



July 26, 2016

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In accordance with your request, we are transmitting the accompanying PDF file, which contains an electronic final version of the accompanying financial statements and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements for the years ended March 31, 2016 and 2015, for Duluth Seaway Port Authority. We understand that your request for the electronic copy has been made as a matter of convenience. You understand that electronic transmissions are not entirely secure and that it is possible for confidential financial information to be intercepted by others.

These financial statements and our reports on them are not to be modified in any manner. This final version supersedes all prior drafts. Any preliminary draft version of the financial statements previously provided to you in an electronic format should be deleted from your computer, and all printed copies of any superseded preliminary draft versions should likewise be destroyed.

Professional standards and our Firm policies require that we perform certain additional procedures whenever our reports are included, or we are named as accountants, auditors, or "experts" in a document used in a public or private offering of equity or debt securities. Accordingly, as provided for and agreed to in the terms of our arrangement letter, Duluth Seaway Port Authority will not include our reports, or otherwise make reference to us, in any public or private securities offering without first obtaining our consent. Any request to consent is also a matter for which separate arrangements will be necessary. After obtaining our consent, Duluth Seaway Port Authority also agrees to provide us with printer's proofs or masters of such offering documents for our review and approval before printing, and with a copy of the final reproduced material for our approval before it is distributed. In the event our auditor/client relationship has been terminated when Duluth Seaway Port Authority seeks such consent, we will be under no obligation to grant such consent or approval.

Sincerely,

James B. Spreitzer, Partner

**THE POWER OF BEING UNDERSTOOD**  
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# **Duluth Seaway Port Authority Duluth, Minnesota**

Financial and Compliance Report  
March 31, 2016

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RSM US LLP

## Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Commissioners  
Duluth Seaway Port Authority  
Duluth, Minnesota

### Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Duluth Seaway Port Authority (Authority), as of and for the years ended March 31, 2016 and 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits 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 from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Authority as of March 31, 2016 and 2015, and the changes in its financial position and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

### **Emphasis of Matters**

As explained in Note 14 to the financial statements, the Authority adopted Governmental Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions, an amendment of GASB Statement No. 27*, and GASB Statement No. 71, *Pension Transition for Contributions Made Subsequent to the Measurement Date – an amendment of GASB Statement No. 68*, which resulted in the Authority restating net position for recognition of the Authority's pension-related activity incurred prior to April 1, 2014. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

### **Other Matters**

#### **Required Supplementary Information**

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that management's discussion and analysis, schedule of proportionate share of the net pension liability, and schedule of contributions, as listed in the table of contents, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audits of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

#### **Other Information**

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements. The supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents, including the combining statement of revenues and expenses, schedules of departmental revenues and expenses, and the schedule of expenditures of federal awards, as required by Title 2 U.S. Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance), are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

#### **Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards**

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated July 26, 2016, on our consideration of the Authority's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, 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 internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Authority's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

*RSM US LLP*

Duluth, Minnesota  
July 26, 2016

**Required Supplementary Information**  
**Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A)**

## Duluth Seaway Port Authority

### Management's Discussion and Analysis March 31, 2016

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This section of Duluth Seaway Port Authority's annual financial report presents a discussion and analysis of the Authority's financial performance during the years ended March 31, 2016 and 2015. Please read this discussion and analysis in conjunction with the Authority's financial statements.

Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) is an element of Required Supplementary Information mandated by generally accepted accounting principles. Certain comparative information between the current year and prior year is required to be presented in the MD&A.

### Financial Highlights

#### 2016

The Authority's net position increased \$8,147,415 (19.8 percent), from \$41,193,927 in 2015 to \$49,341,342 in 2016. This increase was made up of operating income of \$775,362, nonoperating loss of \$59,129, and capital grant of \$7,431,182.

The Authority's operating revenues increased 20.7 percent to \$5,350,417. This increase results primarily from a significant increase in facilities fees for the Marine Terminal. Operating expenses increased to \$4,575,055 (11.4 percent). Operating income for 2016 is \$775,362 compared to \$322,789 in 2015.

#### 2015

As restated, as explained in note 14 to the financial statements, the Authority's net position increased \$572,765 (1.4 percent), from \$40,621,162 in 2014 to \$41,193,927 in 2015. This increase was made up of operating income of \$322,789, nonoperating loss of \$48,018, and capital grant of \$297,994.

The Authority's operating revenues decreased 0.7 percent to \$4,431,148. This decrease results primarily from a significant decrease in facilities fees for the Marine Terminal. Operating expenses decreased to \$4,108,359 (1.3 percent). Operating income for 2015 is \$322,789 compared to \$299,546 in 2014.

### Overview of the Financial Statements

This discussion and analysis serves as an introduction to the Authority's basic financial statements, which consist of two components: 1) fund financial statements and 2) notes to the financial statements. The report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements. There are no government-wide financial statements presented as the Authority operates as a single proprietary fund.

- The fund financial statements provide information about the Authority's financial status.
- The financial statements also include notes that explain some of the information in the financial statements and provide more detailed data. The statements are followed by a section of other supplementary information that further explains and supports the information in the financial statements.

### Fund Financial Statements

The fund financial statements are designed to give users details of the Authority's finances, in a manner similar to that of a private-sector business. The statements of net position present information on all of the Authority's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as net position. Increases or decreases in net position over time may serve as a useful indicator of whether the Authority's financial position is improving or deteriorating. The statements of revenues, expenses and changes in net position show how the Authority's net position changed during the fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event that caused the change occurs, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows. There are revenues and expenses reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal years; examples include uncollected grants and vacation days that are earned but not used.

## Duluth Seaway Port Authority

### Management's Discussion and Analysis March 31, 2016

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The Authority charges fees to customers to help cover all or most of the cost of certain services it provides.

### Notes to Financial Statements

The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the fund financial statements.

### Other Information

In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also contains the combining statements referred to earlier. These statements follow the notes to the financial statements.

### Fund Financial Analysis

As noted earlier, over time, net position may serve as a useful indicator of the Authority's financial position. The largest portion of the Authority's net position, 64 percent in 2016 and 57 percent in 2015, is net investment in capital assets (land and improvements, buildings, and equipment). The Authority uses these assets to provide services to its clients; therefore, these assets are not available for future spending.

Of the Authority's net position balance, 6 percent in 2016 and 13 percent in 2015, is restricted for compliance with provisions of bond indentures and grants.

The remaining balance of net position, 30 percent in 2016 and 30 percent 2015, is unrestricted and may be used to meet the Authority's ongoing obligations to its clients and creditors.

The following table presents a summary of the Authority's net position at March 31, 2016, 2015, and 2014:

	2016	2015 (Restated)	2014
Current and other assets	\$ 20,809,675	\$ 20,517,629	\$ 19,037,734
Capital assets	35,469,713	27,243,430	25,632,345
Deferred outflows	187,857	137,120	-
<b>Total assets and deferred outflows</b>	<b>56,467,245</b>	<b>47,898,179</b>	<b>44,670,079</b>
Long-term debt outstanding	1,896,708	2,090,878	2,274,803
Other liabilities	5,036,670	4,415,369	969,377
Deferred inflows	192,525	198,005	-
<b>Total liabilities and deferred inflows</b>	<b>7,125,903</b>	<b>6,704,252</b>	<b>3,244,180</b>
Net position:			
Net investment in capital assets	31,385,323	23,546,908	23,649,936
Restricted	3,192,125	5,362,427	4,823,455
Unrestricted	14,763,894	12,284,592	12,952,508
<b>Total net position</b>	<b>\$ 49,341,342</b>	<b>\$ 41,193,927</b>	<b>\$ 41,425,899</b>



## Duluth Seaway Port Authority

### Management's Discussion and Analysis March 31, 2016

To give users a better understanding of the sources and uses of the Authority's net position, the table that follows presents a summary of revenues and expenses for the years ended March 31, 2016, 2015, and 2014. The schedule below shows revenues by source and expenses by function.

