



COMAL COUNTY

PUBLIC INFORMATION

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External audit gives county financial report a ‘clean’ opinion

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NEW BRAUNFELS — External auditors have given Comal County’s annual financial report an unqualified, or “clean,” opinion, meaning it is free of material misstatements.

The report was presented Thursday to the Comal County Commissioners Court.

“It’s the highest opinion you can receive from an independent auditor,” Jeremy Barbatto, manager at the San Antonio auditing firm ABIP P.C., told the court.

The Texas Local Government Code requires counties to produce a set of audited financial reports each year. The Comal County Auditor’s Office prepares the annual report, which is then reviewed by an external accounting firm. ABIP examined the report for the 2018 calendar year and found the statements are presented fairly in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

“The report affirms the work we do every year to make sure Comal County has an open and transparent budget process that leaves the county in a sound financial position,” said County Auditor Jessie Rahe.

In 2018, the Comal County general fund received \$58.99 million in revenue while spending \$54.6 million. The \$4.39 million surplus raised the county’s fund balance to \$29.46 million, or six months’ reserves. Last August, commissioners approved a \$66.06 million general fund budget as part of an overall \$108.81 million 2019 budget. The 2020 budget-approval process is underway.

The 2018 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report will be available at the county’s financial transparency webpage: co.comal.tx.us/Transparency_Financial.htm.

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