



**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**Financial Statements**

**With Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards**

**December 31, 2025**

**and**

**Independent Auditor's Report**

**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***

**Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program and  
Report on Internal Control Over Compliance  
Required by the Uniform Guidance**

**Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs**

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2025**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

|                                                                                                                                                    | <u>Page(s)</u> |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| INDEPENDENT AUDITOR’S REPORT                                                                                                                       |                |
| MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS                                                                                                               | i-x            |
| <b>BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</b>                                                                                                                  |                |
| EXHIBITS:                                                                                                                                          |                |
| A Statement of Net Position                                                                                                                        | 1              |
| B Statement of Activities                                                                                                                          | 2              |
| C Balance Sheet – Governmental Funds                                                                                                               | 3              |
| C-1 Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet of Governmental Funds to the<br>Statement of Net Position                                                  | 4              |
| D Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Governmental<br>Funds                                                         | 5              |
| D-1 Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes<br>in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities | 6              |
| E Statement of Net Position – Proprietary Funds                                                                                                    | 7              |
| F Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position – Proprietary Funds                                                                  | 8              |
| G Statement of Cash Flows – Proprietary Funds                                                                                                      | 9              |
| H Statement of Fiduciary Net Position – Fiduciary Funds                                                                                            | 10             |
| I Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position – Fiduciary Funds                                                                                 | 11             |
| NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS                                                                                                                | 12-39          |

**REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

SCHEDULES:

|                                                                                                                          |    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| 1 Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and<br>Actual (Budgetary Basis) – General Fund | 40 |
| 2 Schedule of Changes in the County's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability                                      | 41 |

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**December 31, 2025**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS (CONTINUED)**

|                                                                                                                                                                                                            | <u>Page(s)</u> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (CONTINUED)</b>                                                                                                                                                      |                |
| 3 Schedule of County OPEB Contributions                                                                                                                                                                    | 42             |
| 4 Schedule of Changes in the County's Total OPEB Liability and Related Ratios                                                                                                                              | 43             |
| 5 Schedule of Changes in the County's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability                                                                                                                     | 44             |
| 6 Schedule of County Pension Contributions                                                                                                                                                                 | 45             |
| NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION                                                                                                                                                                | 46             |
| <b>FEDERAL COMPLIANCE</b>                                                                                                                                                                                  |                |
| SCHEDULE:                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                |
| I Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards                                                                                                                                                               | 47-49          |
| NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS                                                                                                                                                        | 50             |
| Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters<br>Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with <i>Government<br/>Auditing Standards</i> | 51-52          |
| Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program and Report on Internal Control Over<br>Compliance Required by the Uniform Guidance                                                                     | 53-55          |
| Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs                                                                                                                                                                  | 56-57          |

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

To the Board of Commissioners  
**County of Cheshire, New Hampshire**

### **Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements**

#### ***Opinions***

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the County of Cheshire, New Hampshire (the County), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the County of Cheshire, New Hampshire, as of December 31, 2025, and the respective changes in financial position, and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### ***Basis for Opinions***

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. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the County of Cheshire, New Hampshire and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

#### ***Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements***

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for 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.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the County's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

### ***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 County's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the County's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

### ***Required Supplementary Information***

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, budgetary comparison information, schedule of changes in the County's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability, schedule of County OPEB contributions, schedule of changes in the County's total OPEB liability and related ratios, schedule of changes in the County's proportionate share of the net pension liability, and schedule of County pension contributions be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, 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 audit 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.

### ***Supplementary Information***

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the County's basic financial statements. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards, as required by Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards*, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is 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. The 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 schedule of expenditures of federal awards is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

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

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated July 29, 2026, on our consideration of the County's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely 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 effectiveness of the County's 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 County of Cheshire, New Hampshire's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

*Vachon Clukay & Company PC*

Manchester, New Hampshire  
July 29, 2026

## **CHESHIRE COUNTY, NEW HAMPSHIRE MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION & ANALYSIS**

The discussion and analysis of Cheshire County's financial performance provides an overview of the County's financial activities for the year ended December 31, 2025. The intent of this discussion and analysis is to look at the County's financial performance as a whole.

### **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

Key financial highlights for 2025 are as follows:

- The County's net position for year-end was \$40,296,579 a decrease of \$1,366,540 which represents a 3.28% decrease over the 2024 net position of \$41,663,119.
- At the end of the current year, the County's governmental funds reported a combined ending fund balance of \$19,715,774 a decrease of \$2,075,258 from the prior year balance of \$21,791,032. Of this amount, \$16,988,151 is available for spending (unassigned).
- At the end of the current year, unassigned fund balance for the General Fund was \$18,521,574, which represents a 6.53% decrease from the prior year balance of \$19,816,315.

### **OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements. These statements are organized so the reader can understand the County as a financial whole or as an entire operating entity. The statements also provide a detailed look at specific financial conditions.

The County's basic financial statements are comprised of three components:

1. Government-wide financial statements
2. Fund financial statements
3. Notes to the financial statements.

This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements themselves.

### **GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

The Government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the County's finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business.

### **STATEMENT OF NET POSITION AND STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

The statement of net position presents information on all of the County's assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources with the balance reported as net position. The statement of activities presents information showing how the County's net position changed during the current year. These statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting, similar to the accounting method used by private sector companies. This basis of accounting takes into consideration all of the current year's revenues and expenses, regardless of when the cash is received or paid.

The change in net position is important because it tells the reader whether, for the County as a whole, the financial position of the County has improved or diminished. However, in evaluating the overall position of the County, non-financial information such as changes in the County's tax base and the condition of the County's capital assets will also need to be evaluated.

## CHESHIRE COUNTY, NEW HAMPSHIRE MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION & ANALYSIS

In the statement of net position and the statement of activities, the County is presented as one activity:

- **Governmental Activities**—All of the County's programs and services are reported here, including General Government, Public Safety (which includes Department of Corrections, Sheriff, Sheriff Dispatch and Cheshire EMS), Human Services/Medicaid Expenses, Assisted Living Facility, Conservation and Economic Development as well as the County Nursing Home. These services are funded primarily by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, including federal and state grants and other shared revenues. The Nursing Home does generate revenue in charges for services but does require funding by taxes as well. The goal of Cheshire EMS is to be self-sustaining therefore the Governmental Funds Balance sheet tracks Cheshire EMS separately.

### **FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain controls over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objects. The County, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance related legal requirements. The funds of Cheshire County can be divided into three categories: governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds. Fund financial statements provide detailed information about the County's major funds. Based on the restriction on the use of moneys, the County has established many funds that account for the multitude of services provided to our residents. In 2025, the County has determined the General Fund and Cheshire EMS to be major governmental funds.

**GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**—Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities on the government wide financial statements. Most of the County's basic services are reported in these funds that focus on how money flows into and out of the funds and the year-end balances available for spending. These funds are reported on the modified accrual basis of accounting that measures cash and all other financial assets that can be readily converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the County's general government operations and the basic services being provided, along with the financial resources available.

Because the focus of the governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities on the government wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term effect of the government's short term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate the comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

The County maintains a multitude of individual governmental funds. Information is presented separately on the governmental fund balance sheet and on the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances for the major funds, identified earlier as the General Fund and Cheshire EMS. Data from the other governmental funds, which includes Hemenway Fund, Deeds Surcharge, Sheriff's Civil Processing, Jail Canteen, Court House Restoration Fund, ARPA Fund, CDBG Fund, Opiate Trust Fund, and Grant Funds are combined into a single, aggregated presentation.

**PROPRIETARY FUNDS**—The County has one proprietary fund. The County uses an internal service fund for its self-funded Health and Dental Insurance account.

**CHESHIRE COUNTY, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION & ANALYSIS**

**FIDUCIARY FUNDS**—Fiduciary funds are used to account for resources held for the benefit of parties outside the County. Fiduciary funds are not reflected on the government-wide financial statements because the resources from those funds are not available to support the County's programs. The accounting method used for fiduciary funds is much like that used for the proprietary funds. The County's custodial funds account for the Registry of Deeds, Nursing Home Resident Funds, Sheriff's Writs and Execution and the Jail Inmate funds.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**—The notes provide additional information that is essential to gaining a full understanding of the data provided on the government-wide and fund financial statements.

**OTHER INFORMATION**—In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report presents the General Fund's actual revenues and expenditures as compared to the legally adopted budget.

**GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS**

The table below provides a summary of the County's net position for the year ended December 31, 2025 compared with 2024.

County assets and deferred outflows of resources exceeded liabilities and deferred inflows of resources by \$40,296,579 as of December 31, 2025. This is a decrease in net position, of \$1,366,540 from 2024.