	2016	2015 (Restated)	2014
<b>Revenues:</b>			
Program revenues, charges for services	\$ 4,400,484	\$ 3,506,156	\$ 3,559,307
<b>General revenues:</b>			
Property taxes	949,933	924,992	901,028
(Loss) gain on sale of capital asset	(17,328)	-	100
Interest	46,879	67,312	62,448
Other	20,779	2,726	8,543
Insurance recoveries	-	-	1,974
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>5,400,747</b>	<b>4,501,186</b>	<b>4,533,400</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>			
Administration	1,404,133	1,326,773	1,511,382
Port promotion	742,976	618,640	525,720
Port development	522,575	421,996	468,558
Marine terminal	592,218	415,937	356,881
Interest on long-term debt	109,459	118,056	126,097
Depreciation	1,313,153	1,325,013	1,298,248
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>4,684,514</b>	<b>4,226,415</b>	<b>4,286,886</b>
Grant revenue for capital purposes	7,431,182	297,994	39,099
<b>Increase in net position</b>	<b>8,147,415</b>	<b>572,765</b>	<b>285,613</b>
<b>Net position:</b>			
Beginning of year	41,193,927	40,621,162	41,140,286
End of year	\$ 49,341,342	\$ 41,193,927	\$ 41,425,899

### Capital Assets

The Authority's investment in capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, was \$35,469,713 and \$27,243,430, as of March 31, 2016 and 2015, respectively. This investment includes land and improvements, buildings and equipment. The Authority's total investment in capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, increased 30.2 percent during 2016. Additional information related to the Authority's capital assets can be found in Note 3 of the notes to the financial statements.

### Debt

At year-end, the Authority has \$2,090,878 in bonds compared to \$2,274,803 in 2015.

Other liabilities for obligations such as vacation, sick leave, and severance items are discussed further in the notes to financial statements.

## **Duluth Seaway Port Authority**

### **Management's Discussion and Analysis March 31, 2016**

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#### **Economic Factors and Next Year's Budgets**

The Authority's Clure Public Marine Terminal is positioned within a major transportation route connecting the Atlantic Ocean to railroad lines and the interstate highway system. Because of its position, the Terminal will continue to transship wind electrical generating equipment and other project cargos to Minnesota and the upper Midwest states and Canadian providences during the 2015 shipping season. The activity at the Terminal is expected to produce about the same amount of revenue to the Authority as last year's level.

The Authority has had to refer economic development inquiries for large parcels of land to other development entities in the region because there are no large developable sites available within the Port District. In response to this shortage of large sites, the Authority has entered into a purchase agreement to obtain a 123 acre parcel of land from the United States Steel Corporation. This parcel of land is part of a 600 acre Superfund Site on which previously stood a steel mill known as the Duluth Works. The purchase is dependent on a successful clean-up of the site. Currently the redevelopment effort has completed the Phase II environmental investigation stage where samples of both the soil and ground water were tested to determine the amount of clean-up required to make the site useable for industrial purposes. The Authority and US Steel are preparing the Response Action Plan (RAP) which will detail the clean-up plan. Upon completion, the Authority and US Steel will submit the RAP to the Federal EPA and the Minnesota PCA for approval. The Authority has obtained special tax increment legislation which will support the redevelopment if the site is purchased.

The Authority was awarded a \$10 million TIGER (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) Grant from the United States Department of Transportation to rebuild a 28 acre dock known as Dock C & D, of which funds are to be received over the next two years. In addition the Authority was awarded funds from the Minnesota Department of Transportation a \$2.75 million Port Development Assistance Grant and \$990,000 Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development Grant for this rebuild project. The Authority has pledged \$3.94 million to the project. The permitting and the engineering are complete and construction contracts were awarded in January 2015. The project is expected to be completed by the end of 2016. Dock C & D will be a multi-modal facility being served by maritime, railroad and roadway components.

#### **Requests for Information**

This financial report is meant to provide a general overview for all those with an interest in the Authority's finances. Questions concerning information provided in the report, or requests for additional financial information, should be addressed to the Authority, 1200 Port Terminal Drive, Duluth, Minnesota 55802, Attention: Chief Financial Officer.

Duluth Seaway Port Authority

Statements of Net Position  
March 31, 2016 and 2015

	2016	2015
<b>Assets and Deferred Outflows</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 8,387,342	\$ 3,291,045
Certificates of deposit	4,616,578	8,067,036
Receivables:		
Taxes	945,797	919,718
Accounts, less allowance for doubtful accounts of \$586,918 in 2016 and \$506,431 in 2015	446,855	179,726
Grants	1,897,787	1,327,093
Interest	5,868	21,354
Due from other governments	3,000	3,000
Current portion of long-term notes	33,611	31,958
Prepaid expenses	71,934	70,883
<b>Total current unrestricted assets</b>	<b>16,408,772</b>	<b>13,911,813</b>
Current restricted assets (Note 9):		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,328,703	1,422,743
Certificates of deposit	1,863,422	3,939,684
<b>Total current restricted assets</b>	<b>3,192,125</b>	<b>5,362,427</b>
Capital assets (Note 3):		
Land and land improvements	16,858,865	17,000,378
Buildings	26,325,119	26,561,124
Equipment	5,332,836	5,764,796
Construction in progress	12,847,841	3,362,130
	<b>61,364,661</b>	<b>52,688,428</b>
Less accumulated depreciation	25,894,948	25,444,998
<b>Total capital assets</b>	<b>35,469,713</b>	<b>27,243,430</b>
Other assets:		
Restricted cash and cash equivalents (Note 9)	63,000	64,000
Notes receivable, less current portion	117,928	151,539
Land held for sale, at cost	1,027,850	1,027,850
<b>Total other assets</b>	<b>1,208,778</b>	<b>1,243,389</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>56,279,388</b>	<b>47,761,059</b>
Deferred outflows of resources:		
Deferred pension amounts (Note 5)	187,857	137,120
<b>Total assets and deferred outflows</b>	<b>\$ 56,467,245</b>	<b>\$ 47,898,179</b>

See notes to financial statements.

