

**PIPESTONE SOIL AND WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT**

**ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT  
DECEMBER 31, 2008**

PIPESTONE SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT  
DECEMBER, 31 2008

TABLE OF CONTENTS

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSIONS AND ANALYSIS:

Page 1:	Statement of Net Assets and Statement of Activities:	1 – 6
Page 2:	Statement of Activities: Fund Financial Statements; and Notes to the Financial Statements	
Page 3:	Table 1 – Statement of Net Assets: and Government Activities: And Table 2 Revenues – Changes in Net Assets	
Page 4:	Table 2 Expenditures – Changes in Net Assets: The District's Funds: and General Budgetary Highlights	
Page 5:	Capital Asset and Debt Administration – Capital Assets: Long Term Liabilities: Economics Factors and Next Year's Budget:	
Page 6:	Contacting the District	

GOVERNMENT – WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

Statement of Net Assets and Government Fund Balance Sheet	7
Statement of Activities/Gov. Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance	8
Budgetary Comparison Schedule – Budget and Actual	9

FUND – FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

Breakdown of County Revenue	10
Deferred Revenue	11

REONCILIATION STATEMENTS:

Reconciliation of the Statements of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance of Governmental Funds to the Statements of Activities	12
--	----

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT:

I.	Summary of Significant Accounting Policies Included in this section: Financial Reporting Entity: Basis of Presentation – Fund Accounting: Basis of Accounting Modified Accrual Basis; Budget Information; Assets, Liabilities, and Equity Accounts: and Vacation and Sick Leave	13 - 16
II.; III.: & IV	Stewardship, Compliance and accountability; Deposits and Investments: Changes in General Fixed Assets	16 - 17
V.: VI; & VII.	Deferred Revenue: Compensated Absences Payable Risk Management	17 - 18
VIII.: & IX	Pension Plan: Operation Leases	18 - 19

## **MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

The Pipestone Soil and Water Conservation District's discussion and analysis provides an overview of the SWCD's financial activities for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2008. Since this information is designed to focus on the current years activities, resulting changes, and currently known facts, it should be read in conjunction with the SWCD's financial statements beginning on page 7.

### **USING THIS ANNUAL REPORT**

This annual report consists of three parts: management's discussion and analysis (this section), the basic financial statements, and required supplementary information. The basic financial statements include a series of financial statements. The Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities on pages 7 and 8 provide information about the activities of the SWCD as a whole and present a longer-term view of the SWCD's finances. Fund financial statements start on page 10. For governmental activities, these statements tell how these services were financed in the short term as well as what remains for future spending. Fund financial statements also report the SWCD's operations in more detail than the government-wide statements by providing information about the SWCD's most significant funds. Since SWCD's are single-purpose special purpose governments they are generally able to combine the government-wide and fund financial statements into single presentations. Pipestone Soil and Water Conservation District has elected to present in this format.

### **The Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities**

Our analysis of the SWCD as a whole begins on page 2. One of the most important questions asked about the SWCD's finances is, "Is the SWCD as a whole better or worse off as a result of the year's activities?" The Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities report information about the SWCD as a whole and about its activities in a way that helps answer this question. These statements include all assets and liabilities using accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by the most private-sector companies. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These two statements report the SWCD's net assets and changes in them. You can think of the SWCD's net assets — the difference between assets and liabilities—as one way to measure the SWCD's financial health, or financial position. Over time, increases or decreases in the SWCD's net assets are one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. You will need to consider other nonfinancial factors, however, such as changes in the SWCD's property tax base and the condition of SWCD roads, to assess the overall health of the SWCD.

In the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities, the SWCD presents Governmental activities. All of the SWCD's basic services are reported here. Appropriations from the county and state finance most activities.

## **Reporting the SWCD's General Fund**

### **Fund Financial Statements**

Our analysis of the SWCD's general fund begins on page 3. The fund financial statements begin on page 4 and provide detailed information about the general fund—not the SWCD as a whole. The SWCD presents only a general fund, which is a governmental fund. All of the SWCD's basic services are reported in the general fund, which focuses on how money flows into and out of those funds and the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. The fund is reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting. This method measures cash and all other financial assets that can be readily converted to cash. The general fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the SWCD's general government operations and the basic services it provides. Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the SWCD's programs. We describe the relationship (or differences) between governmental activities (reported in the Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities) and governmental funds in a reconciliation included with the financial statements.

