



**Auditor of
Public Accounts
Allison Ball**

Trimble County Fiscal Court

Audit

FRANKFORT, Ky. – State Auditor Allison Ball has released the audit of the financial statements of the Trimble County Fiscal Court for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024. State law requires annual audits of county fiscal courts.

Auditing standards require the auditor's letter to communicate whether the financial statements present fairly the receipts, disbursements, and changes in fund balances of the Trimble County Fiscal Court in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The fiscal court's financial statement did not follow this format. However, the fiscal court's financial statement is fairly presented in conformity with the regulatory basis of accounting, which is an acceptable reporting methodology. This reporting methodology is followed for 116 of 120 fiscal court audits in Kentucky.

Finding: The fiscal court did not accurately report debt on the quarterly financial statement.

On November 22, 2023, the Trimble County Fiscal Court entered into a lease agreement in the amount of \$300,008 for the purchase of a dump truck. Also, on May 28, 2024, the fiscal court entered into a lease agreement with the Kentucky Association of Counties (KACo) in the amount of \$922,500 for the purchase of land. The leases were not properly recorded as a receipt when proceeds were received and were not included on the liabilities outstanding section of the fourth quarter financial statement. This caused both the receipts and liabilities outstanding sections to be materially misstated by \$922,500 in the General Fund and \$300,008 in the Road Fund.

Recommendations

We recommend the county ensure that the treasurer keeps a complete and accurate fourth quarter financial statement that reflects all transactions that occurred during the current fiscal year.

County Officials Response

County Judge/Executive's Response: The official did not provide a response.

Finding: The fiscal court did not have adequate controls over disbursements.

During disbursement testing, the following exceptions were noted:

- Two disbursements tested did not have a purchase order issued prior to purchase.
- No supporting documentation was available for three invoices.
- State price contract documentation was not maintained for two vehicles purchases totaling \$91,236.
- Bidding procedures were not properly followed for two ambulance purchases totaling \$195,894.

Recommendations

We recommend, prior to items being ordered for county operations or services received, a purchase order be completed and approved for the items/services. Purchase orders should be assigned for a purchase after county staff review the relevant budget line item to ensure adequate budget appropriations are available for the purchase. We also recommend all supporting documentation be maintained in vendor files for each county expenditure and state price contract purchases. Finally, all items should be bid in accordance with the county's bidding procedures as outlined in their administrative code and in accordance with KRS 424.260.

County Officials Response

County Judge/Executive's Response: The official did not provide a response.

The audit report can be found on the [auditor's website](#).



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