	2016	2015
<b>Liabilities, Deferred Inflows and Net Position</b>		
Current liabilities (payable from current assets):		
Accounts payable:		
Trade	\$ 139,137	\$ 115,206
Construction and equipment	1,859,158	56,417
Pollution remediation (Note 13)	1,574,474	2,879,347
Accrued payroll liabilities	235,440	227,582
Unearned revenue (Note 6)	112,932	96,384
<b>Total current liabilities, payable from current assets</b>	<b>3,921,141</b>	<b>3,374,936</b>
Current liabilities (payable from restricted assets):		
Current maturities of long-term debt (Note 4)	194,170	183,925
Accrued interest	55,069	59,698
<b>Total current liabilities, payable from restricted assets</b>	<b>249,239</b>	<b>243,623</b>
Long-term debt, less current maturities (Note 4)	1,896,708	2,090,878
Net pension liability (Note 5)	803,290	732,810
Other long-term liabilities, tenant deposits	63,000	64,000
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>6,933,378</b>	<b>6,506,247</b>
Deferred inflows of resources:		
Deferred pension amounts (Note 5)	192,525	198,005
<b>Total liabilities and deferred inflows</b>	<b>7,125,903</b>	<b>6,704,252</b>
Net position:		
Net investment in capital assets	31,385,323	23,546,908
Restricted	3,192,125	5,362,427
Unrestricted	14,763,894	12,284,592
<b>Total net position</b>	<b>49,341,342</b>	<b>41,193,927</b>
<b>Total liabilities, deferred inflows, and net position</b>	<b>\$ 56,467,245</b>	<b>\$ 47,898,179</b>

**Duluth Seaway Port Authority**

**Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position  
Years Ended March 31, 2016 and 2015**

	2016	2015
Operating revenues	\$ 5,350,417	\$ 4,431,148
Operating expenses, excluding depreciation	<u>3,261,902</u>	2,783,346
<b>Operating income before depreciation</b>	<b>2,088,515</b>	1,647,802
Depreciation	<u>1,313,153</u>	1,325,013
<b>Operating income</b>	<b><u>775,362</u></b>	322,789
Nonoperating revenues (expenses):		
Loss on sale of capital assets	(17,328)	-
Interest income	46,879	67,312
Other revenues	20,779	2,726
Interest expense	<u>(109,459)</u>	(118,056)
<b>Income before grant revenue for capital purposes</b>	<b><u>716,233</u></b>	274,771
Grant revenue for capital purposes	<u>7,431,182</u>	297,994
<b>Change in net position</b>	<b>8,147,415</b>	572,765
Net position:		
Beginning of year, as restated (Note 14)	41,193,927	40,621,162
End of year	<b><u>\$ 49,341,342</u></b>	<b><u>\$ 41,193,927</u></b>

See notes to financial statements.

**Duluth Seaway Port Authority**

**Statements of Cash Flows**  
**Years Ended March 31, 2016 and 2015**

	2016	2015
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>		
Receipts from customers	\$ 4,239,682	\$ 3,327,306
Payments to suppliers	(1,759,117)	(1,480,119)
Payments to employees	(1,457,784)	(1,397,430)
Other receipts	934,854	1,187,749
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<b>1,957,635</b>	<b>1,637,506</b>
<b>Cash flows from capital and related financing activities:</b>		
Purchase of capital assets	(7,835,023)	(1,116,985)
Receipts from other governments	6,860,488	-
Payment on pollution remediation liability	(1,304,873)	-
Principal paid on general obligations bonds	(183,925)	(173,702)
Interest paid on general obligation bonds	(114,088)	(122,387)
<b>Net cash used in capital and related financing activities</b>	<b>(2,577,421)</b>	<b>(1,413,074)</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>		
Purchase of certificates of deposit	(3,840,147)	(7,526,475)
Proceeds from maturities of certificates of deposit	9,366,867	6,588,610
Principal payments received on notes receivable	31,958	30,384
Interest received	62,365	64,020
<b>Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities</b>	<b>5,621,043</b>	<b>(843,461)</b>
<b>Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>5,001,257</b>	<b>(619,029)</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents:</b>		
Beginning	4,777,788	5,396,817
Ending	<b>\$ 9,779,045</b>	<b>\$ 4,777,788</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents are reported as follows:</b>		
Current assets	\$ 8,387,342	\$ 3,291,045
Restricted assets	1,328,703	1,422,743
Other assets	63,000	64,000
	<b>\$ 9,779,045</b>	<b>\$ 4,777,788</b>

(Continued)

**Duluth Seaway Port Authority**

**Statements of Cash Flows (Continued)**  
**Years Ended March 31, 2016 and 2015**

	2016	2015
Reconciliation of operating income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Operating income	\$ 775,362	\$ 322,789
Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation	1,313,153	1,325,013
Miscellaneous nonoperating receipts	20,779	2,726
Change in deferred outflow	(50,737)	(92,581)
Change in deferred inflow	(5,480)	198,005
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Receivables	(212,208)	88,128
Prepaid expenses	(1,051)	1,840
Land held for sale	-	9,875
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	31,789	(85,001)
Unearned revenue	16,548	(16,572)
Tenant deposits	(1,000)	(250)
Net pension liability	70,480	(116,466)
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<b>\$ 1,957,635</b>	<b>\$ 1,637,506</b>
Supplemental schedule of noncash capital and related financing activities:		
Net pollution remediation related CIP additions	\$ -	\$ 1,889,347
Accounts payable, capital assets	\$ 1,802,741	\$ -

See notes to financial statements.

## Duluth Seaway Port Authority

### Notes to Financial Statements

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#### Note 1. Nature of Operations and Significant Accounting Policies

**Nature of operations:** Duluth Seaway Port Authority (the Authority) is a corporate body created in accordance with Minnesota Statute Section 469.048. The Authority is an enterprise operation managed by a seven-member Board of Commissioners appointed as follows: two by the State of Minnesota, two by St. Louis County, and three by the City of Duluth, Minnesota.

The operational departments within the Authority are as follows:

*Administration:* The Authority oversees all departments and monitors all enterprise operations within the Port District. Revenue consists principally of rental revenues. Substantially all property and equipment is leased to others.

*Port Promotion:* The Authority promotes the use of the Port of Duluth on a local, regional, national and global basis; responds to the needs of both the users of the Port and the providers of services within the Port; and encourages shippers to use the public marine terminal.

*Port Development:* The Authority oversees owned property and facilities and assists with development of the private and public enterprise operations within the Port District.

*Marine Terminal:* The Authority owns maritime facilities that are operated by a private company under an agent operating agreement.

**Reporting entity:** Generally accepted accounting principles define the financial reporting entity as consisting of (a) the primary government, (b) organizations for which the primary government is financially accountable, and (c) other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationships with the primary government are such that exclusion would cause the reporting entity's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete.

Based upon the criteria provided, there are no entities which should be presented with the Authority.

The Authority is considered a special-purpose government and is not a component unit of any other government because a voting majority of its Board of Commissioners is not appointed by any single entity and it is fiscally independent.

#### Significant Accounting Policies

**Basis of accounting:** The Authority operates as an enterprise fund to report on its financial position and the changes in financial position. The accrual basis of accounting is used. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recorded when incurred. Expenditure driven grants are recognized as revenue when the qualifying expenditures have been incurred and all other grant requirements have been met.

**Measurement focus:** The Authority accounts for its transactions on a cost of services or "capital maintenance" measurement focus. This means that all assets and all liabilities (whether current or noncurrent) associated with this activity are included on the statements of net position. The operating statements present increases (revenues) and decreases (expenses) in net position.

**Cash and cash equivalents:** For purposes of reporting the statements of cash flows, the Authority considers all cash accounts and highly liquid debt instruments purchased with a maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents. Cash equivalents consist primarily of money market funds.



## Duluth Seaway Port Authority

### Notes to Financial Statements

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#### Note 1. Nature of Operations and Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

**Capital assets:** Capital assets are recorded at cost and depreciated using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives, as follows:

	<u>Years</u>
Land improvements	10 - 50
Buildings	20 - 50
Equipment	4 - 30

**Net position:** Net position of the Authority is classified in three components. Net investment in capital assets consists of capital assets net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the current balances of any outstanding borrowings used to finance the purchase or construction of these assets. Restricted net position is noncapital net position that must be used for a particular purpose, as specified by external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments. Unrestricted net position is remaining net position that does not meet the definition of net investment in capital assets or restricted.

**Operating revenues and expenses:** Operating revenues and expenses generally result from activities of the Authority's principal ongoing operations. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as nonoperating revenues and expenses.