Cheshire County, New Hampshire Net Position  
As of December 31, 2025 and December 31, 2024

|                                | <b>Governmental Activities</b> |                       |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|
|                                | <b>2025</b>                    | <b>2024</b>           |
| Current and Other Assets       | \$ 28,485,245                  | \$ 31,434,134         |
| Lease Receivable               | 9,958,310                      | 10,622,130            |
| Capital Assets, Net            | <u>73,358,110</u>              | <u>76,678,885</u>     |
| Total Assets                   | <u>\$ 111,801,665</u>          | <u>\$ 118,735,149</u> |
| Deferred Outflows of Resources |                                |                       |
| Loss on debt refunding         | 50,111                         | 96,308                |
| Def outflow OBEB Liab          | 146,193                        | 219,590               |
| Def Outflows Net Pension Liab  | <u>5,334,684</u>               | <u>3,696,870</u>      |
| Total Deferred Outflows        | <u>\$ 5,530,988</u>            | <u>\$ 4,012,768</u>   |
| Current Liabilities            | 10,631,019                     | 10,112,406            |
| Non-current Liabilities        | <u>54,673,569</u>              | <u>58,760,334</u>     |
| Total Liabilities              | <u>\$ 65,304,588</u>           | <u>\$ 68,872,740</u>  |
| Deferred Inflows of Resources  |                                |                       |
| Def Inflow finance lease       | \$ 9,970,350                   | \$ 10,742,248         |
| Def Inflow OBEB Liab           | 429,335                        | 808,594               |
| Def Inflow Net Pension Liab    | <u>1,331,801</u>               | <u>661,216</u>        |
| Total Deferred Inflows         | <u>\$ 11,731,486</u>           | <u>\$ 12,212,058</u>  |
| Net Position                   |                                |                       |

**CHESHIRE COUNTY, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION & ANALYSIS**

Cheshire County, New Hampshire Net Position  
As of December 31, 2025 and December 31, 2024

|                                  | <b>Governmental Activities</b> |                      |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|
|                                  | <b>2025</b>                    | <b>2024</b>          |
| Net Investment in Capital Assets | 42,307,931                     | 41,426,645           |
| Restricted                       | 958,651                        | 892,323              |
| Unrestricted (deficit)           | <u>(2,970,003)</u>             | <u>(655,849)</u>     |
| Total Net Position               | <u>\$ 40,296,579</u>           | <u>\$ 41,663,119</u> |

Total net position is presented in three categories: net investment in capital assets, restricted and unrestricted.

The largest portion of the County's net position is related to capital assets (e.g., land and improvements, buildings and building improvements, machinery and equipment, vehicles, and infrastructure). The figure presented, \$42,307,931, is net of any related debt incurred to acquire those assets. The County uses these capital assets to provide services to citizens; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending.

An additional portion of the County's net position, \$958,651, represents resources that are subject to restrictions on how they can be used. For Cheshire County, those restrictions include those related to limitations imposed by statutes governed by the State of New Hampshire, grants and restricted donations.

The remaining portion (\$2,970,003) resulted in a decrease of \$(2,314,154) over 2024 of (\$655,849).

The next statement provided shows the changes in the net position for 2024 and 2025.

**Cheshire County, Changes in Net Position**

|                                    | <b>Governmental Activities</b> |                   |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|
|                                    | <b>2025</b>                    | <b>2024</b>       |
| Revenues:                          |                                |                   |
| Program Revenues                   |                                |                   |
| Charges for Services               | \$24,363,123                   | \$22,172,603      |
| Operating Grants and Contributions | 12,082,213                     | 12,353,161        |
| Capital Grants and Contributions   | <u>0</u>                       | <u>1,871,817</u>  |
| Total Program Revenues             | <u>36,445,336</u>              | <u>36,397,581</u> |
| General Revenues                   |                                |                   |
| Property Taxes                     | 30,085,205                     | 29,067,585        |
| Interest and Investment            | 306,095                        | 533,720           |
| Other                              | 1,523,993                      | 1,364,991         |
| Total Revenues                     | <u>68,360,629</u>              | <u>67,363,877</u> |
| Expenses:                          |                                |                   |
| General Government                 | 8,626,354                      | 8,393,963         |
| Sheriff                            | 3,331,725                      | 3,161,919         |
| Department of Corrections          | 9,732,787                      | 9,516,641         |

CHESHIRE COUNTY, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION & ANALYSIS

|                                     |                      |                      |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| EMS                                 | 5,840,444            | 5,669,864            |
| Human Services                      | 15,056,353           | 15,264,163           |
| Conservation                        | 92,794               | 97,788               |
| Economic Development                | 1,409,838            | 522,021              |
| Interest and fiscal charges         | 914,911              | 1,003,349            |
| Cheshire County Nursing Home        | <u>24,721,963</u>    | <u>23,594,279</u>    |
| Total Expenses                      | <u>69,727,169</u>    | <u>67,223,987</u>    |
| Increase (Decrease) in Net Position | <u>(\$1,366,540)</u> | <u>\$139,890</u>     |
| Net position – beginning            | <u>\$ 41,663,119</u> | <u>\$ 41,523,229</u> |
| Net position – ending               | <u>\$ 40,296,579</u> | <u>\$ 41,663,119</u> |

***Governmental Activities***

Charges to users of governmental services made up \$24,363,123 or 35.64% of total government revenues and include such services as provided by the Nursing Home, Sheriff's Department, Department of Corrections, Registry of Deeds, Assisted Living Apartments and Connected Families and Cheshire County EMS. Additionally, the County receives revenue from operating grants and other contributions. In 2025, this totaled \$12,082,213 or 17.67% of total government revenue. Operating grants are used to fund expenses associated with programs such as the Domestic Violence Prosecutor, the Victim Witness Program and the Regional Prosecutor Program, Drug Court, Recovery Coach and Connected Families. Other contributions included in the amount are grants for Public Health initiatives as well as Pro Share Funds and MQIP receipts to support Maplewood Nursing Home.

Property tax revenues are the County's largest revenue, accounting for \$30,085,205 or 44.01% of total government revenues. As noted previously, the County is able to recover some of its expenses through user charges, however, a great deal of County operations does not have revenue sources sufficient or available to meet their expenses and as a result are funded by Property Taxes.

One of the expenses funded through the assessment of taxes is associated with the obligation towards the Human Service Medicaid Expenses. This area is responsible for paying the County's share of funding for those Cheshire County residents needing Medicaid assistance. As of July 1, 2008, the County took on 100% of the non-federal share for residents in Long Term Care Facilities and for County residents receiving their care at home (Choices for Independence). As a result, the State of New Hampshire took over 100% of the non-federal share of the other programs which included Board and Care of Children, Old Age Assistance, Aide to the Permanently and Totally Disabled and Provider Services. As the cost of these programs outweigh the cost of the LTC and Home Care programs, there was a "Hold Harmless" provision included in the statute that protected the Counties from being exposed to additional expenditures above normal inflationary rates for State Fiscal Years 2009 and 2010. After SFY 2010, the legislature establishes caps to determine the maximum liability exposure for these expenses on a biennial basis. The amount of 2025 County Taxes attributable to the State pass through for these Medicaid State Programs was \$7,697,239 or 25.58% of County Taxes.

Although the Nursing Home is able to recover most its expenses through user charges, the Nursing does require a subsidy from property taxes.

As a government owned nursing home, the census of Medicaid residents is much higher than private nursing home levels. As of December 31, 2025, approximately 81% of the nursing home census consisted of residents needing Medicaid assistance in order to pay for their care. Based on the 2025

CHESHIRE COUNTY, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION & ANALYSIS

Medicaid cost report for Maplewood, the per diem rate was calculated to be \$651.58, however, the actual paid per diem as of December 31, 2025 was \$266.60 or \$384.98 per day short of 2025 costs. The supplemental payment provided an additional reimbursement averaging \$76.92 with the Proportionate Share Funds providing additional reimbursement of \$127.41 per day. These additional payments still leave the allowable per diem rate short by approximately \$180.65 per day.

As of January 1, 2026, the Medicaid rate for Maplewood Nursing Home increased by \$4.14 per day to a daily rate of \$270.74.

The analysis for governmental activities indicates the total cost as well as the net cost of services. The net cost of services identifies the cost of those supported by tax assessments and unrestricted revenues that are not directly related to specific charges for services or grants and contributions that would offset those services.

