

**LOESS HILLS DEVELOPMENT AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2007 AND 2006**

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October 31, 2007

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Directors
Loess Hills Development and Conservation Authority
Oakland, IA

We have audited the accompanying statements of financial position of Loess Hills Development and Conservation Authority (a nonprofit organization) as of June 30, 2007 and 2006, and the related statement of activities and cash flows for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Organization's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our 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 we 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. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

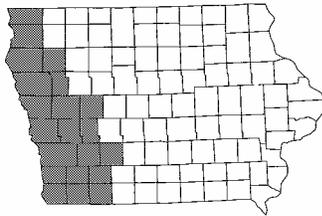
In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Loess Hills Development and Conservation Authority as of June 30, 2007 and 2006, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued a report dated October 31, 2007, on our consideration of Loess Hills Development and Conservation Authority's internal control over financial reporting and our 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 our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and 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 assessing the results of our audit.

Continued...

October 31, 2007
Loess Hills Development and Conservation Authority
Independent Auditors' Report

The management's discussion and analysis and budgetary comparison information on pages 5 through 8 and 16, are not required parts of the basic financial statements but are supplementary information required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board. We have applied certain limited procedures, which consisted principally of inquiries of management regarding the methods of measurement and presentation of the required supplementary information. However, we did not audit the information and express no opinion on it.



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MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Management's Discussion and Analysis of the LHDCA's annual financial statements. This narrative overview and analysis of the financial activities is for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007. We encourage readers to consider this information in conjunction with the LHDCA's financial statements which follow.

2007 Financial Highlights

- LHDCA appropriations from the State of Iowa totaled \$600,000 for fiscal year 2007, which was also the fiscal year 2006 appropriation, showing steady state support for the programs begun and ongoing within the Loess Hills region.
- State appropriations for fiscal year 2007 included a requirement restricting administrative expenses to 5% of the total appropriation from this fund, which was passed through to and implemented by the two related organizations, the Hungry Canyons Alliance, Inc. and the Loess Hills Alliance.
- The LHDCA's budget expenditures for fiscal year 2007 were approximately \$ 1,879 less than anticipated, or 18 % under budget.
- The LHDCA's net assets decreased by approximately 1%, or (\$ 245), from June 30, 2006 to June 30, 2007.

Using this Annual Report

The annual report consists of a series of financial statements and other information, as follows:

Management's Discussion and Analysis introduces the basic financial statements and Provides an analytical overview of the LHDCA's financial activities.

The basic financial statements consist of a Statement of Financial Position including assets, liabilities, and net assets, a Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets, and a Statement of Cash Flows. These statements provide information about the activities of the LHDCA, on a comparative basis, including resources held by the LHDCA but restricted for specific purposes by legislation or by the LHDCA's Board of Directors.

Notes to Financial Statements (pgs. 13-15) provide additional information essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the basic financial statements.

Reporting the LHDCA's Financial Activities

The Statement of Financial Position and Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets

One of the most important questions asked regarding the LHDCA's finances is "Was the LHDCA monetarily able to attain its goals during the year?" The Statement of Financial Position and the Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets report information about the LHDCA's resources and its activities in a way that helps answer this question. These statements include all assets (restricted and unrestricted) and all liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These two statements report the LHDCA's net assets, which is the difference between assets and liabilities, as one way to measure the LHDCA's financial position. Over time, increases or decreases in the LHDCA's net assets are one indicator of whether its financial position is improving or deteriorating. Additional factors, such as changes in appropriations and legislation, are also important in making this determination.

The Statement of Cash Flows

The Statement of Cash Flows reports cash receipts, cash payments, and net changes in cash and cash equivalents resulting from all activities. It provides answers to such questions as where did cash come from, what was cash used for, and what was the change in cash and cash equivalents during the reporting period.

Financial Analysis of the LHDCA

As noted earlier, net assets may serve over time as a useful indicator of financial position. The LHDCA's net assets decreased by \$ 245 (1 %) from fiscal year 2006 to fiscal year 2007.