**Grant revenue:** Grant revenue is recognized when the qualifying costs are incurred for cost-reimbursement grants.

**Property tax levies:** The Authority may request the City of Duluth to levy a tax for its benefit. This mandatory levy may not exceed .01813 percent of the taxable market value of the taxable property in the City. The amount levied is paid to the Authority by St. Louis County.

The tax levies are recognized as operating revenue in the Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position and totaled \$949,933 in 2016 and \$924,992 in 2015.

**Compensated absences:** Employees accumulate vacation hours for subsequent use or for payment upon termination, death, or retirement. A maximum carryover of 80 vacation hours has been established by Board resolution. A liability is recorded for earned but unpaid vacation. At March 31, 2016 and 2015 the liability totaled \$97,631 and \$94,246, respectively.

Employees may accumulate up to 180 days of sick leave. Sick leave does not vest and, therefore, is not accrued.

The Authority makes payments to the Minnesota State Retirement System Health Care Savings Plan for retired employees with 10 years of continuous service. The total of the insurance payments made for a retiree is limited to the number of unused sick days at retirement (up to a maximum of 120 days) multiplied by the average daily earnings of all full-time employees at the retirement date. The Authority accrues this benefit for qualifying employees over the five-year period preceding their retirement dates. At March 31, 2016 and 2015 the liability totaled \$116,480 and \$113,441, respectively.

**Advertising costs:** Advertising costs are expensed as incurred. Advertising expense amounted to \$184,427 in 2016 and \$159,074 in 2015.

## Duluth Seaway Port Authority

### Notes to Financial Statements

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#### Note 1. Nature of Operations and Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

**Pensions:** For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows/inflows of resources, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA) and additions to/deductions from PERA's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by PERA except that PERA's fiscal year end is June 30. For this purpose, plan contributions are recognized as of employer payroll paid dates and benefit payments and refunds are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

**Use of estimates in the preparation of financial statements:** The preparation of financial statements 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. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### Note 2. Deposits and Investments

The carrying amount of deposits and investments are included in the Authority's balance sheet as follows:

	2016	2015
Deposits with financial institutions	\$ 7,055,012	\$ 12,951,359
Investments, money market funds	9,204,033	3,833,149
	<u>\$ 16,259,045</u>	<u>\$ 16,784,508</u>

Included in the following balance sheet captions:

	2016	2015
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 8,387,342	\$ 3,291,045
Certificates of deposits	4,616,578	8,067,036
Current restricted assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	1,328,703	1,422,743
Certificates of deposits	1,863,422	3,939,684
Other assets, cash and cash equivalents	63,000	64,000
	<u>\$ 16,259,045</u>	<u>\$ 16,784,508</u>

## Duluth Seaway Port Authority

### Notes to Financial Statements

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#### Note 2. Deposits and Investments (Continued)

**Deposits:** In accordance with Minnesota Statutes, the Authority maintains deposits at those depository banks authorized by the Board. Such depositories are members of the Federal Reserve System.

Minnesota Statutes require that all Authority deposits be protected by surety bond or collateral. Authorized collateral includes U.S. governmental treasury bills, notes or bonds; issues of U.S. government agencies; certain rated general and revenue obligations of state and local governments; certain types of standby letters of credit and insured certificates of deposit. Minnesota Statutes require that securities pledged as collateral be held in safekeeping by the Authority's Treasurer or in a financial institution other than that furnishing collateral. The market value of collateral pledged must equal 110 percent of the deposits not covered by insurance or bonds (140 percent in the case of mortgage notes pledged).

At March 31, 2016, the Authority's deposits were entirely covered by federal depository insurance and pledged collateral.

The Authority does not have a formal policy for deposits.

**Investments:** Minnesota Statutes authorize the Authority to invest in obligations of the U.S. Treasury, its agencies and instrumentalities, repurchase agreements, shares of certain investment companies, general obligations of the State of Minnesota and its municipalities, banker's acceptances, commercial paper and guaranteed investment contracts.

*Investment policy:* The Authority does not have a formal investment policy.

*Credit risk:* Generally, credit risk is the risk that the issuer of a debt type investment will not fulfill its obligation to the holder of the investment. This is measured by assignment of a rating by a nationally recognized rating organization. Money market funds are measured at fair value in the statement of net position determined based on quoted market prices. As of March 31, 2016, the Authority's money market funds had a credit rating as reported by Moody's as Aaa-mf.

*Custodial credit risk:* This is the risk that in the event of the failure of the counterparty (e.g., broker dealer) to a transaction, a government will not be able to recover the value of its investment or collateral securities that are in possession of another party. The Authority's money market funds are not subject to custodial credit risk at March 31, 2016.

**Duluth Seaway Port Authority**

**Notes to Financial Statements**

**Note 3. Capital Assets**

	Cost			
	Balance	Additions	Reclassifications/	Balance
	March 31, 2015		Deletions	March 31, 2016
Land and land improvements	\$ 17,000,378	\$ -	\$ (141,513)	\$ 16,858,865
Buildings	26,561,124	36,821	(272,826)	26,325,119
Equipment	5,764,796	13,147	(445,107)	5,332,836
Construction in progress	3,362,130	9,587,796	(102,085)	12,847,841
	<u>\$ 52,688,428</u>	<u>\$ 9,637,764</u>	<u>\$ (961,531)</u>	<u>\$ 61,364,661</u>

	Accumulated Depreciation			Net	
	Balance	Additions	Deductions	Balance	Book Value
	March 31, 2015			March 31, 2016	March 31, 2016
Land and land improvements	\$ 7,527,618	\$ 364,778	\$ (141,513)	\$ 7,750,883	\$ 9,107,982
Buildings	13,713,343	780,517	(272,825)	14,221,035	12,104,084
Equipment	4,204,037	167,858	(448,865)	3,923,030	1,409,806
Construction in progress	-	-	-	-	12,847,841
	<u>\$ 25,444,998</u>	<u>\$ 1,313,153</u>	<u>\$ (863,203)</u>	<u>\$ 25,894,948</u>	<u>\$ 35,469,713</u>

	Cost			
	Balance	Additions	Reclassifications/	Balance
	March 31, 2014		Deletions	March 31, 2015
Land and land improvements	\$ 17,000,378	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,000,378
Buildings	26,282,330	278,794	-	26,561,124
Equipment	5,746,349	18,447	-	5,764,796
Construction in progress	723,273	2,638,857	-	3,362,130
	<u>\$ 49,752,330</u>	<u>\$ 2,936,098</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 52,688,428</u>

	Accumulated Depreciation			Net	
	Balance	Additions	Deductions	Balance	Book Value
	March 31, 2014			March 31, 2015	March 31, 2015
Land and land improvements	\$ 7,162,314	\$ 365,304	\$ -	\$ 7,527,618	\$ 9,472,760
Buildings	12,931,381	781,962	-	13,713,343	12,847,781
Equipment	4,026,290	177,747	-	4,204,037	1,560,759
Construction in progress	-	-	-	-	3,362,130
	<u>\$ 24,119,985</u>	<u>\$ 1,325,013</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 25,444,998</u>	<u>\$ 27,243,430</u>