**Cheshire County, Governmental Activities  
For Year Ending December 31, 2025 and December 31, 2024**

|                           | <b>2025</b>          | <b>2024</b>          | <b>2025</b>          | <b>2024</b>          |
|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| General Government        | \$ 8,626,354         | \$ 8,393,963         | \$ 7,137,124         | \$ 6,943,707         |
| Sheriff Department        | 3,331,725            | 3,161,919            | 2,617,797            | 1,523,218            |
| Department of Corrections | 9,732,787            | 9,516,641            | 7,496,035            | 7,656,926            |
| EMS                       | 5,840,444            | 5,669,864            | 2,125,520            | 2,223,977            |
| Human Services            | 15,056,353           | 15,264,163           | 7,997,595            | 7,020,112            |
| Conservation              | 92,794               | 97,788               | 92,794               | 97,788               |
| Economic Development      | 1,409,838            | 522,021              | (14,697)             | 0                    |
| Nursing Home              | 24,721,963           | 23,594,279           | 4,914,754            | 4,357,329            |
| Interest Expense          | <u>914,911</u>       | <u>1,003,349</u>     | <u>914,911</u>       | <u>1,003,349</u>     |
| Total Expenses            | <u>\$ 69,727,169</u> | <u>\$ 67,223,987</u> | <u>\$ 33,281,833</u> | <u>\$ 30,826,406</u> |

***Financial Analysis of County Funds***

Cheshire County uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance related legal requirements.

***Governmental Funds***

During the year ended December 31, 2011, the County implemented GASB Statement 54, Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions. Under Statement 54, the County has segregated fund balance into five classifications: Nonspendable, Restricted, Committed, Assigned and Unassigned. One major example of the effects caused by the implementation of GASB 54 is that the various Capital Reserve Fund balances are reported as part of the General Fund.

As of December 31, 2025, the County's governmental funds reported a combined ending fund balance of \$19,715,774, a decrease of \$2,075,258 in comparison with the prior year. Approximately 86.17% of this total, \$16,988,151, represents unassigned fund balance or 22.64% of the County's annual budget. This amount is a decrease of \$1,530,429 over 2024 which is a result of the 2025 budget including use of fund balance recognizing that there would be a decrease from the prior year. The County has applied \$4,475,150 towards 2026 taxes adjusting the unassigned to 16%.

## CHESHIRE COUNTY, NEW HAMPSHIRE MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION & ANALYSIS

The amount of the County's unassigned fund balance is in line with our objective of retaining a recommended level of between 13% and 17% and to evaluate the use of fund balance for anything over 18% in subsequent budgets.

A complete description of the above-mentioned classifications and a more detailed breakdown may be found on page 19 of the Notes to the Basic Financial Statements.

### ***Budgetary Highlights***

By State statute, the County Convention must adopt its annual budget within 90 days after the beginning of the County's fiscal year. On March 24, 2025, the County Convention adopted the 2025 budget. As adopted, the bottom line was down 1.80%, (1,378,162) for a total budget of \$74,996,557. The major decrease was due one-time grant funded projects. Taxes to be raised had an increase for 2025 in comparison to 2024 of 3.50% \$1,017,620 for total taxes to be raised of \$30,085,205.

On August, 19, 2024, the County Delegation amended the budget for the receipt of Pro Share Funds and other budgetary adjustments. The County received \$1,032,932 in additional Pro Share funds that were not originally budgeted. \$20,000 was appropriated for additional spending with the remaining \$1,012,932 allocated to offset future year taxes to be raised.

The budget was also further amended by \$10,000 to allow for spending from the Opioid Trust fund reserves to provide funding for a local agency.

These budget amendments resulted in an amended bottom-line budget of \$75,026,557 with no additional changes to taxes to be raised.

Further budgetary highlights and variances include revenues from federal and non-federal grants coming under. As the revenues are offset by expenses, the shortfall has direct impact on expenses coming under as well.

Sheriff revenues are another area that came under in 2025. Funds were allocated for the hiring of a deputy that would be reimbursed by a contracted entity. The Sheriff's department did contract with a town mid-year. Due to the late start, there was a shortfall in revenues, however payroll expenses associated with the staffing to support the contract were not utilized during that time and came under too.

Revenues for the Department of Corrections came in approximately \$400,000 over projections due to revenue generated from holding Federal Inmates.

Another County run program, Connected Families, did come under budget in both the expenses and revenues due to the case load not growing as expected resulting in budgeted case worker positions to not be filled. Expenses for the year came in under by approximately \$1,585,000 with revenues coming under budget as well.

Lastly, Maplewood Nursing Home came in well under budgeted expenses and revenues mainly due to staffing shortages impacting the census level. The shortfall in revenues offset the shortfall in expenses.

### ***Capital Assets and Debt Administration***

Capital Assets—The County's investment in capital assets for governmental activities as of December 31, 2025, was \$73,358,110 (net of accumulated depreciation). This investment in capital assets

**CHESHIRE COUNTY, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION & ANALYSIS**

includes land and improvements, water and waste water systems, buildings and improvements, improvements other than buildings, machinery and equipment, vehicles, and construction in progress.

Major capital projects and or equipment that were in progress or finalized in 2025 include the Sheriff Dispatch infrastructure upgrade totaling \$329,000. Elevator and Generator upgrades at Maplewood Nursing Home at \$235,000. Hot Water Tank replacement at the Department of Corrections for \$162,000 as well as a new Inmate transport bus for \$165,000. Renovation of an old Farm building at \$305,000 and renovations at Assisted Living totaling \$268,000.

Note 3 – Notes of Capital Assets provides additional information about capital asset activity during 2025.

Long-Term Debt—At December 31, 2025, the County had total general obligation bonded debt and notes payable outstanding of \$28,957,729. Of this amount, \$3,460,000 is for the County Correctional Facility. In 2017 the County bonded for the Expansion and Renovation of Maplewood Nursing Home and as of December, 2025 had an ending balance of \$18,600,000. The County purchased 33 Winter Street in 2020 with a long-term lease with the State of New Hampshire for the State Court Systems. This had an outstanding balance of \$4,800,000. Additionally, the County entered into a Joint Obligation with the City of Keene to pay off a bond the City had outstanding for the 33 Winter Street Building. Based on the joint obligation, the outstanding amount applicable to the county as of year-end was \$75,000. The County entered into an Energy Upgrade project. The financing was done via a Capital lease and broken down in two parts to lease the portion of the LED lighting for 10 years with the other upgraded equipment to be financed over 20 years. As of December 31, 2025 the 10-year outstanding amount is \$340,460 with the 20-year component at \$1,545,076. The County made the first payment on a 3-year lease in 2025 to finance vehicles for the Sheriff's Department and House of Corrections. The balance remaining as of December 31<sup>st</sup> was \$137,193.

Further the County has a lease liability for leased office space for one of our Connected Families programs. The liabilities ending value for 2025 is \$268,247.

Finally, as required by GASB 96 we have determined that a long-term contract for services provided to our Registry of Deeds office for equipment and software meet the reporting requirements as well as a long-term contract for our Time & Attendance, Payroll and Human Resource system. These multiyear subscription contract liabilities are currently valued at \$323,569.

The overall Long-Term Obligations including the SBITA and Lease liabilities is \$29,549,545.

The County's long term bonded debt decreased by \$3,976,118 during 2025.

The current outstanding debt for Cheshire County is as follows:

| <b>Cheshire County, Outstanding Debt</b> |                     |                  |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| <b>December 31, 2025</b>                 |                     |                  |
|                                          | <b>Governmental</b> | <b>Years</b>     |
|                                          | <b>Activities</b>   | <b>Remaining</b> |
| Jail Construction                        | \$ 3,460,000        | 2                |
| Maplewood Nursing Home                   | 18,600,000          | 12               |
| 33 Winter Street *                       | 4,800,000           | 15               |
| Joint City Debt                          | 75,000              | 5                |

**CHESHIRE COUNTY, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION & ANALYSIS**

|                             |                |    |
|-----------------------------|----------------|----|
| Energy Upgrade Cap Ls (1)   | 1,545,076      | 16 |
| Energy Upgrade Cap Ls (2)   | 340,460        | 6  |
| Vehicle Lease               | 137,193        | 2  |
| Lease payable (86 West)     | 268,247        | 3  |
| SBITA Liability (softwares) | <u>323,569</u> | 3  |
| Total Outstanding           | \$ 29,549,545  |    |

\*Self-Sustaining Debt

|                                             |              |              |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>Debt Ratios FY2025</b>                   |              |              |
|                                             | \$29,549,545 | \$24,749,545 |
|                                             | Overall Debt | Net Debt     |
| Per Capita (76,040 – 2020)                  | \$388.61     | \$325.48     |
| Ratio to Net Assessed Val(\$10,328,425,745) | 0.29%        | 0.24%        |
| Ratio to Modified Assessed                  |              |              |
| Valuation (\$10,365,388,100)                | 0.29%        | 0.24%        |

Based on the annual review by Moody's, on August 29, 2025 Cheshire County maintained our Aa2 rating.