### **THE SWCD AS A WHOLE**

In the following paragraph and table, adjust if there are no business-type activities. The SWCD's combined net assets were increasing from \$252,337 to \$290,440. In contrast, last year net assets increased by 46,434. Our analysis below focuses on the net assets (Table 1) and changes in net assets (Table 2) of the SWCD's governmental activities.

**Table 1**  
**Net Assets**

	Governmental Activities	
	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Current and other assets	504,444	361,261
Capital assets	<u>22,162</u>	<u>20,989</u>
Total assets	526,606	382,250
Long-term debt outstanding	6,029	6,751
Other liabilities	<u>230,137</u>	<u>123,362</u>
Total liabilities	236,166	130,113
Net assets		
Invested in capital assets, net of debt	22,162	20,989
Unrestricted	<u>268,278</u>	<u>231,148</u>
Total net assets	<u>290,440</u>	<u>252,137</u>

Net assets of the SWCD governmental activities increased by 15 percent (\$290,440 compared to \$252,237). Unrestricted net assets—the part of net assets that can be used to finance day-to-day operations without constraints established by debt covenants, enabling legislation, or other legal requirements—changed from a \$231,148, surplus at December 31, 2008 to a \$268,278 at the end of this year.

**TABLE 2**  
**Changes in Net Assets**

	Governmental Activities	
	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
<b>Revenues</b>		
Program revenues:		
Charges for service	35,426	29,919
Federal grants	11,054	3,200
State grants and entitlements	92,809	128,877
County	162,774	125,287
General revenues		
Other general revenues	<u>13,998</u>	<u>9,961</u>
Total revenues	316,061	297,244
<b>Program expenses</b>		
Conservation	<u>277,758</u>	<u>250,810</u>
Total expenses	<u>277,758</u>	<u>250,810</u>
<b>Increase (decrease) in net assets</b>	<u>38,303</u>	<u>46,434</u>

The SWCD's total revenues (excluding special items) increased by 18,817 percent (\$6.3). The total cost of all programs and services increased by \$26,948, or more or less than 10.7 percent with no new programs added this year. Even with this low growth in expenses, the SWCD still was able to cover this year's costs.

Our analysis below separately considers the operations of governmental activities.

**Governmental Activities**

Revenues for the SWCD governmental activities increased by 6.3 percent (\$18,817), while total expenses increased just over 15.5 percent (\$37,545).

The cost of all governmental activities this year was \$279,653 compared to \$242,108 last year. However, as shown in the Statement of Activities on page 8, the amount that our taxpayers ultimately financed for these activities through SWCD taxes was only \$162,774 because some of the cost was paid by those who directly benefitted from the programs (\$35,426) or by other governments and organizations that subsidized certain programs with grants and contributions (\$117,861). Overall, the SWCD's governmental program revenues, including intergovernmental aid and fees for services, increased in 2008 from \$257,364 to \$266,637, principally based on increases in intergovernmental and or fees charged for services.

Table 3 presents the cost of each of the SWCD's five largest programs as well as each program's net cost (total cost less revenues generated by the activities). The net cost shows the financial burden that was placed on the SWCD's taxpayers by each of these functions.

**Table 3  
Governmental Activities**

	Total Cost of Services		Net Cost of Services	
	2008	2007	2008	2007
Conservation	<u>\$279,653</u>	<u>\$242,108</u>	<u>\$244,227</u>	<u>\$212,189</u>
<b>Totals</b>	<u><b>\$279,653</b></u>	<u><b>\$242,108</b></u>	<u><b>\$244,227</b></u>	<u><b>\$212,189</b></u>

**THE SWCD's FUNDS**

As the SWCD completed the year, its general fund (as presented in the balance sheet on page 3 reported a combined fund balance of \$274,307 which is slightly above last year's total of \$237,899. Included in this year's total change in fund balance, however, is a surplus of \$36,408 in the SWCD's General Fund. The primary reasons for the General Fund's surplus mirror the governmental activities analysis highlighted on page 8.

## General Fund Budgetary Highlights

Over the course of the year, the governing board did not revise the SWCD's budget.

## CAPITAL ASSET AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

### Capital Assets

At the end of 2008, the SWCD had \$22,162 invested in a broad range of capital assets, including. (See Table 4 below.) This amount represents a net increase including additions and deductions of just under \$1,173, or 5.6 percent, over last year.