**Duluth Seaway Port Authority**

**Notes to Financial Statements**

**Note 4. Long-Term Debt**

	2016	2015
Assessment Bonds to the City of Duluth at an imputed rate of 5.23%, due in annual installments ranging from \$82,239 to \$91,297	\$ 235,878	\$ 309,803
2006 Revenue Bonds (tax exempt), principal payments are due in annual installments ranging from \$115,000 on April 1, 2016, to \$200,000 on April 1, 2027, interest payable (at rates ranging from 5.0% to 5.2%) on April 1 and October 1 each year; lease revenues and a building are pledged as collateral. In addition, the lessee is required to provide a bank letter of credit as collateral for its obligation under the lease.	1,855,000	1,965,000
	2,090,878	2,274,803
Less current maturities	194,170	183,925
	<u>\$ 1,896,708</u>	<u>\$ 2,090,878</u>

The following is a summary of changes in long-term debt at March 31, 2016 and 2015:

	2016			
	Beginning Balance	Additions	Principal Repayments	Ending Balance
Assessment bonds to the City of Duluth	\$ 309,803	\$ -	\$ 73,925	\$ 235,878
2006 Revenue Bonds	1,965,000	-	110,000	1,855,000
	<u>\$ 2,274,803</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 183,925</u>	<u>\$ 2,090,878</u>

  

	2015			
Assessment bonds to the City of Duluth	\$ 378,505	\$ -	\$ 68,702	\$ 309,803
2006 Revenue Bonds	2,070,000	-	105,000	1,965,000
	<u>\$ 2,448,505</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 173,702</u>	<u>\$ 2,274,803</u>

Debt service requirements at March 31, 2016, are:

Years ending March 31:	Principal	Interest	Total
2017	\$ 194,170	\$ 105,242	\$ 299,412
2018	199,438	95,779	295,217
2019	207,270	85,828	293,098
2020	135,000	73,970	208,970
2021	140,000	66,280	206,280
2022 - 2026	825,000	212,810	1,037,810
2027 - 2028	390,000	20,540	410,540
	<u>\$ 2,090,878</u>	<u>\$ 660,449</u>	<u>\$ 2,751,327</u>

## Duluth Seaway Port Authority

### Notes to Financial Statements

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#### Note 5. Defined Benefit Pension Plan Statewide

**Plan description:** The Authority participates in the following cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plans administered by the Public Employees Retirement Association of Minnesota (PERA). PERA's defined benefit pension plans are established and administered in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Chapters 353 and 356. PERA's defined benefit pension plans are tax qualified plans under Section 401 (a) of the Internal Revenue Code.

All full-time and certain part-time employees of the Authority are covered by the General Employees Retirement Fund (GERF). GERF members belong to either the Coordinated Plan or the Basic Plan. Coordinated Plan members are covered by Social Security and Basic Plan members are not. The Basic Plan was closed to new members in 1967. All new members must participate in the Coordinated Plan.

**Benefits provided:** PERA provides retirement, disability, and death benefits. Benefit provisions are established by state statute and can only be modified by the state legislature.

Benefit increases are provided to benefit recipients each January. Increases are related to the funding ratio of the plan. Members in plans that are at least 90 percent funded for two consecutive years are given 2.5 percent increases. Members in plans that have not exceeded 90 percent funded, or have fallen below 80 percent, are given 1 percent increases.

The benefit provisions stated in the following paragraphs of this section are current provisions and apply to active plan participants. Vested, terminated employees who are entitled to benefits but are not receiving them yet are bound by the provisions in effect at the time they last terminated their public service.

Benefits are based on a member's highest average salary for any five successive years of allowable service, age, and years of credit at termination of service. Two methods are used to compute benefits for PERA's Coordinated and Basic Plan members. The retiring member receives the higher of a step-rate benefit accrual formula (Method 1) or a level accrual formula (Method 2). Under Method 1, the annuity accrual rate for a Basic Plan member is 2.2 percent of average salary for each of the first ten years of service and 2.7 percent for each remaining year. The annuity accrual rate for a Coordinated Plan member is 1.2 percent of average salary for each of the first ten years and 1.7 percent for each remaining year. Under Method 2, the annuity accrual rate is 2.7 percent of average salary for Basic Plan members and 1.7 percent for Coordinated Plan members for each year of service. For members hired prior to July 1, 1989, a full annuity is available when age plus years of service equal 90 and normal retirement age is 65. For members hired on or after July 1, 1989, normal retirement age is the age for unreduced Social Security benefits capped at 66. Disability benefits are available for vested members and are based upon years of service and average high-five salary.

#### Contributions

Minnesota Statutes Chapter 353 sets the rates for employer and employee contributions. Contribution rates can only be modified by the state legislature.

For calendar years 2016, 2015, and 2014, Coordinated Plan members were required to contribute, 6.5 percent, 6.5 percent, 6.25 percent, respectively, of their annual covered salary. In calendar years 2016, 2015, and 2014, the Authority was required to contribute 7.50 percent, 7.50 percent, and 7.25 percent, respectively, for Coordinated Plan members. The Authority's contributions to the GERF for the year ended March 31, 2016 and 2015, were \$71,583 and \$65,537, respectively. The Authority's contributions were equal to the required contributions as set by state statute.

## Duluth Seaway Port Authority

### Notes to Financial Statements

#### Note 5. Defined Benefit Pension Plan Statewide (Continued)

##### Pension Costs

At March 31, 2016 and 2015, the Authority reported a liability of \$803,290 and \$732,810, respectively, for its proportionate share of the GERP's net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2015 and 2014, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of those dates. The Authority's proportion of the net pension liability was based on the Authority's contributions received by PERA during the measurement period for employer payroll paid dates from July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2015, for 2016 measurement, and July 1, 2013, through June 30, 2014, for 2015 measurement, relative to the total employer contributions received from all of PERA's participating employers. At June 30, 2015 and 2014, the Authority's proportion was .0155 percent and .0156 percent, respectively.

For the years ended March 31, 2016 and 2015, the Authority recognized pension expense of \$105,903 and \$54,400, respectively, for its proportionate share of the GERP's pension expense.

At March 31, 2016 and 2015, the Authority reported its proportionate share of the GERP's deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	2016		2015	
	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual economic experience	\$ 7,498	\$ 40,499	\$ 11,246	\$ -
Changes in actuarial assumptions	50,349	-	75,524	-
Difference between projected and actual investment earnings	76,044	148,503	-	198,005
Changes in proportion	-	3,523	-	-
Contributions paid to PERA subsequent to the measurement date	53,966	-	50,350	-
Total	<u>\$ 187,857</u>	<u>\$ 192,525</u>	<u>\$ 137,120</u>	<u>\$ 198,005</u>

\$53,966 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from the Authority's contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended March 31, 2017. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

	<u>Pension Expense</u>
Year ended March 31:	
2017	\$ 16,241
2018	16,241
2019	45,164
2020	(19,012)
	<u>\$ 58,634</u>

##### Actuarial Assumptions

The total pension liability in the June 30, 2015 and 2014, actuarial valuations were determined using the following actuarial assumptions:

Inflation	2.75% per year
Active member payroll growth	3.50% per year
Investment rate of return	7.90%

## Duluth Seaway Port Authority

### Notes to Financial Statements

#### Note 5. Defined Benefit Pension Plan Statewide (Continued)

Salary increases were based on a service-related table. Mortality rates for active members, retirees, survivors and disabilitants were based on RP-2000 tables for males or females, as appropriate, with slight adjustments. Benefit increases for retirees are assumed to be 1 percent effective every January 1st through 2026 and 2.5 percent thereafter.

Actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2015, valuation were based on the results of actuarial experience studies. The experience study in the GERP was for the period July 1, 2004, through June 30, 2008, with an update of economic assumptions in 2014. Experience studies have not been prepared for PERA's other plans, but assumptions are reviewed annually. There were no changes in actuarial assumptions in 2015.