**Economic Factors**

- The Cheshire County unemployment rate for December 2025 was 2.8%, which compares to the State's rate of 3.2 %, the New England rate of 4.2% and the national rate of 4.4 %.
- Most recent equalized assessed valuations of property used for appropriating Cheshire County's 2025 taxes were \$14,320,208,919. This is an increase over the prior year assessed valuations of 8.28% or \$1,094,929,327.
- There was one town that had outstanding taxes due as of December 31, 2025 in the amount of \$950,043. This was paid on January 16, 2026.

Below is a list of the 2025 Tax Apportionments to the Towns and the City of Keene.

|              |                    |
|--------------|--------------------|
|              | 2025 Apportionment |
| Alstead      | \$ 698,702         |
| Chesterfield | 2,107,827          |
| Dublin       | 1,007,097          |
| Fitzwilliam  | 1,184,108          |
| Gilsum       | 289,159            |
| Harrisville  | 790,454            |
| Hinsdale     | 1,250,043          |
| Jaffrey      | 2,202,551          |
| Keene        | 7,358,618          |
| Marlborough  | 752,077            |
| Marlow       | 254,547            |
| Nelson       | 477,015            |
| Richmond     | 474,239            |

CHESHIRE COUNTY, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION & ANALYSIS**

|              |                  |
|--------------|------------------|
| Rindge       | 2,946,159        |
| Roxbury      | 98,522           |
| Stoddard     | 1,046,119        |
| Sullivan     | 253,945          |
| Surry        | 344,233          |
| Swanzey      | 2,315,280        |
| Troy         | 641,505          |
| Walpole      | 1,731,542        |
| Westmoreland | 613,909          |
| Winchester   | <u>1,247,554</u> |
| Total        | \$30,085,205     |

**Requests for Information**

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the county's finances for all those with an interest in the governments' finances. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional information should be addressed to Sheryl A. Trombly, Finance Director, 12 Court Street, Keene, NH 03431 or [strombly@co.cheshire.nh.us](mailto:strombly@co.cheshire.nh.us).

EXHIBIT A  
**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Statement of Net Position**  
December 31, 2025

|                                                                 | Governmental<br>Activities |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| ASSETS                                                          |                            |
| Current Assets:                                                 |                            |
| Cash and cash equivalents                                       | \$ 21,315,123              |
| Investments                                                     | 1,066,419                  |
| Accounts receivable, net                                        | 1,942,146                  |
| Due from other governments                                      | 3,273,595                  |
| Prepaid items                                                   | 224,142                    |
| Current portion of lease receivable                             | 663,820                    |
| Total Current Assets                                            | <u>28,485,245</u>          |
| Noncurrent Assets:                                              |                            |
| Lease receivable                                                | 9,958,310                  |
| Capital assets:                                                 |                            |
| Non-depreciable capital assets                                  | 4,444,734                  |
| Depreciable capital assets, net                                 | 68,913,376                 |
| Total Noncurrent Assets                                         | <u>83,316,420</u>          |
| Total Assets                                                    | <u>111,801,665</u>         |
| DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES                                  |                            |
| Loss on debt refunding                                          | 50,111                     |
| Deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB liability        | 146,193                    |
| Deferred outflows of resources related to net pension liability | 5,334,684                  |
| Total Deferred Outflows of Resources                            | <u>5,530,988</u>           |
| LIABILITIES                                                     |                            |
| Current Liabilities:                                            |                            |
| Accounts payable                                                | 3,299,302                  |
| Accrued liabilities                                             | 2,173,557                  |
| Due to other governments                                        | 868,311                    |
| Advances from grantors                                          | 20,201                     |
| Unearned revenue                                                | 170,632                    |
| Current portion of bonds payable                                | 3,605,000                  |
| Current portion of joint obligation payable                     | 15,000                     |
| Current portion of lease liability                              | 38,861                     |
| Current portion of financed purchase obligations payable        | 199,805                    |
| Current portion of SBITA liability                              | 103,095                    |
| Current portion of compensated absences payable                 | 137,255                    |
| Total Current Liabilities                                       | <u>10,631,019</u>          |
| Noncurrent Liabilities:                                         |                            |
| Bonds payable                                                   | 24,805,745                 |
| Joint obligation payable                                        | 60,000                     |
| Lease liability                                                 | 229,386                    |
| Financed purchase obligations payable                           | 1,822,924                  |
| SBITA liability                                                 | 220,474                    |
| Compensated absences payable                                    | 872,058                    |
| OPEB liability                                                  | 2,073,572                  |
| Net pension liability                                           | 24,589,410                 |
| Total Noncurrent Liabilities                                    | <u>54,673,569</u>          |
| Total Liabilities                                               | <u>65,304,588</u>          |
| DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES                                   |                            |
| Deferred inflows of resources related to lease receivable       | 9,970,350                  |
| Deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB liability         | 429,335                    |
| Deferred inflows of resources related to net pension liability  | 1,331,801                  |
| Total Deferred Inflows of Resources                             | <u>11,731,486</u>          |
| NET POSITION                                                    |                            |
| Net investment in capital assets                                | 42,307,931                 |
| Restricted                                                      | 958,651                    |
| Unrestricted (deficit)                                          | <u>(2,970,003)</u>         |
| Total Net Position                                              | <u>\$ 40,296,579</u>       |

*See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements*

EXHIBIT B  
**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Statement of Activities**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

| Functions/Programs                | <u>Expenses</u>      | <u>Program Revenues</u>         |                                                   | Net (Expense) Revenue<br>and Changes<br>in Net Position |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
|                                   |                      | <u>Charges for<br/>Services</u> | <u>Operating<br/>Grants and<br/>Contributions</u> | <u>Governmental<br/>Activities</u>                      |
| Governmental Activities:          |                      |                                 |                                                   |                                                         |
| General government                | \$ 8,626,354         | \$ 784,704                      | \$ 704,526                                        | \$ (7,137,124)                                          |
| Public safety:                    |                      |                                 |                                                   |                                                         |
| Sheriff                           | 3,331,725            | 372,996                         | 340,932                                           | (2,617,797)                                             |
| Department of corrections         | 9,732,787            | 2,236,752                       |                                                   | (7,496,035)                                             |
| EMS                               | 5,840,444            | 3,513,721                       | 201,203                                           | (2,125,520)                                             |
| Human services                    | 15,056,353           | 4,758,470                       | 2,300,288                                         | (7,997,595)                                             |
| Conservation                      | 92,794               |                                 |                                                   | (92,794)                                                |
| Economic development              | 1,409,838            |                                 | 1,424,535                                         | 14,697                                                  |
| Nursing home                      | 24,721,963           | 12,696,480                      | 7,110,729                                         | (4,914,754)                                             |
| Interest and fiscal charges       | 914,911              |                                 |                                                   | (914,911)                                               |
| Total governmental activities     | <u>\$ 69,727,169</u> | <u>\$ 24,363,123</u>            | <u>\$ 12,082,213</u>                              | <u>(33,281,833)</u>                                     |
| General revenues:                 |                      |                                 |                                                   |                                                         |
| Property taxes                    |                      |                                 |                                                   | 30,085,205                                              |
| Interest and investment earnings  |                      |                                 |                                                   | 306,095                                                 |
| Miscellaneous                     |                      |                                 |                                                   | <u>1,523,993</u>                                        |
| Total general revenues            |                      |                                 |                                                   | <u>31,915,293</u>                                       |
| Change in net position            |                      |                                 |                                                   | (1,366,540)                                             |
| Net Position at beginning of year |                      |                                 |                                                   | <u>41,663,119</u>                                       |
| Net Position at end of year       |                      |                                 |                                                   | <u>\$ 40,296,579</u>                                    |

