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FROM THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY AUDITOR

April 11, 2002

AUDITOR ISSUES COUNTY FINANCE REPORT

DuPage County Auditor Jim Rasins has reported that the County's Corporate Fund received \$32.2 million in revenue during the first quarter of the fiscal year. This compared to \$28.7 million during the same period last year. The revenue information was presented in the Auditor's Quarterly Financial Report to the County Board.

The Auditor reported that sales tax revenues received by the County during the first quarter of 2002 matched the \$10.6 million received in 2001. The County Recorder also posted \$2.5 million in revenues, representing an increase of \$800,000 over the prior year.

The Clerk of the Circuit Court contributed \$1.8 million to Corporate Fund revenues during the period from various court-related fees.

Rasins noted that the 2002 revenue amount included \$5.3 million received by the Corporate Fund as one-time reimbursements for amounts previously paid from the Fund. \$4.2 million of the reimbursements were received from the Local Gas Tax Fund. This was attributed to amounts spent from the Corporate Fund during 1999 through 2001 for a stormwater project in the Wooddale/Itasca area.

Additional reimbursements for prior Corporate Fund expenditures were provided by Illinois First Grant monies and from the proceeds of road construction bonds issued in 2001.

Rasins also pointed out that 2002 Corporate Fund revenue increases were offset by drops from other sources between 2001 and 2002. He cited the \$2.0 million-plus, one-time amount deposited in the Corporate Fund in 2001 for expenditures made from the Tort Liability Fund, which was not repeated in 2002.

The Auditor also disclosed that reimbursement amounts received from the State for Probation officer salaries and childcare dropped by over \$700,000 during the first three months of the year.

On the opposite side of the ledger, Corporate Fund expenditures topped the \$25.6 million mark for the first three months of 2002. This compared to \$24.4 million during 2001.

Rasins' analysis disclosed that almost 50% of the 2002 Fund expenditures were made for court and law enforcement-related purposes. This was approximately the same portion reflected in 2001.

The Report noted that spending by the Sheriff amounted to \$6.9 million, Clerk of the Circuit Court costs were \$1.7 million, expenditures for State's Attorney operations were \$1.6 million, and that \$1.4 million was spent to operate the Probation Department.

The 117 page Report includes financial activity in 65 other County funds used to reflect the financial impact of County activities ranging from the operations of the convalescent center, sewage treatment facilities, and animal control department, to various grant-funded human services programs, and debt service transactions.

In reviewing these other Funds, the Auditor noted that the revenue in the Youth Home Fund dropped from \$743,000 in 2001 to \$374,000 in 2002. The change was attributed to a reduction in the amount received from the State for salary reimbursements, and a decrease in interest earnings on Fund investments.

The public can view the Report in its entirety on the DuPage County Auditor internet website at www.dupageco.org/auditor. Rasins is the first County Auditor in the State to make detailed financial information available on the internet.

“Providing County financial information on the internet makes County government more accountable to the citizens that it serves,” Auditor Rasins said.

Copies are also available at public and college libraries throughout the County. The internet website and the library copies also provide an explanation about how to use and understand the Report.

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For additional information call (630)682-7190.