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments is 7.9 percent. The State Board of Investment, which manages the investments of PERA, prepares an analysis of the reasonableness of the long-term expected rate of return on a regular basis using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future rates of return are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce an expected long-term rate of return by weighting the expected future rates of return by the target asset allocation percentages. The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

	<u>Target Allocation</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
Domestic stocks	45%	5.50%
International stocks	15%	6.00%
Bonds	18%	1.45%
Alternative assets	20%	6.40%
Cash	2%	0.50%
Total	<u>100%</u>	

**Discount rate:** The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.9 percent. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that employee and employer contributions will be made at the rate specified in statute. Based on that assumption, each of the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current active and inactive employees. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

**Pension liability sensitivity:** The following presents the Authority's proportionate share of the net pension liability for all plans it participates in, calculated using the discount rate disclosed in the preceding paragraph, as well as what the Authority's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate 1 percentage point lower or 1 percentage point higher than the current discount rate:

	<u>1% Decrease in Discount Rate (6.9%)</u>	<u>Discount Rate (7.9%)</u>	<u>1% Increase in Discount Rate (8.9%)</u>
Proportionate share of the GERP net pension liability	1,263,058	803,290	423,593



## Duluth Seaway Port Authority

### Notes to Financial Statements

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#### Note 5. Defined Benefit Pension Plan Statewide (Continued)

##### Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position

Detailed information about each pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in a separately-issued PERA financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. That report may be obtained on the Internet at [www.mnpera.org](http://www.mnpera.org); by writing to PERA at 60 Empire Drive #200, St. Paul, Minnesota, 55103-2088; or by calling (651) 296-7460 or 1-800-652-9026.

#### Note 6. Unearned Revenue

	2016	2015
Tenant capital asset rental	\$ 112,932	\$ 96,384

The Authority receives capital asset rentals from various tenants. Payments range from a monthly to an annual basis. Revenue is recognized ratably in income over the terms of the leases.

#### Note 7. Marine Terminal Operations

The Authority has engaged the services of Lake Superior Warehousing Co., Inc. as operator for the Arthur M. Clure Public Marine Terminal through March 31, 2023. The agreement stipulates distributions to Lake Superior Warehousing Co., Inc. and the Authority based on an agreed upon revenue share formula. The Authority has fiscal responsibility for property insurance and facility maintenance, excluding equipment maintenance. Customary harbor charges of dockage, wharfage, and mooring are retained by the Authority.

#### Note 8. Deferred Lease Payments

The Authority has a 20-year lease with Northstar Machine & Tool Co., Inc. for a facility which was constructed by the Authority. Through amendments to the lease, the Authority has agreed to defer lease payments under this agreement through December 2016. The amendment calls for monthly lease payments at the original agreement amount, or \$11,498. The deferred lease payments are to be paid annually based on a cash flow formula, as defined by the amendments. If these payments are unable to fulfill the deferred obligation, a balloon payment of the remaining balance will be required on January 1, 2017. Full payment of deferred lease amount will also be required if Northstar Machine & Tool Co., Inc. is sold through a sale of assets, a loan is made by the Company, or any distribution is made to a shareholder in excess of the tax distribution. At March 31, 2016 and March 31, 2015, deferred lease payments totaled \$586,918 and \$506,431, respectively. Deferred amounts are fully allowed for and included in allowance for doubtful accounts.

## Duluth Seaway Port Authority

### Notes to Financial Statements

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#### Note 9. Restricted Assets

Restricted assets are comprised of cash and investments which must be used for a specific purpose as required by contract with outside parties. The following restrictions exist: the proceeds from the sale of land that was developed with an Economic Development Agency grant must be spent on industrial development, state and federal grants require matching funds, the Authority's bond agreement requires reserve and debt service accounts, and tenant lease deposit agreements restrict use.

	2016	2015
EDA land sales	\$ 944,098	\$ 1,030,173
State and federal grants; pledged matching funds	1,863,422	3,939,684
Bond agreement	382,760	392,570
Tenant deposits	63,000	64,000
Other	1,845	-
	<u>\$ 3,255,125</u>	<u>\$ 5,426,427</u>

#### Note 10. Operating Leases

The Authority leases substantially all of its property and equipment to others. These leases are accounted for as operating leases and expire at various dates through 2073. As of March 31, 2016, minimum lease payments under these operating leases that have initial or remaining noncancelable lease terms in excess of one year are as follows:

Years ending March 31:	
2017	\$ 1,826,329
2018	1,743,081
2019	636,924
2020	637,576
2021	467,103
Thereafter	1,373,522
	<u>\$ 6,684,535</u>

#### Note 11. Risk Management

The Authority is exposed to various risks of losses related to torts; theft of, damage to, or destruction of assets; errors or omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The Authority has purchased commercial insurance for all risks. Settled claims have not exceeded coverage in any of the last three years.

## Duluth Seaway Port Authority

### Notes to Financial Statements

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#### **Note 12. Commitments**

The Authority entered into an agreement with the United States Steel Corporation to purchase 123 acres of land located within a Superfund site for \$10,000 an acre. U.S. Steel has been identified as the responsible party. The purchase is contingent upon the remediation of the contaminated soil and the land being delisted from Superfund status. At March 31, 2016, the Authority had expended \$433,488 for this project. If the remediation cost is deemed to be excessive by either the Authority or U.S. Steel, either party may terminate the purchase agreement. The drilling and analyzing the soil has been completed on the property. The Response Action Plans for both the Superfund delisting (Federal Environmental Protection Agency) and the voluntary investigation and clean-up (Minnesota Pollution Control Agency) are being prepared by U.S. Steel and the Authority. By contract with U.S. Steel, the Authority will be responsible for payment of 25 percent of the costs to clean the targeted property. All cost associated with testing and cleaning are being recorded as construction in progress. If terminated, the Authority will write-off the capitalized development costs.

The Authority entered into contracts for the rehabilitation and design of the Port of Duluth Intermodal Project (Docks C & D) in the amount of \$15,962,963. As of March 31, 2016 Authority has expended \$10,543,378 of the contracts with a remaining commitment of \$5,419,585. This project is funded through a combination of Federal, State, and Local funds.

#### **Note 13. Pollution Remediation**

In connection with the Port of Duluth Intermodal Project (Docks C & D), in order to proceed with rehabilitation, the Authority must obtain appropriate environmental clearances by cleaning up existing pollution on the property. During 2015, the Authority voluntarily began pollution remediation on Docks C & D, of which costs were estimated by an engineering company at \$3,200,000. Any changes to estimates will be addressed as unexpected issues arise. To assist with funding of the remediation, the Authority was awarded a grant from the State of Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development (DEED) in the amount of \$990,000. Governmental Accounting Standards Board's (GASB) Statement No. 49 *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pollution Remediation Obligations* addresses, among other things, the obligations of the current or potential detrimental effects of existing pollution by participating in pollution remediation activities such as site assessments and cleanups. This statement requires the recognition of the pollution remediation liability and related expected recoveries. Under GASB 49, for year ended March 31, 2015, the DEED funding was considered realizable, and reduced the associated pollution remediation expenditures that were placed into construction in progress. Further, remediation expenditures are properly capitalized as the contaminated property was previously purchased at a discount. As of March 31, 2016, the outstanding pollution liability was \$1,574,474.