**Table 4**  
**Capital Assets at Year-end**

	Governmental Activities	
	<u>2008</u>	<u>2007</u>
Equipment	\$22,162	\$20,989
Totals	<u>\$22,162</u>	<u>\$20,989</u>

This year's major additions:

### Long-Term Liabilities

Other obligations include accrued vacation pay and sick leave. More detailed information about the SWCD's long-term liabilities is presented in Note VI to the financial statements.

## ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGETS AND RATES

The SWCD's elected and appointed officials considered many factors when setting the fiscal-year 2009 budget, tax rates.

## **CONTACTING THE SWCD'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT**

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, customers, and investors and creditors with a general overview of the SWCD's finances and to show the SWCD's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the Pipestone Soil and Water Conservation District, 119 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue SW, Pipestone, Minnesota 56164.

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
PIPESTONE, MINNESOTA

STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS AND  
GOVERNMENTAL FUND BALANCE SHEET  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

	General Fund	Adjustments See Notes	Statement of Net Assets
<b><u>Assets</u></b>			
Cash and investments	\$504,444		\$504,444
Accounts receivable			
Due from other governments			
Prepaid items			
Capital Assets:			
Equipment (net of accumulated depreciation)		22,162	22,162
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b><u>\$504,444</u></b>	<b><u>\$22,162</u></b>	<b><u>\$526,606</u></b>
<b><u>Liabilities</u></b>			
Current liabilities:			
Accounts payable	\$10,096		\$10,096
Salaries payable			
Deferred revenue	220,041		220,041
Long-term liabilities:			
Due within one year		6,029	6,029
Due after one year			
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b><u>\$230,137</u></b>	<b><u>\$6,029</u></b>	<b><u>\$236,166</u></b>
<b><u>Fund Balance/Net Assets</u></b>			
Fund Balance/Net Assets			
Reserved for prepaid items			
Unreserved			
Designated for future projects	108,852	(108,852)	0
Undesignated	165,455	(165,455)	0
<b>Total Fund Balance</b>	<b><u>\$274,307</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>
Net Assets			
Invested in capital assets		22,162	22,162
Unrestricted		268,278	268,278
<b>Total Net Assets</b>		<b><u>\$290,440</u></b>	<b><u>\$290,440</u></b>

Notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
PIPESTONE, MINNESOTA

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES AND  
GOVERNMENTAL REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

	General Fund	Adjustments See Notes	Statement of Activities
<b>Revenues</b>			
Intergovernmental	\$266,637	\$0	\$266,637
Charges for services	35,426		35,426
Investment earnings	5,820		5,820
Miscellaneous	8,178		8,178
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$316,061</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$316,061</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>			
Conservation			
Current	\$269,754	\$8,004	\$277,758
Capital outlay	9,899	(9,899)	0
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$279,653</b>	<b>(\$1,895)</b>	<b>\$277,758</b>
<b>Excess of Revenues Over (Under)</b>			
<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>\$36,408</b>	<b>\$1,895</b>	<b>\$38,303</b>
<b>Fund Balance/Net Assets January 1</b>	<b>237,899</b>	<b>14,238</b>	<b>252,137</b>
<b>Fund Balance/Net Assets December 31</b>	<b>\$274,307</b>	<b>\$16,133</b>	<b>\$290,440</b>

Notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
PIPESTONE, MINNESOTA

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE  
BUDGET AND ACTUAL  
GENERAL FUND  
YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2008

	Original <u>Budget</u>	Final <u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Neg)
<b>Revenues</b>				
<b>Intergovernmental</b>				
County	\$136,403	\$136,403	162,774	\$26,371
Federal			11,054	11,054
State grant	127,060	127,060	92,809	(34,251)
<b>Total intergovernmental</b>	<b>\$263,463</b>	<b>\$263,463</b>	<b>\$266,637</b>	<b>\$3,174</b>
<b>Charges for services</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>	<b>\$35,426</b>	<b>\$15,426</b>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>				
Interest earnings	\$3,959	\$3,959	\$5,820	\$1,861
Other			8,178	8,178
<b>Total miscellaneous</b>	<b>\$3,959</b>	<b>\$3,959</b>	<b>\$13,998</b>	<b>\$10,039</b>
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$287,422</b>	<b>\$287,422</b>	<b>\$316,061</b>	<b>\$28,639</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>				
<b>District operations</b>				
Personal services	\$141,860	\$141,860	\$113,433	\$28,427
Other services and charges	19,822	19,822	12,255	7,567
Supplies	9,000	9,000	5,720	3,280
Capital outlay			4,000	(4,000)
<b>Total district operations</b>	<b>\$170,682</b>	<b>\$170,682</b>	<b>\$135,408</b>	<b>\$35,274</b>
<b>Project expenditures</b>				
District	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$15,502	\$4,498
State	84,702	84,702	90,749	(6,047)
Water Plan	12,038	12,038	37,994	(25,956)
<b>Total project expenditures</b>	<b>\$116,740</b>	<b>\$116,740</b>	<b>\$144,245</b>	<b>\$(27,505)</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$287,422</b>	<b>\$287,422</b>	<b>\$279,653</b>	<b>\$7,769</b>
<b>Excess of Revenues Over (Under)</b>				
<b>Expenditures</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$36,408</b>	<b>\$36,408</b>
<b>Fund Balance - January 1</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$237,899</b>	<b>\$237,899</b>
<b>Fund Balance - December 31</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$274,307</b>	<b>\$274,307</b>

Notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

**BREAKDOWN OF COUNTY REVENUE  
2008**

COUNTY REVENUES (breakdown):

ANNUAL ALLOCATION	\$ <u>61,240.00</u>
WATER PLAN MONEY	\$ <u>15,929.97</u>
WETLAND MONEY	\$ <u>10,000.00</u>
FEEDLOT MONEY	\$ <u>62,625.00</u>
ABANDONED WELL	\$ _____
DNR SHORELAND	\$ <u>2,979.00</u>
OTHER (specify)	\$ _____
ISTS	\$ 10,000.00
TOTAL	\$ <u>162,773.97</u>



**Reconciliation of the Statements of Revenues, Expenditures, and changes in Fund Balance of  
Governmental Funds to the Statements of Activities**

Net Changes in Fund Balance – Total Governmental Funds \$ 36,408

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different. Under the “Adjustments” column, are the following: for the Conservation Current expense: The amount of \$8,004 is made up of the following: the 2008 Depreciation of \$8,726 minus \$722 decrease in compensated absences from 2007 of \$6,751 to 2008 of \$6,029. The Capital Outlay in the General Fund is the total of all purchases during 2008 with the “Adjustments” being the new capital outlay over \$2,500 plus additions, in which for the District is \$9,899 for 2008.

Loss on disposal of equipment \$ (0)

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expenses. This is the amount by which depreciation of \$7,989, is less than the capital outlays of \$9,899 in the current period.

\$ 1,173

Compensated Absences are also reflected in the Statement of Activities In 2007 the compensated absences decreased by \$722 from 2007.

\$ 722

Changes in Net Assets of Governmental Activities

\$ 38,303

Total Fund Balance – Total Governmental Funds

\$274,307

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Assets are different because as shown under the “Adjustments” column the Capital Assets are added to the Net Assets, while the Compensated Absences are a liability and are therefore subtracted from Net Assets from the Total Net Assets as follows: Capital assets of \$22,162 net of accumulated depreciation are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the general funds.

\$ 22,162

Compensated absences are not due and payable in the current period and are not reported in the general funds.

\$ (6,029)

Net Assets of Governmental Funds

\$290,440

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2008**

I. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial reporting policies of the Pipestone Soil and Water Conservation District (District) conform to generally accepted accounting principles. These statements are prepared in accordance with Government Accounting Standards Board Rule 34, which changes the way both the statement of condition and the statement of revenues and expenses are reported.

A. Financial Reporting Entity

The district is organized under the provisions of Minnesota Statutes Chapter 103C and is governed by a Board of Supervisors composed of five members nominated by voters of the District and elected to four-year terms by the voters of the County.

The purpose of the District is to assist land occupiers in applying practices for the conservation of soil and water resources. These practices are intended to control wind and water erosion, pollution of lakes and streams, and damage to wetlands and wildlife habitats.

The Pipestone Soil and Water Conservation District, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service and other agencies, provides technical and financial assistance to individuals, groups, organizations, and governments in reducing costly waste of soil and water resulting from soil erosion, sedimentation, pollution, and improper land use.

Each fiscal year the District develops a work plan that is used as a guide in using resources effectively to provide maximum conservation of all lands within its boundaries. The work plan includes guidelines for employees and technicians to follow in order to achieve the District's objectives.

The District is not considered a part of Pipestone County because, even though the County provides a significant amount of the District's revenue in the form of an appropriation, it does not retain any control over the operations of the District.

