



Justin P. Wilson, Comptroller

March 21, 2016

Lingering Problems Go Uncorrected in Haywood County

The Comptroller's annual audit of Haywood County government identifies a troubling trend. Eight of the county's 12 findings in this year's report were also noted in the county's prior audit. This indicates that significant deficiencies and issues of noncompliance have gone uncorrected for more than a year.

The 12 findings in the fiscal year 2015 audit are spread across several county offices, but eight of them pertain to the Office of the County Mayor.

Audit findings include a lease-purchase agreement and a capital outlay note that failed to comply with state statutes, expenditures exceeding appropriations, a failure to control access to courthouse offices, and inadequate disaster recovery plans for computer data.

Comptroller auditors also found several problems with Haywood County's purchasing processes. For example, auditors noted that competitive bids were not solicited for \$206,955 in food purchases for the county jail. State statute requires competitive bids on purchases exceeding \$10,000.

"It concerns me when a county has 12 audit findings for two consecutive years, particularly when many of those findings are repeated," said Comptroller Justin P. Wilson. "These audit reports should not be taken lightly. Taxpayers deserve to know that controls are in place to protect their money."

View the full Haywood County Audit Report at <http://www.comptroller.tn.gov/la/>

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