## Duluth Seaway Port Authority

### Notes to Financial Statements

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#### Note 14. Restatement

The Authority adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions*, an amendment of GASB Statement No. 27, and GASB Statement No. 71, *Pension Transition for Contributions Made Subsequent to the Measurement Date – an amendment of GASB Statement No. 68*, which resulted in the Authority restating net position for recognition of the Authority's pension-related activity incurred prior to April 1, 2014. The effect of adopting GASB No. 68 and No. 71 was to restate April 1, 2014 net position as follows:

	Balance as Previously Reported	Change as a result of GASB 68 & 71 Adoption	Balance Restated
April 1, 2014 assets	\$ 44,670,079	\$ -	\$ 44,670,079
April 1, 2014 deferred outflows	-	44,539	44,539
April 1, 2014 liabilities	(3,244,180)	(849,276)	(4,093,456)
April 1, 2014 net position	41,425,899	(804,737)	40,621,162
2015 operating revenues	4,431,148	-	4,431,148
2015 operating expenses	(4,119,401)	11,042	(4,108,359)
2015 nonoperating revenues	(48,018)	-	(48,018)
2015 grant revenue	297,994	-	297,994
2015 change in net position	561,723	11,042	572,765
April 1, 2015 net position	\$ 41,987,622	\$ (793,695)	\$ 41,193,927

#### Note 15. Pending Accounting Standards

The GASB has issued the following statement not yet implemented by the Authority. Listed below is the statement which may impact future financial statements of the Authority:

GASB Statement No. 82, *Pension Issues*, will be effective for the Authority beginning with its year ending March 31, 2018. This Statement addresses certain issues that have been raised with respect to GASB Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions*. Specifically, this Statement addresses issues regarding (1) the presentation of payroll-related measures in required supplementary information, (2) the selection of assumptions and the treatment of deviations from the guidance in an Actuarial Standard of Practice for financial reporting purposes, and (3) the classification of payments made by employers to satisfy employee (plan member) contribution requirements.

## **Required Supplementary Information**

**Duluth Seaway Port Authority**

**Schedule of Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability  
PERA General Employees Retirement Fund**

Fiscal Year Ending	Proportion (Percentage) of the Net Pension Liability (NPL)	Proportionate Share (Amount) of the NPL (a)	Covered- Employee Payroll (b)	Proportionate Share of the NPL as a Percentage of its Covered- Employee Payroll (a/b)	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability
June 30, 2014	0.0156%	\$ 732,810	\$ 823,803	88.95%	78.75%
June 30, 2015	0.0155%	803,290	927,786	86.58%	78.19%

**Duluth Seaway Port Authority**

**Schedule of Contributions  
PERA General Employees Retirement Fund**

Fiscal Year Ended	Statutorily Required Contribution (a)	Contributions in Relation to the Statutorily Required Contribution	Contribution Deficiency (Excess) (a-b)	Covered-Employee Payroll (d)	Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll (b/d)
March 31, 2015	\$ 65,537	\$ 65,537	\$ -	\$ 895,902	7.3%
March 31, 2016	71,583	71,583	-	971,670	7.4%

## **Supplementary Information**



Duluth Seaway Port Authority

Combining Statement of Revenues and Expenses  
Year Ended March 31, 2016

	Combined	Operational Departments			Marine Terminal
		Administration	Port Promotion	Port Development	
Operating revenues	\$ 5,350,417	\$ 2,198,886	\$ -	\$ 961,933	\$ 2,189,598
Operating expenses, excluding depreciation	3,261,902	1,404,133	742,976	522,575	592,218
<b>Operating income (loss) before depreciation</b>	2,088,515	794,753	(742,976)	439,358	1,597,380
Depreciation	1,313,153	785,946	-	-	527,207
<b>Operating income (loss)</b>	<b>775,362</b>	<b>8,807</b>	<b>(742,976)</b>	<b>439,358</b>	<b>1,070,173</b>
Nonoperating revenues (expenses):					
Loss on sale of capital assets	(17,328)	-	-	(17,328)	-
Interest income	46,879	46,879	-	-	-
Other revenues	20,779	20,779	-	-	-
Interest expense	(109,459)	(109,459)	-	-	-
	(59,129)	(41,801)	-	(17,328)	-
<b>Income (loss) before grant revenue for capital purposes</b>	<b>716,233</b>	<b>(32,994)</b>	<b>(742,976)</b>	<b>422,030</b>	<b>1,070,173</b>
Grant revenue for capital purposes:					
State of Minnesota:					
Grant 99713	2,412,907	2,412,907	-	-	-
U.S. Department of Transportation					
Grant DTMA91G140003	5,018,275	5,018,275	-	-	-
<b>Total grant revenue for capital purposes</b>	<b>7,431,182</b>	<b>7,431,182</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Change in net position</b>	<b>\$ 8,147,415</b>	<b>\$ 7,398,188</b>	<b>\$ (742,976)</b>	<b>\$ 422,030</b>	<b>\$ 1,070,173</b>

**Duluth Seaway Port Authority**

**Schedules of Departmental Operating Revenues and Expenses  
Administration  
Years Ended March 31, 2016 and 2015**

	2016	2015
Departmental revenues:		
Rentals	\$ 2,198,886	\$ 2,209,712
Gain on sale of land held for resale	-	266,192
	<u>2,198,886</u>	<u>2,475,904</u>
Departmental expenses:		
Salaries and wages	488,436	547,290
Employee benefits:		
Health, welfare, and pension	229,844	199,457
Social security tax	34,712	33,767
Workers' compensation insurance	2,124	3,916
Commissioner fees	6,160	5,390
Consulting	103,181	44,253
Dues and subscriptions	6,552	1,098
Insurance	56,488	58,689
Office	15,888	18,673
Bad debt	86,662	45,993
Other	54,967	64,270
Professional services	101,515	90,839
Repairs, maintenance, and supplies	105,383	121,516
Telephone	21,067	19,986
Travel and entertainment	32,755	21,660
Utilities	58,399	49,976
<b>Total departmental expenses</b>	<u>1,404,133</u>	<u>1,326,773</u>
<b>Departmental income before depreciation</b>	794,753	1,149,131
Depreciation	785,946	789,558
<b>Departmental operating income</b>	<u>\$ 8,807</u>	<u>\$ 359,573</u>

**Duluth Seaway Port Authority**

**Schedules of Departmental Operating Revenues and Expenses  
Port Promotion  
Years Ended March 31, 2016 and 2015**

	2016	2015
Departmental revenues	\$ -	\$ -
Departmental expenses:		
Salaries and wages	289,134	234,081
Employee benefits:		
Health, welfare, and pension	113,319	74,775
Social security tax	22,881	18,474
Workers' compensation insurance	2,006	1,663
Advertising and promotion	165,587	156,715
Consulting	4,901	4,901
Cruise ship visits	729	590
Dues and subscriptions	24,624	23,879
Foreign trade zone	2,011	2,003
Insurance	4,866	4,901
Maritime representative	34,500	34,125
Other	982	7,308
Photographs and supplies	1,044	4,822
Repairs, maintenance, and supplies	19,785	328
Telephone	3,849	4,682
Travel and entertainment	52,758	45,393
<b>Total departmental expenses</b>	<b>742,976</b>	<b>618,640</b>
<b>Departmental loss before depreciation</b>	<b>(742,976)</b>	<b>(618,640)</b>
Depreciation	-	-
<b>Departmental operating loss</b>	<b>\$ (742,976)</b>	<b>\$ (618,640)</b>