*See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements*

EXHIBIT C  
**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Balance Sheet**  
**Governmental Funds**  
December 31, 2025

|                                                                        | General<br><u>Fund</u> | EMS<br><u>Fund</u> | Nonmajor<br>Governmental<br><u>Funds</u> | Total<br>Governmental<br><u>Funds</u> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>                                                          |                        |                    |                                          |                                       |
| Cash and cash equivalents                                              | \$ 16,967,425          |                    | \$ 1,078,925                             | \$ 18,046,350                         |
| Investments                                                            | 935,236                |                    | 131,183                                  | 1,066,419                             |
| Accounts receivable, net                                               | 1,338,194              | \$ 603,952         |                                          | 1,942,146                             |
| Due from other governments                                             | 2,643,388              |                    | 630,207                                  | 3,273,595                             |
| Due from other funds                                                   | 1,961,551              | 201,203            |                                          | 2,162,754                             |
| Prepaid items                                                          | 224,142                |                    |                                          | 224,142                               |
| Lease receivable                                                       | 10,622,130             |                    |                                          | 10,622,130                            |
| Total Assets                                                           | <u>34,692,066</u>      | <u>805,155</u>     | <u>1,840,315</u>                         | <u>37,337,536</u>                     |
| <b>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>                                  |                        |                    |                                          |                                       |
| Total Deferred Outflows of Resources                                   | <u>-</u>               | <u>-</u>           | <u>-</u>                                 | <u>-</u>                              |
| Total Assets and Deferred Outflows of Resources                        | <u>\$ 34,692,066</u>   | <u>\$ 805,155</u>  | <u>\$ 1,840,315</u>                      | <u>\$ 37,337,536</u>                  |
| <b>LIABILITIES</b>                                                     |                        |                    |                                          |                                       |
| Accounts payable                                                       | \$ 1,770,440           | \$ 115,608         | \$ 630,207                               | \$ 2,516,255                          |
| Accrued liabilities                                                    | 1,631,628              | 281,631            |                                          | 1,913,259                             |
| Due to other governments                                               | 868,311                |                    |                                          | 868,311                               |
| Advances from grantors                                                 | 16,299                 |                    | 3,902                                    | 20,201                                |
| Unearned revenue                                                       | 170,632                |                    |                                          | 170,632                               |
| Due to other funds                                                     |                        | 1,941,339          | 221,415                                  | 2,162,754                             |
| Total Liabilities                                                      | <u>4,457,310</u>       | <u>2,338,578</u>   | <u>855,524</u>                           | <u>7,651,412</u>                      |
| <b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>                                   |                        |                    |                                          |                                       |
| Deferred inflows of resources related to lease receivable              | <u>9,970,350</u>       |                    |                                          | <u>9,970,350</u>                      |
| Total Deferred Inflows of Resources                                    | <u>9,970,350</u>       | <u>-</u>           | <u>-</u>                                 | <u>9,970,350</u>                      |
| <b>FUND BALANCES</b>                                                   |                        |                    |                                          |                                       |
| Nonspendable                                                           | 224,142                |                    |                                          | 224,142                               |
| Restricted                                                             | 95,720                 |                    | 862,931                                  | 958,651                               |
| Committed                                                              | 878,391                |                    |                                          | 878,391                               |
| Assigned                                                               | 544,579                |                    | 121,860                                  | 666,439                               |
| Unassigned (deficit)                                                   | <u>18,521,574</u>      | <u>(1,533,423)</u> |                                          | <u>16,988,151</u>                     |
| Total Fund Balances (deficit)                                          | <u>20,264,406</u>      | <u>(1,533,423)</u> | <u>984,791</u>                           | <u>19,715,774</u>                     |
| Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources,<br>and Fund Balances | <u>\$ 34,692,066</u>   | <u>\$ 805,155</u>  | <u>\$ 1,840,315</u>                      | <u>\$ 37,337,536</u>                  |

*See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements*

EXHIBIT C-1  
**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet of Governmental Funds**  
**to the Statement of Net Position**  
December 31, 2025

|                                                                                                                                                                               |                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Total Fund Balances - Governmental Funds (Exhibit C)                                                                                                                          | \$ 19,715,774        |
| Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:                                                                          |                      |
| Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.                                                     | 73,358,110           |
| Losses on debt refundings are recognized on an accrual basis in the statement of net position, not the modified accrual basis.                                                | 50,111               |
| Internal Service Fund is used by the County to charge the costs of health and dental insurance. This balance represents the amount due from the Proprietary Fund at year end. | 2,485,726            |
| Deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources that do not require or provide the use of current financial resources are not reported within the funds.     |                      |
| Deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB liability                                                                                                                      | 146,193              |
| Deferred outflows of resources related to net pension liability                                                                                                               | 5,334,684            |
| Deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB liability                                                                                                                       | (429,335)            |
| Deferred inflows of resources related to net pension liability                                                                                                                | (1,331,801)          |
| Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds. Long-term liabilities at year end consist of:              |                      |
| Bonds payable                                                                                                                                                                 | (28,410,745)         |
| Joint obligation payable                                                                                                                                                      | (75,000)             |
| Lease liability                                                                                                                                                               | (268,247)            |
| Financed purchase obligations                                                                                                                                                 | (2,022,729)          |
| SBITA liability                                                                                                                                                               | (323,569)            |
| Accrued interest on long-term obligations                                                                                                                                     | (260,298)            |
| Compensated absences payable                                                                                                                                                  | (1,009,313)          |
| OPEB liability                                                                                                                                                                | (2,073,572)          |
| Net pension liability                                                                                                                                                         | <u>(24,589,410)</u>  |
| Net Position of Governmental Activities (Exhibit A)                                                                                                                           | <u>\$ 40,296,579</u> |

*See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements*

EXHIBIT D  
**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances**  
**Governmental Funds**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

|                                              | General<br>Fund      | EMS<br>Fund           | Nonmajor<br>Governmental<br>Funds | Total<br>Governmental<br>Funds |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Revenues:                                    |                      |                       |                                   |                                |
| Taxes                                        | \$ 30,085,205        |                       |                                   | \$ 30,085,205                  |
| Intergovernmental                            | 10,340,114           |                       | \$ 1,742,099                      | 12,082,213                     |
| Charges for services                         | 20,761,893           | \$ 3,513,721          | 87,509                            | 24,363,123                     |
| Interest and investment income               | 272,610              |                       | 33,485                            | 306,095                        |
| Miscellaneous                                | 1,203,111            | 263,227               | 58,949                            | 1,525,287                      |
| Total Revenues                               | <u>62,662,933</u>    | <u>3,776,948</u>      | <u>1,922,042</u>                  | <u>68,361,923</u>              |
| Expenditures:                                |                      |                       |                                   |                                |
| Current operations:                          |                      |                       |                                   |                                |
| General government                           | 8,332,200            |                       | 9,796                             | 8,341,996                      |
| Public safety                                | 10,927,731           | 5,395,915             | 120,052                           | 16,443,698                     |
| Human services                               | 14,906,533           |                       | 685                               | 14,907,218                     |
| Conservation                                 | 97,707               |                       |                                   | 97,707                         |
| Economic development                         |                      |                       | 1,409,838                         | 1,409,838                      |
| Nursing home                                 | 22,645,258           |                       | 56,100                            | 22,701,358                     |
| Capital outlay                               | 1,465,271            | 37,924                |                                   | 1,503,195                      |
| Debt service:                                |                      |                       |                                   |                                |
| Principal retirement                         | 3,780,856            |                       |                                   | 3,780,856                      |
| Interest and fiscal charges                  | 1,251,315            |                       |                                   | 1,251,315                      |
| Total Expenditures                           | <u>63,406,871</u>    | <u>5,433,839</u>      | <u>1,596,471</u>                  | <u>70,437,181</u>              |
| Excess revenues over (under) expenditures    | <u>(743,938)</u>     | <u>(1,656,891)</u>    | <u>325,571</u>                    | <u>(2,075,258)</u>             |
| Other financing sources (uses):              |                      |                       |                                   |                                |
| Transfers in                                 | 91,615               | 1,421,203             |                                   | 1,512,818                      |
| Transfers out                                | (1,200,000)          |                       | (312,818)                         | (1,512,818)                    |
| Total Other financing sources (uses)         | <u>(1,108,385)</u>   | <u>1,421,203</u>      | <u>(312,818)</u>                  | <u>-</u>                       |
| Net change in fund balances                  | (1,852,323)          | (235,688)             | 12,753                            | (2,075,258)                    |
| Fund Balances (deficit) at beginning of year | <u>22,116,729</u>    | <u>(1,297,735)</u>    | <u>972,038</u>                    | <u>21,791,032</u>              |
| Fund Balances (deficit) at end of year       | <u>\$ 20,264,406</u> | <u>\$ (1,533,423)</u> | <u>\$ 984,791</u>                 | <u>\$ 19,715,774</u>           |

See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements

## EXHIBIT D-1

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE****Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in  
Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities**

For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

|                                                              |                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| Net Change in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds (Exhibit D) | \$ (2,075,258) |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation and amortization expense. Activity in the current period are as follows:

|                          |             |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| Capital outlay purchases | 1,494,219   |
| Depreciation expense     | (4,663,014) |
| Amortization expense     | (151,980)   |

