

**CHEATHAM COUNTY  
RAIL AUTHORITY**

**JUNE 30, 2009**

**TAMARA L. BECKMAN  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT**

**CHEATHAM COUNTY  
RAIL AUTHORITY  
JUNE 30, 2009**

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TAMARA L. BECKMAN  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

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6A SOUTH MADISON AVENUE  
COOKEVILLE, TN 38501  
Office (931) 526-5489  
Fax (931) 526-9064

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

To the Board of Directors of the  
Cheatham County Rail Authority  
Ashland City, Tennessee 37015

I have audited the accompanying statement of net assets of the Cheatham County Rail Authority, as of June 30, 2009, and the related statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in fund net assets and cash flows for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Cheatham County Rail Authority's management. My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit.

I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that I plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. I believe that my audit provides a reasonable basis for my opinion.

In my opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of Cheatham County Rail Authority as of June 30, 2009, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

GASB Statement No. 34 provides guidance on Management's Discussion and Analysis, which is not a required part of the basic financial statements, but is supplementary information required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board; however, management has chosen to exclude this information.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* I have also issued my report dated February 9, 2010 on my consideration of the Cheatham County Rail Authority's internal control over financial reporting and on my tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of my testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, but not to provide an opinion on the internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* and should be considered in conjunction with this report in considering the results of my audit.

February 9, 2010  
Cookeville, Tennessee

*Jamara L Beckman, CPA*

**CHEATHAM COUNTY RAIL AUTHORITY**  
**STATEMENT OF NET ASSETS**  
**JUNE 30, 2009**

**ASSETS**

**Current Assets**

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 75,579.50	
Accounts Receivable	<u>6,496.12</u>	
<b><u>Total Current Assets</u></b>		<b>\$ 82,075.62</b>

**Non-Current Assets**

Land	260,212.00	
Track Rehabilitation	1,518,216.73	
Bridge Rehabilitation	3,182,051.15	
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(3,034,335.71)</u>	
<b><u>Total Non-Current Assets</u></b>		<b><u>1,926,144.17</u></b>

<b><u>Total Assets</u></b>		<b>\$ 2,008,219.79</b>
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**LIABILITIES**

**Current Liabilities**

Construction Payable	55,950.54	
Deferred Revenue	4,751.56	
Interest Payable - FRA Note	3,948.73	
Notes Payable - Due to Operator	25,231.22	
FRA Note Payable - current portion	<u>92,317.39</u>	
<b><u>Total Current Liabilities</u></b>		<b>182,199.44</b>

Long-term Debt - FRA Note Payable	<u>1,755,484.99</u>	
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<b><u>Total Liabilities</u></b>		<b><u>1,937,684.43</u></b>
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**NET ASSETS**

Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt	22,391.25	
Unrestricted Net Assets	<u>48,144.11</u>	
<b><u>Total Net Assets</u></b>		<b><u>\$ 70,535.36</u></b>

The accompanying notes are in integral part of the financial statements

**CHEATHAM COUNTY RAIL AUTHORITY**  
**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN FUND NET ASSETS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2009**

<u>Operating Revenues</u>		
Rail Income	\$ 43,174.65	
 <u>Operating Expense</u>		
Accounting	\$ 3,112.50	
Engineering	116,029.39	
Advertising	99.83	
Legal	22,909.39	
Dues & Fees	9,887.40	
Board Expense	313.76	
Office Supplies	12.00	
Depreciation Expense	<u>48,110.14</u>	
 <b>Total Operating Expenses</b>	 <u>200,474.41</u>	
Net Operating Income		\$ (157,299.76)
 <u>Non-operating Revenue and Expense</u>		
Interest Expense	(102,637.31)	
Sale of Scrap Metal	53,003.84	
Grant Income	420,333.30	
Lease Income	<u>19,178.84</u>	
 <b>Total Non-operating Revenue and Expense</b>		 <u>389,878.67</u>
 <b>Increase in Net Assets</b>		 232,578.91
Total Net Assets - June 30, 2008		3,026,387.35
Prior Period Adjustment		<u>(3,188,430.90)</u>
Total Net Assets - June 30, 2009		<u>\$ 70,535.36</u>