Assets, Liabilities and Net Assets			
	2007	June 30,	2006
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash and Cash Equivalents		\$	23,240
	26,099		
Liabilities and Net Assets			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable	\$	911	3,525
Net Assets			
Unrestricted	\$	22,329	22,574
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$	23,240	26,099

State appropriations are distributed to the LHDCA on a quarterly basis and passed through to the Hungry Canyons Alliance, Inc. and the Loess Hills Alliance upon receipt of funds. No state appropriations are held by the LHDCA.

Suspension of state funding in 2003, negatively impacted the programs sponsored by the Hungry Canyons Alliance, Inc. and the Loess Hills Alliance by suspending or drastically reducing the number and scope of projects or programs serving western Iowa and the Loess Hills area. With the renewal of state funding in 2004 through 2007, both organizations have been able to reinstate a portion of the programs jeopardized during the suspension of state funding. Suspension of state funding negatively impacted programs largely because of the inability of the organizations to obtain matching or complimentary funds from other sources without dollars of match from the state. Thus some programs were not able to be funded.

The LHDCA requests an administrative fee of 1% of the yearly appropriation from both the Hungry Canyons Alliance, Inc. and the Loess Hills Alliance for administrative and general expenses of the LHDCA and auditing expenses for all three organizations: the LHDCA, Hungry Canyons Alliance, Inc. and the Loess Hills Alliance. The Hungry Canyons Alliance also provides an administrative fee to the LHDCA for federal appropriations at a .5% of the yearly appropriation. An independent audit is performed for each organization after the end of each fiscal year, and filed with the Auditor's Office, State of Iowa.

The following shows the changes in net assets for the LHDCA.

Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets

	2007	June 30, 2006
<hr/>		
Operating revenues:		
State Appropriations	\$ 600,000	600,000
State Appropriations Passed through to Related Organizations	(600,000)	(600,000)
Net State Appropriations	-0-	-0-
Interest	2,262	1,196
Administrative Support	6,000	12,000
Total support and revenue	8,262	13,196
Operating expenses:		
Administrative Fees	(2,572)	(3,525)
Other Management and General Expenses	(135)	(106)
Professional Fees	(5,800)	(5,800)
Total operating expenses	(8,507)	(9,431)
Increase (decrease) in net assets	(245)	
3,765		
Net Assets-Beginning of Year	22,574	
<u>18,809</u>		
Net Assets-End of Year	\$ 22,329	22,574

Factors Affecting the LHDCA's Future

The LHDCA continued to maintain its good financial position during the current fiscal year. However, the condition of the national, state, and local economies will continue to be a concern for the LHDCA Board of Directors. Some of the realities that may potentially become challenges for the LHDCA are:

- Ensuring that infrastructure protection, rural development and natural resource protection for the Loess Hills and western Iowa remain important issues in the eyes of federal, state, county, and local governments.
- Reductions in state appropriations.

Contacting the LHDCA's Financial Management

This financial report is designed to provide state, and county governments, partners, and taxpayers with a general overview of the LHDCA's finances and to show the LHDCA's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report and/or need additional financial information, contact Loess Hills Development and Conservation Authority, 712 S. Hwy. 6 & 59, P.O. Box 189, Oakland, IA 51560-0189.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

LOESS HILLS DEVELOPMENT AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION
JUNE 30, 2007 AND 2006

ASSETS

	<u>2007</u>	<u>2006</u>
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ <u>23,240</u>	<u>26,099</u>

LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS

Current liabilities		
Accounts payable	\$ 911	3,525
Net assets		
Unrestricted	<u>22,329</u>	<u>22,574</u>
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ <u>23,240</u>	<u>26,099</u>

See Accompanying Notes to Financial Statement
LOESS HILLS DEVELOPMENT AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2007 AND 2006