**Duluth Seaway Port Authority**

**Schedules of Departmental Operating Revenues and Expenses  
Port Development  
Years Ended March 31, 2016 and 2015**

	2016	2015
Departmental revenues:		
General tax levies	\$ 949,933	\$ 924,992
Bond fees	-	5,978
Other	12,000	12,000
<b>Total departmental revenues</b>	<u>961,933</u>	<u>942,970</u>
Departmental expenses:		
Salaries and wages	212,452	199,467
Employee benefits:		
Health, welfare and pension	52,651	42,243
Social security tax	16,603	16,006
Workers' compensation insurance	1,480	1,458
Advertising and promotion	-	2,359
Consulting	156,747	77,289
Other	18,868	11,822
Professional services	42,947	54,483
Telephone	2,713	2,607
Travel and entertainment	18,114	14,262
<b>Total departmental expenses</b>	<u>522,575</u>	<u>421,996</u>
<b>Departmental income before depreciation</b>	439,358	520,974
Depreciation	-	-
<b>Departmental operating income</b>	<u>\$ 439,358</u>	<u>\$ 520,974</u>

Duluth Seaway Port Authority

Schedules of Departmental Operating Revenues and Expenses  
Marine Terminal  
Years Ended March 31, 2016 and 2015

	2016	2015
Departmental revenues:		
Dockage and mooring	\$ 218,000	\$ 66,516
Equipment rental	56,567	60,142
Facilities fee	1,667,136	839,638
Wharfage	247,895	45,978
<b>Total departmental revenues</b>	<b>2,189,598</b>	<b>1,012,274</b>
Departmental expenses:		
Advertising and promotion	18,840	-
Consulting	5,250	-
Insurance	58,268	64,391
Other	1,022	659
Professional services	50,764	16,108
Protection service	15,706	21,191
Repairs and maintenance	428,582	313,458
Utilities	13,786	130
<b>Total departmental expenses</b>	<b>592,218</b>	<b>415,937</b>
<b>Departmental income before depreciation</b>	<b>1,597,380</b>	<b>596,337</b>
Depreciation	527,207	535,455
<b>Departmental operating income</b>	<b>\$ 1,070,173</b>	<b>\$ 60,882</b>

## Duluth Seaway Port Authority

### Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards Year Ended March 31, 2016

Federal Agency/Program Title	CFDA Number	Grant Number	Award Period	Federal Expenditures
U.S. Department of Transportation: Maritime Administration: National Infrastructure Investments TIGER Discretionary Grant	20.933	DTMA91G140003	06/25/2014 - 09/30/2019	\$ 5,018,275
Total federal awards				<u>\$ 5,018,275</u>

#### Note 1. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards (the "Schedule") includes the federal award activity of Duluth Seaway Port Authority under programs of the federal government for the year ended March 31, 2016. The information in this Schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the Authority, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, changes in net assets, or cash flows of the Authority.

#### Note 2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Expenditures reported on the Schedule are reported on the accrual basis of accounting, which is described in Note 1 to the Authority's financial statements. Such expenditures are recognized following the cost principles contained in the Uniform Guidance, wherein certain types of expenditures are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement.

**Independent Auditor's 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 Commissioners  
Duluth Seaway Port Authority  
Duluth, Minnesota

We have audited, in accordance with the 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 the financial statements of the Duluth Seaway Port (the Authority) as of and for the years ended March 31, 2016 and 2015, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated July 26, 2016.

**Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Authority's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control.

*A deficiency in internal control* 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 and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

**Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Authority's financial statements are free from material misstatement, 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 tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

**Purpose of This Report**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

*RSM US LLP*

Duluth, Minnesota  
July 26, 2016





RSM US LLP

**Independent Auditor's Report on Compliance for  
Each Major Federal Program and Report on Internal Control  
Over Compliance Required by Uniform Guidance**

To the Board of Commissioners  
Duluth Seaway Port Authority  
Duluth, Minnesota

**Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program**

We have audited the Duluth Seaway Port Authority (the Authority)'s compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the *OMB Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of the Authority's major federal programs for the year ended March 31, 2016. The Authority's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

**Management's Responsibility**

Management is responsible for compliance with federal statutes, regulations, and terms and conditions of its federal awards applicable to its federal programs.

**Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on compliance for each of the Authority's major federal programs based on our audit of the types of compliance requirements referred to above. We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Those standards and the Uniform Guidance require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether noncompliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on a major federal program occurred. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence about the Authority's compliance with those requirements and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. However, our audit does not provide a legal determination of the Authority's compliance.

**Opinion on Each Major Federal Program**

In our opinion, the Authority complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended March 31, 2016.

## **Report on Internal Control Over Compliance**

Management of the Authority is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective internal control over compliance with the types of compliance requirements referred to above. In planning and performing our audit of compliance, we considered the Authority's internal control over compliance with the types of requirements that could have a direct and material effect on each major federal program to determine the auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing an opinion on compliance for each major federal program and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control over compliance.

*A deficiency in internal control over compliance* exists when the design or operation of a control over compliance does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program on a timely basis. *A material weakness in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance, such that there is a reasonable possibility that material noncompliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. *A significant deficiency in internal control over compliance* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control over compliance with a type of compliance requirement of a federal program that is less severe than a material weakness in internal control over compliance, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

*RSM US LLP*

Duluth, Minnesota  
July 26, 2016

**Duluth Seaway Port Authority**

**Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs  
Year Ended March 31, 2016**

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**I. SUMMARY OF INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S RESULTS**

**A. Financial Statements**

Type of auditor's report issued on the financial statements: Unmodified

Internal control over financial reporting:

- Material weakness(es) identified? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes   X   No
- Significant deficiency(ies) identified? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes   X   None reported

Noncompliance material to financial statements noted? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes   X   No

**B. Federal Awards**

Internal control over major programs:

- Material weakness(es) identified? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes   X   No
- Significant deficiency(ies) identified? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes   X   None reported

Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for major Federal programs: Unmodified

Any audit findings disclosed that are required to be reported in accordance with 2 CFR 200.516(a)? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes   X   No

Identification of major Federal programs:

<u>CFDA Number</u>	<u>Name of Federal Program or Cluster</u>
20.933	National Infrastructure Investments

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and B programs \$750,000

Auditee qualifies as a low-risk auditee? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes   X   No

**Duluth Seaway Port Authority**

**Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs  
Year Ended March 31, 2016**

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**II. FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS**

**A. Internal Control Findings**

None reported.

**B. Compliance Findings**

None reported.

**III. FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS FOR FEDERAL AWARDS**

**A. Internal Control Findings**

None reported.

**B. Compliance Findings**

None reported.



RSM US LLP

## Independent Auditor's Report on Minnesota Legal Compliance

To the Board of Commissioners  
Duluth Seaway Port Authority  
Duluth, Minnesota

We have audited, 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 the financial statements of Duluth Seaway Port Authority as of and for the year ended March 31, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated July 26, 2016.

The *Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for Political Subdivisions*, promulgated by the State Auditor pursuant to Minn. Stat. § 6.65, contains six categories of compliance to be tested: contracting and bidding, deposits and investments, conflicts of interest, claims and disbursements, miscellaneous provisions, and tax increment financing. Our audit considered all of the listed categories.

In connection with our audit, nothing came to our attention that caused us to believe that Duluth Seaway Port Authority failed to comply with the provisions of the *Minnesota Legal Compliance Audit Guide for Political Subdivisions*. However, our audit was not directed primarily toward obtaining knowledge of such noncompliance. Accordingly, had we performed additional procedures, other matters may have come to our attention regarding the Duluth Seaway Port Authority's noncompliance with the above referenced provisions.

The purpose of this report is solely for to describe the scope of our testing of compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

*RSM US LLP*

Duluth, Minnesota  
July 26, 2016