Governmental funds report the effect of bond issuance premiums and losses on debt refundings when the debt is first issued, whereas these amounts are amortized in the statement of activities over the life of the related debt. Amortization recognized in the current year is as follows:

|                                        |          |
|----------------------------------------|----------|
| Amortization of bond issuance premium  | 362,140  |
| Amortization of loss on debt refunding | (46,197) |

Repayment of principal on long-term debt is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position. Current year repayments are as follows:

|                                                         |           |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Principal paid on bonds payable                         | 3,635,000 |
| Principal paid on joint obligation payable              | 15,000    |
| Principal paid on lease liability                       | 35,568    |
| Principal paid on financed purchase obligations payable | 191,937   |
| Principal paid on SBITA liability                       | 98,613    |

|                                                                                                                                                                                                           |             |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| The Internal Service Fund is used by the County to charge the costs of health and dental insurance to individual funds. The net cost of the Internal Service Fund is reported in Governmental Activities. | (1,197,572) |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|

Some expenses reported in the statement of activities, do not require the use of current financial resources, and therefore, are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds. These expenses are from the following sources:

|                                           |        |
|-------------------------------------------|--------|
| Accrued interest on long-term obligations | 36,304 |
| Compensated absences payable              | 69,827 |

Governmental funds report OPEB and pension contributions as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, OPEB and pension expense reflects the change in the OPEB liability and net pension liability and related deferred outflows and inflows of resources, and does not require the use of current financial resources. This is the amount by which OPEB and pension expense differed from OPEB and pension contributions in the current period:

|                        |         |
|------------------------|---------|
| Net changes in OPEB    | 164,297 |
| Net changes in pension | 664,576 |

|                                                               |                       |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities (Exhibit B) | <u>\$ (1,366,540)</u> |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|

*See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements*

EXHIBIT E  
**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Statement of Net Position**  
**Proprietary Funds**  
December 31, 2025

|                                       | Internal Service<br>Fund |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>                         |                          |
| Current Assets:                       |                          |
| Cash and cash equivalents             | \$ 3,268,773             |
| Total Current Assets                  | <u>3,268,773</u>         |
| Noncurrent Assets:                    |                          |
| Total Noncurrent Assets               | <u>-</u>                 |
| Total Assets                          | <u>3,268,773</u>         |
| <b>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b> |                          |
| Total Deferred Outflows of Resources  | <u>-</u>                 |
| <b>LIABILITIES</b>                    |                          |
| Current Liabilities:                  |                          |
| Accounts payable                      | <u>783,047</u>           |
| Total Current Liabilities             | <u>783,047</u>           |
| Noncurrent Liabilities:               |                          |
| Total Noncurrent Liabilities          | <u>-</u>                 |
| Total Liabilities                     | <u>783,047</u>           |
| <b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>  |                          |
| Total Deferred Inflows of Resources   | <u>-</u>                 |
| <b>NET POSITION</b>                   |                          |
| Unrestricted                          | <u>2,485,726</u>         |
| Total Net Position                    | <u>\$ 2,485,726</u>      |

*See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements*

EXHIBIT F  
**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position**  
**Proprietary Funds**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

|                                       |                          |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
|                                       | Internal Service<br>Fund |
| Operating revenues:                   |                          |
| Charges for services                  | \$ 7,725,869             |
| Total Operating revenues              | <u>7,725,869</u>         |
| Operating expenses:                   |                          |
| Administrative                        | <u>8,966,706</u>         |
| Total Operating expenses              | <u>8,966,706</u>         |
| Operating income (loss)               | <u>(1,240,837)</u>       |
| Non-operating revenues (expenses):    |                          |
| Interest revenue                      | <u>43,265</u>            |
| Net Non-operating revenues (expenses) | <u>43,265</u>            |
| Change in net position                | (1,197,572)              |
| Net Position at beginning of year     | <u>3,683,298</u>         |
| Net Position at end of year           | <u>\$ 2,485,726</u>      |

*See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements*

EXHIBIT G  
**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Statement of Cash Flows**  
**Proprietary Funds**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

|                                                                                        | Internal Service<br>Fund |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Cash flows from operating activities:                                                  |                          |
| Cash received for services provided                                                    | \$ 7,725,869             |
| Cash paid to suppliers                                                                 | <u>(8,676,301)</u>       |
| Net cash used by operating activities                                                  | <u>(950,432)</u>         |
| Cash flows from investing activities:                                                  |                          |
| Investment income                                                                      | <u>43,265</u>            |
| Net cash provided by investing activities                                              | <u>43,265</u>            |
| Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents                                              | (907,167)                |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year                                         | <u>4,175,940</u>         |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of year                                               | <u>\$ 3,268,773</u>      |
| Reconciliation of operating income (loss) to net cash<br>used by operating activities: |                          |
| Operating income (loss)                                                                | \$ (1,240,837)           |
| Changes in assets and liabilities:                                                     |                          |
| Accounts payable                                                                       | <u>290,405</u>           |
| Net cash used by operating activities                                                  | <u>\$ (950,432)</u>      |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of year consist of the following:                     |                          |
| Cash and cash equivalents                                                              | \$ 3,268,773             |
| Due from other funds                                                                   | <u>-</u>                 |
|                                                                                        | <u>\$ 3,268,773</u>      |

*See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements*

EXHIBIT H  
**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Statement of Fiduciary Net Position**  
**Fiduciary Funds**  
December 31, 2025

|                           | Custodial<br>Funds |
|---------------------------|--------------------|
| ASSETS                    |                    |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 907,751         |
| Accounts receivable       | <u>52,137</u>      |
| Total Assets              | <u>959,888</u>     |
| LIABILITIES               |                    |
| Accounts payable          | 25,734             |
| Due to other governments  | <u>826,784</u>     |
| Total Liabilities         | <u>852,518</u>     |
| NET POSITION              |                    |
| Restricted for:           |                    |
| Individuals               | <u>107,370</u>     |
| Total Net Position        | <u>\$ 107,370</u>  |

*See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements*

EXHIBIT I  
**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position**  
**Fiduciary Funds**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

|                                       | Custodial<br>Funds |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|
| ADDITIONS:                            |                    |
| Investment earnings:                  |                    |
| Interest income                       | \$ 20,422          |
| Total Investment earnings             | <u>20,422</u>      |
| Amounts collected for individuals     | 697,748            |
| Fees collected for other governments  | <u>8,758,778</u>   |
| Total Additions                       | <u>9,476,948</u>   |
| DEDUCTIONS:                           |                    |
| Benefits paid to beneficiaries        | 684,605            |
| Payments of fees to other governments | <u>8,775,852</u>   |
| Total Deductions                      | <u>9,460,457</u>   |
| Change in net position                | 16,491             |
| Net Position at beginning of year     | <u>90,879</u>      |
| Net Position at end of year           | <u>\$ 107,370</u>  |

*See accompanying notes to the basic financial statements*

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

**NOTE 1—SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The accounting policies of the County of Cheshire, New Hampshire conform to accounting policies generally accepted in the United States of America for local governmental units, except as indicated hereinafter. The following is a summary of significant accounting policies.

***Financial Reporting Entity***

The County of Cheshire, New Hampshire (the County) was established in 1769 under the laws of the State of New Hampshire. The County boundaries include twenty-three New Hampshire municipalities located in southwestern New Hampshire. The County operates under the Commissioner/Delegation form of government and provides services as authorized by state statutes.

The financial statements include those of the various departments governed by the Commissioners and other officials with financial responsibility. The County has no other separate organizational units, which meet criteria for inclusion in the financial statements as defined by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB).

***Basis of Presentation***

The County's basic financial statements consist of government-wide statements, including a statement of net position and a statement of activities, and fund financial statements which provide a more detailed level of financial information.

**1. Government-Wide Financial Statements**

The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the County as a whole. These statements include the financial activities of the primary government, except for fiduciary funds. The activity of the internal service fund is eliminated to avoid duplicating revenues and expenses.

The statement of net position presents the financial condition of the governmental activities of the County at year end. The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each program or function of the County's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a service, program or department and therefore clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include charges paid by the recipient of the goods or services offered by the program, grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program and interest earned on grants that is required to be used to support a particular program. Revenues which are not classified as program revenues are presented as general revenues of the County. The comparison of direct expenses with program revenues identifies the extent to which each governmental function is self-financing or draws from the general revenues of the County.

