006, healthcare benefits are provided to retirees (at no charge to the retirees) who have at least five years of contributing retirement membership prior to disability or retirement. In addition, persons who became surviving spouses of retirees prior to October 1, 1986, receive the same coverage as retirees at the State's expense.

Contributions are determined as a percentage of covered monthly payroll. Annually, the monthly contribution rates to the Plan, which are intended to finance benefits and administrative expenses on a pay-as-you-go basis, are determined by the General Assembly in the Appropriations Bill. For the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014, the Authority made contributions of \$4,160 for its employees.

E. Post-Employment Death Benefits

The Authority has elected to provide death benefits to employees through the Death Benefit Plan for members of the Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System (Death Benefit Plan), a multiple- employer, State-administered, cost-sharing plan funded on a one-year term cost basis. The beneficiaries of those employees who die in active service after one year of contributing membership in the System, or who die within 180 days after retirement or termination of service and have at least one year of contributing membership service in the System at the time of death are eligible for death benefits. Lump sum death benefit payments to beneficiaries are equal to the employee's 12 highest month's salary in a row during the 24 months prior to the employee's death, but the benefit will be a minimum of \$25,000 and will not exceed \$50,000. All death benefit payments are made from the Death Benefit Plan. The Authority has no liability beyond the payment of monthly contributions. Contributions are determined as a percentage of monthly payrolls, based upon rates established annually by the State. Because the benefit payments are made by the Death Benefit Plan and not by the Authority, the Authority does not determine the number of eligible participants, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014. The Authority made required contributions of \$0. The contributions to the Death Benefit Plan cannot be separated between the postemployment benefit amount and the other benefit amount.

F. Operating Leases

As of June 30, 2014, the Authority was obligated under two operating leases.

The Authority has an operating lease for equipment which contains cancellation provisions and is subject to annual appropriations. For the reporting period, rent expenditures related to operating lease obligations were \$6,514. Monthly payments for the copying machines are \$454 with the term of the lease continuing through November of 2015. Future minimum payments of the operating lease through the end of the term are as follows: 2015 - \$5,448; and 2016 - \$2,270.

The Authority has an operating lease for the welcome center building. The lease term is through June 30, 2017 with the option of renewing an additional 5 years. This lease is through the Town of Lake Lure at a cost of \$1.00 per year. The Authority intends on renewing with the additional 5 year term.