	2007	2006
Support and Revenue		
State appropriations	\$ 600,000	600,000
State appropriations passed through to related organizations	(600,000)	(600,000)
	-	-
Net state appropriations	-	-
Administrative support	6,000	12,000
Interest	2,262	1,196
Total support and revenue	8,262	13,196
Expenses		
Administrative fees	2,572	3,525
Professional fees	5,800	5,800
Other management and general expenses	135	106
Total expenses	8,507	9,431
Increase (decrease) in net assets	(245)	3,765
Net assets, beginning of year	22,574	18,809
Net assets, end of year	\$ 22,329	22,574

See Accompanying Notes to Financial Statement
LOESS HILLS DEVELOPMENT AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEARS JUNE 30, 2007 AND 2006

	2007	2006
Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Increase (decrease) in net assets	\$ (245)	3,765
Adjustments to reconcile change in net assets to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable	(2,614)	2,775
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	(2,859)	6,540
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	26,099	19,559
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$ 23,240	26,099

See Accompanying Notes to Financial Statement
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
LOESS HILLS DEVELOPMENT AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2007 AND 2006

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Nature of Activities – The Loess Hills Development and Conservation Authority was established by the Iowa General Assembly in 1993 under Chapter 161D, Code of Iowa. The mission of the Authority is to develop and coordinate plans for projects related to the unique natural resources, rural development and infrastructure problems of the twenty-two counties in the deep loess soils region of Western Iowa.

The authority administers the Loess Hills Development and Conservation Fund of the State Treasury. Proceeds from this fund are then passed through to and used by the Authority's two related organizations, the Hungry Canyons Alliance, Inc. and the Loess Hill Alliance, for the furtherance of the Authority's mission.

The accompanying financial statements, which include all programs administered by Loess Hills Development and Conservation Authority, have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles promulgated by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) and other accounting principles appropriate for non-profit associations.

The Organization's Board of Directors is comprised of one representative appointed by the board of supervisors of each county participating in the Authority.

The statements of financial position, activities, and cash flows are all organization-wide financial statements. They report information for all Loess Hills Development and Conservation Authority's activities, which are in turn all deemed to be governmental activities. The Organization has no proprietary type activities.

Revenue Recognition – Revenues from appropriations, grants and other services are recognized when received. State appropriations, and interest earned thereon, in excess of related program expenses are recorded as temporarily restricted net assets until those funds are expended.

Income Taxes – The Organization is considered to be a governmental unit, making it exempt from state and federal income taxes under the Internal Revenue Code and, accordingly, no provision has been made for income tax liabilities or expense. The Organization is not considered a private foundation.

Estimates – The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period.

**LOESS HILLS DEVELOPMENT AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
JUNE 30, 2007 AND 2006**

NOTE 1 SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – CONTINUED

Cash Equivalents – For the purpose of the statements of cash flows, the Organization considers all highly liquid debt instruments with a maturity of three-months or less to be cash equivalents.

Concentration of Credit Risk – The Organization receives a substantial portion of its revenue from state grants. A significant reduction in the level of government funding would have a major effect on the Organization’s programs and activities.

Cash funds deposited in excess of federally insured limits are protected by the Iowa State Sinking Fund for banks and savings associations, which covers Iowa uninsured public funds.

Fair Value of Financial Instruments – The carrying amounts of cash, accounts payable, accrued expenses, and other liabilities approximate their fair values due to the short-term maturities of these financial instruments.

Donor Imposed Restrictions – All contributions are considered to be available for unrestricted use unless specifically restricted by the donor. Amounts received that are designated for future periods or restricted by the donor for specific purposes are

reported as temporarily restricted or permanently restricted support depending on the nature of the restriction.

Principal Programs – The following is a summary of the principal programs administered by the Authority:

Hungry Canyons Alliance, Inc. – This Organization provides demonstrations, conducts research in effective methods, and provides financial and technical assistance for streambed stabilization projects in the loess soils region.

