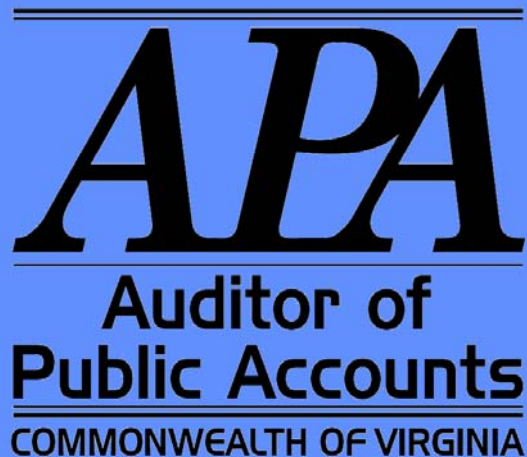


**JOHN H. GRAHM
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
FOR THE
COUNTY OF SMYTH**

**REPORT ON AUDIT
FOR THE PERIOD
AUGUST 14, 2009 THROUGH JANUARY 31, 2010**



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Commonwealth of Virginia

Walter J. Kucharski, Auditor

**Auditor of Public Accounts
P.O. Box 1295
Richmond, Virginia 23218**

March 9, 2010

John H. Graham
Clerk of the Circuit Court
County of Smyth

Board of Supervisors
County of Smyth

We have audited the accompanying Statement of Assets and Liabilities of Dixie M. Seymour, former Clerk of the Circuit Court of the County of Smyth for the period August 14, 2009 through January 31, 2010. All records supporting the amounts presented in this financial statement are the responsibility of this Clerk. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statement based on our audit.

Our primary objectives were to test the accuracy of financial transactions recorded on the Court's financial management system; evaluate the Court's internal controls; and test its compliance with significant state laws, regulations, and policies. However, our audit was more limited than would be necessary to provide assurance on the internal controls or on overall compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and policies.

The purpose of the audit was to determine the accountability of the former Clerk at January 31, 2010, and to turn over the assets, accounts, and records of the office to John H. Graham, the newly elected Clerk of the Circuit Court.

As described in Note 1, this financial statement has been prepared on the cash basis of accounting, which is a comprehensive basis of accounting other than generally accepted accounting principles. This basis of accounting is prescribed by the State Comptroller and approved by the Auditor of Public Accounts as it is deemed the appropriate method of reporting by Clerks of the Circuit Court.

In our opinion, the financial statement referred to above presents fairly, in all material respects, the assets and liabilities of the Clerk of the Circuit court of the County of Smyth as of January 31, 2010, on the basis of accounting described in Note 1.

We acknowledge the cooperation extended to us during this engagement.

AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

WJK:clj

cc: The Honorable C. Randall Lowe, Chief Judge
Mike Carter, Interim County Administrator
Paul DeLosh, Director of Judicial Services
Supreme Court of Virginia

COUNTY OF SMYTH
CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT
STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES
AS OF JANUARY 31, 2010

ASSETS

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$782,435
Unreimbursed Expenses Due from County of Smyth	<u>122</u>
Total	<u>\$782,557</u>

LIABILITIES

Due to the Commonwealth of Virginia	\$ 41,644
Due to the County of Smyth	87,217
Collections for others	125,738
Depository bonds	179,240
Moneys under control of the court	348,678
Unspecified receipts	<u>40</u>
Total	<u>\$782,557</u>

The accompanying Notes to the Financial Statement are an integral part of this statement.

COUNTY OF SMYTH

CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENT

AS OF JANUARY 31, 2010

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Clerk of the Circuit Court is an elected constitutional officer who administers the County of Smyth's court of record. The Circuit Court is where individuals file documents requiring formal recording by law to include deeds, wills, marriage licenses and various other documents. The Circuit Court has exclusive original jurisdiction in all felony criminal cases, in civil chancery, and civil cases where the amount exceeds \$15,000. It also hears appeals from district courts.

Basis of Accounting

The financial statement is prepared using the cash basis of accounting, which records cash receipts when received and disbursements when made.

2. SURETY BOND

In accordance with Sections 2.2-1840 and 2.2-1841, Code of Virginia, the Clerk was bonded under a Public Officials Position Schedule Bond in the amount of \$500,000 with the Fidelity and Deposit Company of Maryland and through a self-insurance plan administered by the Virginia Department of Treasury's Division of Risk Management as sureties.