**2. Fund Financial Statements**

During the year, the County segregates transactions related to certain County functions or activities in separate funds in order to aid financial management and to demonstrate legal compliance. Fund financial statements are designed to present financial information of the County at this more detailed level.

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

The focus of governmental and proprietary fund financial statements is on major funds. Each major fund is presented in a separate column. Nonmajor funds are aggregated and presented in a single column. The fiduciary funds are reported by type.

***Fund Accounting***

The County uses funds to maintain its financial records during the year. A fund is defined as a fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. The County employs the use of three categories of funds: governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary.

**1. Governmental Funds**

Governmental funds are those through which most governmental functions typically are financed. Governmental fund reporting focuses on the sources, uses and balances of current financial resources. Expendable assets are assigned to the various governmental funds according to the purposes for which they may or must be used. Current liabilities are assigned to the fund from which they will be paid. The difference between governmental fund assets and deferred outflows of resources, and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources, is reported as fund balance. The following are the County's major governmental funds:

The *General Fund* is the main operating fund of the County and is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

The *EMS Fund* is used to account for all financial resources related to the operations of the County's Emergency Medical Services department.

**2. Proprietary Funds**

Proprietary fund reporting focuses on the determination of operating income, changes in net position, financial position, and cash flows. Proprietary funds are classified as enterprise or internal service. The County has no enterprise funds. The following is the County's internal service fund:

The County is self-insured for its health and dental insurance. The activity associated with this self-insurance program is accounted for in the *Insurance Fund*.

**3. Fiduciary Funds**

Fiduciary fund reporting focuses on net position and changes in net position. The County maintains one type of fiduciary fund: custodial funds. The County's custodial funds are held and administered by the County for the benefit of others; assets are not available to support the County or its programs. The County's custodial funds account for Sheriff's escrow and court-forfeited funds, Registry of Deeds funds, Nursing Home resident funds, and inmate funds.

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

***Measurement Focus***

**1. Government-Wide Financial Statements**

The government-wide financial statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus. All assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources associated with the operation of the County are included on the Statement of Net Position.

**2. Fund Financial Statements**

All governmental funds are accounted for using a flow of current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets, deferred outflows of resources, current liabilities and deferred inflows of resources generally are included on the balance sheet. The statement of revenues, expenditures and changes in fund balances reports on the sources (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and uses (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) of current financial resources. This approach differs from the manner in which the governmental activities of the government-wide financial statements are prepared. Governmental fund financial statements therefore include reconciliations with brief explanations to better identify the relationship between the government-wide statements and the statements for governmental funds.

Like the government-wide statements, the proprietary fund type is accounted for on a flow of economic resources measurement focus. All assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources associated with the operation of this fund are included on the statement of net position. The statement of revenues, expenses and changes in net position presents increases (i.e., revenues) and decreases (i.e., expenses) in net position. The statement of cash flows provides information about how the County finances and meets the cash flow needs of its proprietary activities.

The fiduciary funds are reported using the economic resources measurement focus.

***Basis of Accounting***

Basis of accounting determines when transactions are recorded in the financial records and reported on the financial statements. Government-wide financial statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Proprietary and fiduciary funds also use the accrual basis of accounting. Governmental funds use the modified accrual basis of accounting. Differences in the accrual and the modified accrual basis of accounting arise in the recognition of revenue and in the presentation of expenses versus expenditures.

**1. Revenues – Exchange and Non-exchange Transactions**

Revenue resulting from exchange transactions, in which each party gives and receives essentially equal value, is recorded on the accrual basis when the exchange takes place. On a modified accrual basis, revenue is recorded in the year in which the resources are measurable and become available. Available means that the resources will be collected within the current year or are expected to be collected soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current fiscal year. For the County, available means expected to be received within sixty days of year end.

Non-exchange transactions, in which the County receives value without directly giving equal value in return, include property taxes, grants, entitlements and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

recognized in the year for which the taxes are levied (see Note 10). Revenue from grants, entitlements and donations is recognized in the year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Eligibility requirements include timing requirements, which specify the year when the resources are required to be used or the year when use is first permitted; matching requirements, in which the County must provide local resources to be used for a specified purpose; and expenditure requirements in which the resources are provided to the County on a reimbursement basis. On a modified accrual basis, revenue from non-exchange transactions must also be available before it can be recognized.

Under the modified accrual basis, the following revenue sources are considered to be both measurable and available at year end: property taxes, charges for services and interest on investments.

Miscellaneous revenues are recorded as revenues when received in cash because they are generally not measurable until actually received.

Grants and entitlements received before the eligibility requirements are met are recorded as advances from grantors.

**2. Expenses/Expenditures**

On the accrual basis of accounting, expenses are recognized at the time they are incurred. The measurement focus of governmental fund accounting is on decreases in net financial resources (expenditures) rather than expenses. Expenditures are generally recognized in the accounting period in which the related fund liability is incurred, if measurable. Allocations of cost, such as depreciation and amortization, are not recognized in governmental funds.

***Budgetary Data***

The County's budget represents functional appropriations as authorized by the County Delegation. The County Delegation may transfer funds between operating categories as they deem necessary. The County adopts its budget under State regulations, which differ somewhat from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America in that the focus is on the entire governmental unit rather than on the basis of fund types.

State law requires balanced budgets but permits the use of beginning fund balance to reduce the property tax rate. For the year ended December 31, 2025, the County applied \$3,866,829 of unassigned fund balance to reduce taxes.

***Investments***

Investments are stated at their fair value in all funds. Certificates of deposit with a maturity of greater than ninety days from the date of issuance are included in investments.

***Accounts Receivable***

The County uses the reserve method for accounting for bad debts. It is the County's policy to directly charge off uncollectible receivables when management determines the receivable will not be collected. Accounts receivable at December 31, 2025 are recorded net of an allowance for doubtful accounts of \$1,047,476.

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

***Capital Assets***

General capital assets result from expenditures in the governmental funds. These assets are reported in the government-wide statement of net position, but are not reported in the governmental fund financial statements.

All purchased capital assets are capitalized at cost (or estimated historical cost) and updated for additions and retirements during the year. Donated capital assets are recorded at their acquisition value as of the date received. The County maintains a capitalization threshold of \$5,000 for its governmental activities, except for its nursing home department. The capitalization threshold for assets of the nursing home is \$500. Improvements are capitalized; the costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend an asset's life are not.

All reported capital assets except for land and construction in process are depreciated. Intangible capital assets are amortized. Improvements are depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the related capital assets. Depreciation and amortization is computed using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

| <u>Description</u>                    | <u>Years</u> |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| Land improvements                     | 2-30         |
| Buildings and improvements            | 2-50         |
| Water system                          | 5-30         |
| Wastewater system                     | 5-30         |
| Vehicles and equipment                | 2-25         |
| Intangible right-to-use subscriptions | 5-6          |
| Intangible right-to-use building      | 8            |

***Lease Receivable and Related Deferred Inflow of Resources***

Lease receivables are measured at the present value of lease payments expected to be received during the lease term, reduced by any provision for estimated uncollectible amounts. The County does not have such an allowance. The deferred inflow of resources is measured at the initial measurement of the lease receivable, plus any lease payments received at or before commencement of the lease term, less any lease incentives. The deferred inflow of resources is amortized using the straight-line method over the term of the related lease.

***Loss on Debt Refunding***

Debt refundings that result in a difference between the reacquisition price of old debt and the net carrying value of that debt have been reported in the accompanying financial statements as a loss on debt refunding. Losses on debt refundings are amortized as a component of interest expense over the remaining life of the related debt using the effective interest rate method.

***Bond Premium***

Bond premiums are amortized as a component of interest expense over the life of the related bond using the effective interest rate method. Bonds payable are reported in the accompanying financial statements gross of any applicable unamortized bond premium.

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

***Lease Liabilities and Lease Assets***

Lease liabilities are measured at the present value of payments expected to be made during the lease term. Lease assets are measured at the initial measurement of the lease liability, plus any payments made to the lessor at or before the commencement of the lease term and certain direct costs and are amortized on a straight-line basis over the life of the related lease.

***SBITA Liabilities and Related Assets***

Subscription-based information technology arrangement (SBITA) liabilities are measured at the present value of the subscription payments expected to be made during the subscription term. Intangible right-to-use SBITA assets are measured at the initial measurement of the SBITA liability, plus any payments made to the SBITA vendor before commencement of the subscription term and certain direct costs and are amortized on a straight-line basis over the life of the related SBITA.