Loess Hills Alliance – This Organization’s primary focus is to protect special natural and cultural resources while ensuring economic viability and private property rights of the loess soils region.

NOTE 2 COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

The Organization enters into, on an annual basis, a cooperative agreement with Golden Hills Resource Conservation and Development, Inc. Under this agreement, Golden Hills Resource Conservation and Development, Inc. performs various duties, as follows: (1) administers the payments for the Authority’s expenses; (2) holds semi-annual meetings of the Executive Committee at which expenditures of the projects are reviewed and approved; (3) reviews semi-annual activity and financial reports of the Authority, and; (4) arranges for, prepares for, and reviews the annual audit and related reports. The Organization recognized expenses totaling \$2,572 and \$3,525 for these services for the years ended June 30, 2007 and 2006, respectively.

LOESS HILLS DEVELOPMENT AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS JUNE 30, 2007 AND 2006

NOTE 3 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The Organization passed through state appropriations of \$600,000 to its affiliate organizations and received \$6,000 in administrative support from these organizations.

**LOESS HILLS DEVELOPMENT AND CONSERVATION AUTHORITY
BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE
FOR THE YEAR JUNE 30, 2007**

	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)</u>
Support and Revenue			
State appropriations	\$ 600,000	600,000	-
State appropriations passed through to related organizations	(600,000)	(600,000)	-
))	
Administrative support	6,000	6,000	-
Interest	-	2,262	2,262
Total support and revenue	<u>6,000</u>	<u>8,262</u>	<u>2,262</u>
 Expenses			
Administrative fees	4,000	2,572	1,428
Professional fees	6,000	5,800	200
Other management and general expenses	385	135	250
Total expenses	<u>10,385</u>	<u>8,507</u>	<u>1,878</u>
 Change in net assets	(4,385)	(245)	4,140
 Net assets, beginning of year	<u>22,574</u>	<u>22,574</u>	<u>-</u>
 Net assets, end of year	<u>\$ 18,189</u>	<u>22,329</u>	<u>4,140</u>

See Accompanying Independent Auditors' Report

October 31, 2007

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
Loess Hills Development and Conservation Authority
Oakland, IA

We have audited the financial statements of Loess Hills Development and Conservation Authority as of and for the year ended June 30, 2007 and 2006, and have issued our report thereon dated October 31, 2007. We conducted our 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 our audit, we considered Loess Hills Development and Conservation Authority's internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Loess Hills Development and Conservation Authority's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of Loess Hills Development and Conservation 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 Loess Hills Development and Conservation 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 Loess Hills Development and Conservation Authority's financial statements that is more than inconsequential will not be prevented or detected by Loess Hills Development and Conservation 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 Loess Hills Development and Conservation Authority's internal control.

Continued.....

October 31, 2007
Loess Hills Development and Conservation Authority
Report on Internal Control

Our 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 or material weaknesses. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Loess Hills Development and Conservation Authority's financial statements are free of material misstatements, we 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 our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our test 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 Board of Directors, management, federal awarding agencies, and pass-through entities and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

We would like to acknowledge the many courtesies and assistance extended to us by the personnel of Loess Hills Development and Conservation Authority during the course of our audit. Should you have any questions concerning any of the above matters, we shall be pleased to discuss them with you at your convenience.

November 7, 2007

Loess Hills Development and Conservation Authority
Attn: Mary Lou Goettsch
P.O. Box 189
Oakland, IA 51560

Dear Mary Lou:

Enclosed are “draft” copies of each of the audited financial statements for the Loess Hills Development and Conservation Authority, Loess Hills Alliance, and Hungry Canyons Alliance for the year ended June 30, 2007. Please review and let me know if we need to make any changes and how many copies are needed.

Also enclosed are management representation letters. I need these signed by an officer and by you and returned to me in the enclosed envelope for our files.

Sincerely,

SCHROER & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

Diane McGrain
Shareholder

DM/sh
Enc.