Generally accepted accounting principles require that the financial reporting entity include the primary government and component units for which the primary government is financially accountable. Under these principles the District does not have any component units.

B. Basis of Presentation - Fund Accounting

The accounts of the Pipestone Soil and Water Conservation District are organized on the basis of a fund and two account groups, each of which is considered a separate accounting entity. The operations of the fund are accounted for with a set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund balance, revenues, and expenditures.

B. Basis of Presentation - Fund Accounting (Continued)

1. Governmental Funds: General Fund

The General Fund is used to account for all revenues and expenditures incurred in operating the District.

2. General Fixed Assets Account Group

This account group is used to record the District's general fixed assets, which include furniture and equipment.

3. General Long-Term Debt Account Group

This account group records earned but unpaid vacation and sick leave that has vested or is expected to vest.

C. Government-Wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements (i.e. The Statement of Net Assets and the Statement of Activities) report information on all the nonfiduciary activities of the District. The Statement of Activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function. The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of cash flows. Grants and similar items are recognized as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

Fund Financial Statements

The government reports the general fund as its only major governmental fund. The general fund accounts for all financial resources of the government.

The District's financial statements (general fund) are presented on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when they become susceptible to accrual, that is, both measurable and available. Available means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. Revenue sources susceptible to accrual include intergovernmental revenues, charges, and interest. Expenditures are recorded when the corresponding liabilities are incurred.

Intergovernmental revenues are reported in conformity with the legal and contractual requirements of the individual programs. Generally, grant revenues are recognized when the corresponding expenditures are incurred. If the District also receives an annual appropriation from the County, it is recognized as revenue when received, unless it is received prior to the period to which it applies. In that case, revenue recognition is then deferred until the appropriate period.

Investment earnings and revenues from the sale of trees are recognized when earned. Agricultural conservation fees and other revenue are recognized when they are received in cash because they usually are not measurable until then.

Project expenditures represent costs that are funded from federal, state, or district revenues. State project expenditures consist of grants to participants of the cost-Share Program and other state programs. District project expenditures are costs of materials and supplies in District projects.

In accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 33, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Nonexchange Transactions, revenues for nonexchange transactions are recognized based on the principal characteristics of the revenue. Exchange transactions are recognized as revenue when the exchange occurs.

#### D. Budget Information

The District adopts an estimated revenue and expenditure budget for the General Fund. Comparisons of estimated revenues and budgeted expenditures to actual are presented in the financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Amendments to the original budget require board approval. Appropriations lapse at year-end. The District does not use encumbrance accounting.

#### E. Assets, Liabilities, and Equity Accounts

##### 1. Assets

Investments are stated at fair value, except for non-negotiable certificates of deposit, which are on a cost basis, and short-term money market investments, which are stated at amortized cost.

Beginning with statement year 2004, fixed assets (capital assets) are no longer reported on a gross basis. They are now reported on a net (depreciated) basis. General fixed assets are still valued at historical or estimated historical cost.

##### 2. Liabilities

Long-term liabilities, such as compensated absences, are accounted for in the General Long-Term Debt Account Group.

##### 3. Equity

Investment in general fixed assets represents the District's equity in general fixed assets.

Reserved fund balance indicates the portion of fund equity that has been legally segregated for specific purposes or is not appropriable for spending.

Unreserved, designated account indicates the portion of fund equity that the District has set aside for planned future expenditures.

Unreserved, undesignated fund balance account indicates the portion of fund balance that is available for budgeting and spending in future periods.

F. Explanation of Adjustments Column in Statements

1. Capital Assets: In the Statement of Net Assets and Governmental Fund Balance Sheet, an adjustment is made if the district has capital assets. This adjustment equals the net book balance of capitalized assets as of the report date, and reconciles to the amount report in Note IV.

2. Long-Term liabilities: In the Statement of Net Assets and Government Fund Balance Sheet, an adjustment is made to reflect the total of Compensated Absence liability the district has as of the report date. See Note I-G below.

3. Depreciation and Change in Compensated Absences for the year: In the Statement of Activities and Governmental Fund Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance, the adjustment equals the total depreciation for the year reported, plus or minus the change in Compensated Absences between the reporting year and the previous year. This number is supported by figures in Note IV and in Note I-G below.