The Accompanying notes are in integral part of the financial statements

**CHEATHAM COUNTY RAIL AUTHORITY  
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2009**

Cash Flows From Operating Activities

Cash Received from Operations	\$ 42,489.97	
Cash Payments for Goods and Services	<u>(119,124.73)</u>	
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities		\$ (76,634.76)

Cash Flows from Capital & Related Financing Activities

Track & Bridge Rehabilitation Construction	\$ (119,092.68)	
Principal paid on Notes Payable	(167,393.78)	
Interest paid on Notes Payable	<u>(131,395.18)</u>	
Net Cash Used by Capital & Related Financing Activities		(417,881.64)

Cash Flows from Non-Capital Financing Activities

Lease income received	23,930.40	
Proceeds from sale of scrap metal	53,003.84	
Grant income received	<u>420,333.30</u>	
Net Cash Provided by Non-Capital Financing Activities		<u>497,267.54</u>

Net Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents	2,751.14
Cash and Cash Equivalent at 6-30-08	<u>72,828.36</u>
Cash and Cash Equivalent at 6-30-09	<u>\$ 75,579.50</u>

Reconciliation of Net Operating Income (Loss) to Net Cash

Used by Operating Activities

Net Operating Income (Loss)	\$ (157,299.76)
Depreciation	48,110.14
Increase in Accounts Receivable	(684.68)
Decrease in Accounts Payable	(22,711.00)
Increase in Construction Payable	<u>55,950.54</u>

<u>Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities</u>	<u>\$ (76,634.76)</u>
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The Accompanying notes are in integral part of the financial statements

**CHEATHAM COUNTY  
RAIL AUTHORITY  
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
JUNE 30, 2009**

Note 1 – General Statement and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The Cheatham County Rail Authority was established in 1986 as a state governmental entity under the laws of Tennessee to acquire the unused facilities of a short-line railroad of approximately twenty-eight miles running between Nashville and Ashland City, and to encourage the continuation of railroad service to Cheatham County. Cheatham County Rail Authority is a component unit of Cheatham County, Tennessee. The Cheatham County Commission approves all nominations to the board of directors of the Cheatham County Rail Authority. The Legislative Body has the authority to reject all nominations and make nominations from the floor. The By-Laws do not give the board of directors' permission to borrow money. In addition, all changes to the By-Laws are subject to approval by the Cheatham County Commission. In 1988, Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County established a railroad authority to join with the Cheatham County Rail Authority to share in the operation and ownership of the railroad. The authority incorporated under Tennessee law as a Municipal Corporation on July 25, 1994. The Authority has contracted with an independent corporation to operate the railroad. The following is a summary of the Authority's significant accounting policies.

A. Basis of Accounting

The Cheatham County Rail Authority presents its financial statements on the accrual basis of accounting. Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurement made, regardless of the measurement focus applied. Revenues are recognized when they become measurable, and expenses are recognized when the related liabilities are incurred.

B. Measurement Focus

The operations of the Authority are accounted for with a set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, net assets, revenues and expenditures. Measurement focus refers to what is being measured. The Authority uses the economic resources measurement focus. Accordingly, it reports all assets and liabilities on the statement of net assets. The reported net assets are segregated into three components: invested in capital assets, net of related debt; restricted; and unrestricted. The Authority's operating statement presents increases (revenues) and decreases (expenses) in net assets.

C. Property, Plant & Equipment and Depreciation

Fixed assets are recorded at cost. Construction period interest is capitalized. The Authority capitalizes any fixed assets with a cost over \$500 that have an estimated life of more than one year.

D. Budgetary Data

Annual operating budgets are to be adopted each year and amended as required on the same basis of accounting to reflect actual revenues and expenditures recognized by generally accepted accounting principles.

E. Use of Estimates

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

F. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of demand deposits with original maturities of three months or less with local financial institutions.

G. Operating and Non-operating Income

The Authority considers rail and easement income to be operating and grants and lease income to be non-operating.

Note 2 – Cash and cash investments

The Tennessee Government Code requires Tennessee banks and savings and loan associations to secure a governmental entity's deposits by pledging government securities as collateral. The market value of pledged securities must equal 105% of the entity's deposits. The entity may waive collateral requirements for deposits that are fully insured up to \$100,000 by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) or Savings Association Insurance Fund (SAIF).

