

Neil Kelly Clerk of the Circuit and County Courts Lake County, Florida

# Ongoing Review of ARRA Grant Reporting Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2013

## Internal Audit Division Report

Bob Melton, CPA, CIA, CFE, CIG Director of Internal Audit

Review Conducted by: Cindy McLaughlin, CPA, CIA

Report No. BCC-111 December 12, 2013



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December 12, 2013

**Board of County Commissioners** 

We have conducted agreed-upon procedures for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2013 for the grants under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

We appreciate the cooperation and assistance provided by the departments contacted during the course of this review.

Respectfully submitted,

**Bob** Melton

Bob Melton, CPA, CIA, CFE, CIG Director of Internal Audit

BM/cm

cc: Honorable Neil Kelly, Clerk of Circuit & County Courts

David Heath, County Manager

Barbara Lehman, Chief Deputy Clerk, County Finance

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION	1
Scope and Methodology	1
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Overall Conclusion	1
Background	2
OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT	3

#### INTRODUCTION

#### **Scope and Methodology**

In 2009, the Internal Audit Division was requested by the Clerk of Court's Finance Department to review, on an ongoing basis, the federal reporting process for specific grants awarded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA). These agreed-upon ARRA procedures were to:

- 1. Determine that all departments have entered their reports to the federal reporting website within 10 days after the end of a quarter.
- 2. Determine that reports submitted agree to the general ledger where possible and that any calculations or other information appears reasonable. For example, some departments may need to calculate jobs created or retained based on a formula.
- 3. Determine that other reporting information such as CFDA number, DUNS number, and other required information on reports is correct.
- 4. Determine that payments to vendors greater than \$25,000 have been reported in accordance with ARRA reporting requirements.
- 5. Ensure that reports include prior quarters as necessary, as reporting on the federal reporting website is cumulative. (The number of jobs created or retained is an exception to this as reporting is not cumulative.)
- 6. When needed, assist departments with reporting and compliance requirements.

The scope of our ongoing review is to review financial information submitted by the departments and verify the information in the County's accounting system. We also determined that the calculation of the number of jobs reported as created or retained is in accordance with the prescribed federal guidelines. In addition, we performed other procedures to satisfy the objectives noted herein. However, this review is neither an audit of these programs nor has any audit work been performed relating to the reported jobs created or retained. Therefore, we have no conclusion regarding the propriety, efficiency, or effectiveness of these programs as well as any jobs they may have created.

#### **Overall Conclusion**

The reports from the two reporting departments were submitted timely. The reports agreed to the general ledger, and the jobs calculations appeared in accordance with federal guidelines. The required information reported was correct and consistent with the prior quarters. Payments to vendors greater than \$25,000 were reported in accordance with ARRA reporting requirements. As reporting on the federal reporting website is cumulative, with the exception of jobs created or retained, the reports

were determined to include information from the prior quarters as required. When departments needed assistance, we provided it.

#### **Background**

When the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) became law in February, 2009, it had three immediate goals: 1) to create new jobs and save existing ones; 2) to spur economic activity and invest in long-term growth; and 3) to foster accountability and transparency in government spending. To achieve this third goal, recipients of funds under ARRA are required to report quarterly on how the money is being used. This was the basis for our ongoing review of the federal reporting process.

Under ARRA, the Lake County Board of County Commissioners was awarded three grants which have been monitored by the Internal Audit Division. The Community Development Block Grant-ARRA was completed last fiscal year. The remaining grants awarded are as follows:

Federal Transit Administration (FTA) - \$2,402,009 awarded August 20, 2009 (original award of \$2,221,942 plus budget amendment of \$180,067)
The Public Transportation Division of the Community Services Department reports for this grant. This grant is still ongoing.

FTA Project Expenditures		
Description	FY 2013	Project-to-date
Three 30' Passenger Busses	\$0	\$934,818
Two Para-transit Vehicles	\$0	\$132,432
Vehicle Location System	\$237,239	\$367,714
Preventative Maintenance	\$0	\$249,000
Operating Assistance	\$0	\$240,067
Bus Shelters	\$25,995	\$165,650
Renovate Facility	\$122,228	\$122,228
Total	\$385,462	\$2,211,909
Total Jobs Created and Retained for Year	5.25	

**Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG)** - \$2,807,500 awarded July 27, 2009 The Growth Management Department reported for this grant. The final report for the EECBG was filed for the quarter ending December 31, 2012.

EECBG Project Expenditures			
Description	FY 2013	Project-to-date	
Energy Efficiency & Conservation Strategy	\$0	\$92,790	
Financial Incentives	\$262,625	\$1,499,282	
Benchmarking, Education & Outreach	\$12,490	\$555,481	

Quality Inspection, Measurement &		
Verification, Building Codes	\$0	\$38,126
Traffic Signal Synchronization	\$0	\$401,970
Recycling Program	\$0	\$43,373
Greenhouse Gas Reduction	\$0	\$41,929
Renewable Energy Technology	\$0	\$80,049
Tower LED Lighting Retrofits	\$0	\$54,500
Total	\$275,115	\$2,807,500
Total Jobs Created and Retained for Year	0.88	

#### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT**

Our review disclosed no policies, procedures, or practices that should be improved. Our review was neither designed nor intended to be a detailed study of every relevant system, procedure, or transaction. Accordingly, Opportunities for Improvement may exist which were not identified during the course of the review.