G. Vacation and Sick Leave

Under the District's personnel policies, employees are granted vacation leave in varying amounts based on their length of service. Vacation leave accrual varies from 8 to 14 hours per month. Sick leave accrual is 6 to 12 days per year. The limit on the accumulation of annual leave is 240 hours and the limit on sick leave is 240 hours. Upon termination from the District by retirement, employees are paid accrued vacation leave and up to 120 hours of accrued sick leave. On termination of employment by illness or death, employees are paid accrued vacation and up to 120 hours of accrued sick leave.

II. STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

A. General Fund Deficit

At December 31, 2008, the District's General Fund had a deficit fund balance of \$N/A.

B. Excess of Expenditures Over Budget

N/A

C. Uncollateralized deposits

During 2008, the District's deposits with financial institutions do not exceed insurance, surety bond, or collateral.

III. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

Minnesota Statutes 118A.02 and 118A.04 authorize the District to deposit its cash and to invest in certificates of deposit in financial institutions designated by the Board of Supervisors. At December 31, 2008, the District's deposits totaled \$504,444, of which \$424,464 were cash deposits and \$79,980 was invested in certificates of deposit. Minnesota Statutes require that all District deposits be covered by insurance, surety bond, or collateral. At December 31, 2008, all the District's deposits were covered by insurance or collateralized with securities held by the District or its agent in the District's name.

IV. CHANGES IN CAPITAL ASSETS

Equipment

Balance January 1, 2008	\$ <u>20,989.29</u>
Additions	\$ <u>9,899.23</u>
Deletions	\$ _____
2008 depreciation	\$ <u>(8,726.72)</u>
Balance December 31, 2008	\$ <u>22,161.80</u>

Note: Beginning and Ending Balance are net of accumulated depreciation, which totaled \$69,342.43 as of December 31, 2008.

The District uses a threshold of \$2,500.00 for capitalizing assets purchased. Those physical assets under \$2,500.00 are expenses directly and not capitalized.

V. DEFERRED REVENUE

Deferred Revenue represents unearned advances from the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources and Pipestone County for various programs. Revenues will be recognized when the related program expenditures are recorded.

Total Deferred Revenue as itemized on "Deferred Revenue Breakdown" is \$220,040.78.

VI. COMPENSATED ABSENCES PAYABLE

Changes in long-term debt for the period ended December 31, 2008 are:

Balance January 1, 2008	\$6,751.12
Net Changes in Compensated Absences	\$ <u>(722.09)</u>

VI – B. ADJUSTMENTS TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

See Note I-F.

VII. RISK MANAGEMENT

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; employee health; and natural disasters. To cover these risks, the District has purchased commercial insurance. Property and casualty liabilities and workers' compensation are insured through MCIT. The District is covered for errors and omissions through MCIT.

The Minnesota Counties Insurance Trust is a public entity risk pool currently operated as a common risk management and insurance program for its members.

There were no significant reductions in insurance from the previous year or settlements in excess of insurance coverage for any of the past three fiscal years.

VIII. PENSION PLANA. Plan Description

The District contributes to a cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan administered by the Public Employees Retirement Association of Minnesota (PERA). The PERA provides retirement benefits as well as disability to members, and benefits to survivors upon death of eligible members. PERA administers the Public Employees Retirement Fund (PERF.) The plan and its benefits are established and administered in accordance with Minnesota Statute Chapters 353 and 356. PERA issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. That report may be obtained by writing to the Public Employees Retirement Association, 60 Empire Drive, Suite 200, St. Paul, Minnesota, 55103-1855.

B. Funding Policy

Minnesota Statutes Chapter 353 sets the rates for employer and employee contributions. These statutes are established and amended by the state legislature. The District makes annual contributions to the pension plans equal to the amount required by state statutes. PERF Basic Plan members and Coordinated Plan members were required to contribute 9.1% and 6.0%, respectively, of their annual covered salary in 2008. The District was required to contribute the following percentages of annual covered payroll: 11.78% for Basic Plan PERF members, 6.0% for Coordinated Plan PERF members. Employer contribution rates for the Coordinated Plan will increase to 6.75% effective January 1, 2009. The District's employer share of contributions to PERA for the years ending December 31, 2008, 2007, and 2006 were \$5,130.54, \$4,278.05, and \$5,148.00 respectively, equal to the contractually required contributions for each year as set by Minnesota Statute.

IX. OPERATING LEASES

The District leases office space on a yearly basis. Under the current agreement, total costs for 2008 were \$6,388.80.