The following is a schedule of bank accounts at June 30, 2009:

Checking – Community B & T	\$ 75,579.50
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At June 30, 2009, the carrying amount of the Cheatham County Rail Authority's cash deposits was \$ 75,579.50. The Authority's deposit accounts are covered up to \$250,000 by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Any amounts over \$250,000 are covered by the government collateralization pool of which Community Bank & Trust is a member. The Authority is authorized to deposit and invest funds according to the provisions of Section 5-8-301 of the Tennessee Code Annotated. [Acts 1992, ch. 891, section 10].

Note 3 – 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. The Authority has elected not to obtain insurance policies to transfer risk to a commercial insurance company either directly or through the Tennessee County Services Pool and is, in effect, self-insured with an unfunded plan. The Authority was named as “an additional insured” on the NWRC’s liability insurance policy but only with respect to liability arising out of the operations of the Operator.

Note 4 – Schedule of Capital Assets

In order to be in compliance with GASB 34, the Authority, in conjunction with the Authority’s engineering firm, calculated the cost of what is owned by the Authority. The Consumer Price Index was used to convert 2009 costs back to the year of construction. Reclassifications were made to the financial statements based on this information. A prior period adjustment in the amount of \$3,193,858.90 was made to record the value of Accumulated Depreciation and to correct the value of the cost of fixed assets. The schedule of fixed assets and accumulated depreciation is as follows:

Asset Not Capitalized

	Balance			Balance
<u>Assets</u>	<u>6-30-08</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Reclass</u>	<u>6-30-09</u>
Land	\$ 260,212.00	\$ --	\$ --	\$ 260,212.00

Assets Capitalized

Rail Line Rehabilitation	2,498,088.88	114,473.18	( 1,094,345.33)	1,518,216.73
Bridge Rehabilitation	<u>2,290,719.65</u>	<u>4,618.50</u>	<u>886,713.00</u>	<u>3,182,051.15</u>
	<u>4,788,808.53</u>	<u>119,091.68</u>	<u>( 207,632.33)</u>	<u>4,700,267.88</u>
Total Capital Assets	<u>\$5,049,020.53</u>	<u>\$119,091.68</u>	<u>(\$ 207,632.33)</u>	<u>\$4,960,479.88</u>

Accumulated Depreciation

	Balance			Balance
	<u>06-30-08</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Reclass</u>	<u>06-30-09</u>
Rail Line Rehab	\$ -0-	\$17,376.87	\$ 843,125.83	\$ 860,502.70
Bridge Rehab	<u>-0-</u>	<u>30,733.27</u>	<u>2,143,099.74</u>	<u>2,173,833.01</u>
Total Accum. Depr.	<u>\$ -0-</u>	<u>\$48,110.14</u>	<u>\$2,986,225.57</u>	<u>\$3,034,335.71</u>

Note 6 – Due to Operator

The Authority entered into a loan agreement with Nashville & Western Railroad Corporation (NWRC). The note bears an interest rate of 6.5%. The note will be repaid out of the 4% of gross revenue that NWRC is required to pay the Authority as operator of the railroad. The principal balance remaining at June 30, 2009 is \$25,231.22. Interest expense for the year was \$3,991.40. Interest payable had previously been reported at \$28,581.53. This amount was determined by Nashville & Western Railroad to be principal and a reclassification was made in the financial statements.

<u>Balance at</u> <u>June 30, 2009</u>	<u>Reclass Interest</u> <u>to Principal</u>	<u>Payment</u>	<u>Balance at</u> <u>June 30, 2009</u>
<u>\$ 104,821.57</u>	<u>\$ 28,581.53</u>	<u>\$ (108,171.88)</u>	<u>\$ 25,231.22</u>

Note 7 – Notes Payable

On April 21, 2003, the Authority and the Operator entered into a Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) loan agreement with the State of Tennessee in the amount of \$2.3 million. The State agreed to make periodic payments to the Authority/Operator to the extent that such funds are allocated by the State to the Authority/Operator. The State agreed that 85% of the funds received from Tennessee Department of Transportation (TDOT) can be used to pay the FRA loan each year. Amortizations of the FRA loans are presented below:

a) Schedule of Changes in Long-Term Notes Payable

Interest payable for this loan at June 30, 2009 was \$3,948.73 and interest expense was \$98,822.25.

<u>Balance</u> <u>June 30, 2008</u>	<u>New</u> <u>Issue</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>June 30, 2009</u>
<u>\$1,935,605.81</u>	<u>\$ -0-</u>	<u>\$ (87,803.43)</u>	<u>\$1,935,605.81</u>

b) Amortization Schedule

For Fiscal Year Ended June 30,

	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2010	92,317.39	94,308.29	186,625.68
2011	97,212.32	89,413.36	186,625.68
2012	102,249.07	84,376.61	186,625.68
2013	107,901.83	78,723.85	186,625.68
2014	113,509.58	73,116.10	186,625.68
2015-2019	664,456.91	268,671.49	933,128.40
2020-2023	<u>670,164.28</u>	<u>76,346.45</u>	<u>746,510.73</u>
Total	<u>\$1,847,811.38</u>	<u>\$ 764,956.15</u>	<u>\$2,612,767.53</u>

Note 8 – Operating Agreement

In June, 2001, the Authority entered into an operating agreement with NWRC to provide rail services and to maintain and manage the trackage and right-of-way, which the Authority owns. The terms of this agreement require NWRC to pay the Authority quarterly plus 4% of gross revenue.

Note 9 – Operating Leases

In November, 1999, the Authority entered into a five-year agreement with Omega Rail Management (Omega) for right of way lease management and related products. The Authority pays a management fee based on varying percentages of the revenue collected by Omega.

Note 12 – Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt

The calculation for Net Assets Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt as stated on the Statement of Net Assets is as follows:

Total Non-Current Assets	\$1,926,144.17
Construction Payable	(55,950.54)
FRA Note Payable – current portion	(92,317.39)
Long Term Debt – FRA Note Payable	<u>(1,755,484.99)</u>
Net Assets Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt	<u>\$ 22,391.25</u>

Note 13 – Prior Period Adjustments

As described in note 4, a prior period adjustment was made in the amount of \$207,633.33 to correct the original cost of fixed assets based upon information provided by the Authority in conjunction with the Authority's engineering firm. A prior period adjustment was also made to Accumulated Depreciation in the amount of \$2,986,225.57 to reflect the total accumulated depreciation through June 30, 2008. The total adjustment relating to Capital Assets was \$3,193,858.90

A prior period adjustment was made to Accounts Payable in the amount of \$5,428 which was overstated in the prior year.

**TAMARA L. BECKMAN**  
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

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6A SOUTH MADISON AVENUE  
COOKEVILLE, TN 38501  
Office (931) 526-5489  
Fax (931) 526-9064

**REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND  
ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

To the Board of Directors of the  
Cheatham County Rail Authority  
Ashland City, Tennessee 37015

I have audited the financial statements of the Cheatham County Rail Authority, a component unit of Cheatham County, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2009, and have issued my report thereon dated February 9, 2010. I conducted my audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing my audit, I considered Cheatham County Rail Authority's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing my auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing my opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing my opinion on the effectiveness of Cheatham County Rail Authority's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, I do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Cheatham County Rail Authority's internal control over financial reporting.

A control deficiency exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect misstatements on a timely basis. A significant deficiency is a control deficiency, or combination of control deficiencies that adversely affects Cheatham County Rail Authority's ability to initiate, authorize, record, process or report financial data reliably in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles such that there is more than a remote likelihood that a misstatement of Cheatham County Rail Authority's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by Cheatham County Rail Authority's internal control.

A material weakness is a significant deficiency, or combination of significant deficiencies, that results in more than a remote likelihood that a material misstatement of

the financial statements will not be prevented or detected by Cheatham County Rail Authority's internal control.

My consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and would not necessarily identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all significant deficiencies that are also considered to be material weaknesses. I did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that I consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Cheatham County Rail Authority's financial statements are free of material misstatement, I performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of my audit and, accordingly, I do not express such an opinion. The results of my tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

This report is intended solely for the information of the management of Cheatham County Rail Authority and the Comptroller of the Treasury State of Tennessee and federal and state awarding agencies and is not intended to be used and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. This restriction is not intended to limit the distribution of this report, which is a matter of public record.

February 9, 2010  
Cookeville, Tennessee

*Jamora L. Beckman CPA*