***Compensated Absences***

Employees earn vacation and sick leave as they provide services. Provision is made in the annual budget for vacation and sick leave. Vacation may be accrued to one and one-half times an employee's annual earned vacation. Payout for unused vacation time is limited to a maximum of 7.5 weeks. Any unused vacation beyond this amount will be forfeited. For governmental fund financial statements, compensated absences are reported as liabilities and expenditures as payments come due each period. The entire compensated absence payable is reported on the government-wide financial statements.

Employees may accumulate sick leave days up to ten days per year, cumulative to a maximum of sixty days. Any unused sick leave days in excess of sixty days are to be paid to the employee at the end of the year at a rate of one-half day for each excess day that has been accrued. No payment for unused sick leave is made upon termination. The County uses the first-in, first-out flows assumption for time used when estimating the likelihood of leave that has not been used being settled through cash or non-cash means.

***Accrued Liabilities and Long-Term Obligations***

All payables, accrued liabilities, and long-term obligations are reported in the government-wide financial statements. In general, governmental fund payables and accrued liabilities that, once incurred, are paid in a timely manner and in full from current resources are reported as obligations of the funds. Long-term obligations that will be paid from governmental funds are recognized as a liability in the fund financial statements when due.

***Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions (OPEB)***

For purposes of measuring the net OPEB liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB, and OPEB expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the New Hampshire Retirement System (NHRS) OPEB Plan and additions to/deductions from NHRS's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by NHRS. For this purpose, NHRS recognizes benefit payments when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value, except for non-registered commingled funds valued at net asset value (NAV) as a practical expedient to estimate fair value.

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

***Pensions***

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the NHRS and additions to/deductions from NHRS's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by NHRS. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms.

***Net Position***

Net position represents the difference between assets and deferred outflows of resources, and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. Net investment in capital assets consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances on any borrowings used for the acquisition, construction or improvement of those assets. Net position is reported as restricted when there are limitations imposed on their use either through enabling legislation adopted by the County or through external restrictions imposed by creditors, grantors or laws or regulations of other governments. Unrestricted net position is the net amount of the assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities and deferred inflows of resources that are not included in the determination of net investment in capital assets or the restricted components of net position.

The County's policy is to first apply restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available.

***Fund Balance Policy***

The County has segregated fund balance into five classifications: Nonspendable, Restricted, Committed, Assigned, and Unassigned. These components of fund balance are defined as follows:

- Nonspendable Fund Balance: Amounts that are not in a spendable form (such as inventory or prepaid expenses) or are required to be maintained intact (such as principal of an endowment fund).
- Restricted Fund Balance: Amounts that can only be spent for the specific purposes stipulated by external resource providers (such as grantors) or the enabling legislation (federal or state law). Restrictions may be changed or lifted only with the consent of the resource providers or the enabling legislation.
- Committed Fund Balance: Amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes determined by a formal action of the County's highest level of decision making authority (annual meeting of the County Delegation). Commitments may be changed or lifted only by the governing body taking the same formal action that imposed the constraint originally. The resolution must either be approved or rescinded, as applicable, prior to the last day of the fiscal year for which the commitment is made. The amount subject to the constraint may be determined in the subsequent period.
- Assigned Fund Balance: Amounts that the County intends to use for a specific purpose. For all governmental funds other than the General Fund, any remaining positive amounts are to be classified as "assigned". The Board of Commissioners expressly delegates this authority to the County Administrator. Items that would fall under this type of fund balance classification would be encumbrances.

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

- **Unassigned Fund Balance:** Amounts that are not obligated or specifically designated and are available for any purpose. The residual classification of any General Fund balance is to be reported here. Any deficit fund balance of another fund is also classified as unassigned.

Spending Prioritizations

In instances when expenditures are incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available, restricted fund balance is considered to have been spent first. When expenditures are incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of the unrestricted fund balance classifications can be used, committed resources should be reduced first, followed by assigned amounts and then unassigned amounts.

Minimum Level of Unassigned Fund Balance

In accordance with the County's fund balance policy, additional operating flexibility is important given the variable nature of the nursing home operations. The recommended minimum unassigned fund balance in the County's General Fund should equal 13% of the annual total budgeted appropriations. The recommended target balance is to maintain an unassigned fund balance between 13% and 17% of the annual total budgeted appropriations. The target level of the unassigned fund balance may be achieved by conservatively estimating revenues and by refraining from using any portion of the unassigned target balance to reduce the tax rate. As a general rule, any unassigned fund balance in excess of 18% of the total budgeted appropriations will be evaluated to determine if it should be used to reduce subsequent budgets. Any amount in excess of the minimum balance may be appropriated by the Commissioners to offset property taxes.

The Board of Commissioners may recommend to the Delegation through a budget amendment to appropriate funds from the unassigned fund balance even if such use decreases the unassigned fund balance below the recommended minimum balance in the event of emergency purposes or to alleviate unanticipated short-term budgetary problems, such as revenue shortfalls.

***Interfund Activity***

Exchange transactions between funds are reported as revenues in the seller funds and as expenditures/ expenses in the purchaser funds. Flows of cash or goods from one fund to another without a requirement for repayment are reported as interfund transfers. Interfund transfers are reported as other financing sources/uses in governmental funds and after non-operating revenues/expenses in the proprietary funds. Repayments from funds responsible for particular expenditures/expenses to the funds that initially paid for them are not presented on the financial statements.

***Operating Revenues and Expenses***

Operating revenues are those revenues that are generated directly from the primary activity of the proprietary fund. Operating revenues represent charges to employees and retirees for services. Operating expenses are necessary costs incurred to provide the service that is the primary activity of the proprietary fund. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating revenues and expenses.

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

***Estimates***

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results may differ from those estimates.

**NOTE 2—DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS**

Deposits and investments as of December 31, 2025 are classified in the accompanying financial statements as follows:

|                                      |                      |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Statement of Net Position:           |                      |
| Cash and cash equivalents            | \$ 21,315,123        |
| Investments                          | 1,066,419            |
| Statement of Fiduciary Net Position: |                      |
| Cash and cash equivalents            | <u>907,751</u>       |
|                                      | <u>\$ 23,289,293</u> |

Deposits and investments at December 31, 2025 consist of the following:

|                                      |                      |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Cash on hand                         | \$ 2,245             |
| Deposits with financial institutions | 22,220,629           |
| Investments                          | <u>1,066,419</u>     |
|                                      | <u>\$ 23,289,293</u> |

The County's investment policy states that any excess funds which are not immediately needed for the purpose of expenditure may only be invested in certificates of deposit, overnight repurchase agreements, U.S. Government securities – Treasury bills, the New Hampshire Public Deposit Investment Pool and others as approved by the County Commissioners and the County Executive Committee.

***Credit Risk***

Generally, credit risk is the risk that an issuer of an investment will not fulfill its obligation to the holder of the investment. This is measured by the assignment of a rating by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization. The County's investment policy addresses credit risk by limiting investments to the safest types of securities and diversifying the investment portfolio. See investment instrument types noted above.

As of December 31, 2025, the County's investment in the NHPDIP, a state investment pool, had a fair value balance of \$1,066,419 and was rated *AAA*m.

***Custodial Credit Risk***

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the County's deposits may not be returned. The custodial credit risk for investments is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty to a transaction, a government will not be able to recover the value of its investment or collateral securities that are in the possession of another party. Currently, the County does not have a formal investment policy for assurance against custodial credit risk; however, the County has an agreement with the bank to collateralize all deposits in excess of the FDIC insurance limits.

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

Of the County's deposits with financial institutions at year end, \$22,929,988 was collateralized by securities held by the bank in the bank's name.

***Investment in NHPDIP***

The County is a voluntary participant in the New Hampshire Public Deposit Investment Pool (NHPDIP), an external investment pool. The NHPDIP is not registered with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission as an investment company. The NHPDIP was created by state law and is administered by a public body of state, local and banking officials. Financial statements for the NHPDIP can be accessed through the NHPDIP's website at [www.NHPDIP.com](http://www.NHPDIP.com).

The County's exposure to derivatives is indirect through its participation in the NHPDIP. The County's proportional share of these derivatives is not available. The fair value of the position in the investment pool is equal to the value of the pool shares.

**NOTE 3—CAPITAL ASSETS**

The following is a summary of changes in capital assets in the governmental activities:

|                                                 | Balance<br>1/1/2025 | Additions      | Reductions   | Balance<br>12/31/2025 |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| Capital assets not depreciated:                 |                     |                |              |                       |
| Land                                            | \$ 1,354,410        |                |              | \$ 1,354,410          |
| Construction in process                         | 3,095,007           | \$ 344,590     | \$ (349,273) | 3,090,324             |
| Total capital assets not being depreciated      | 4,449,417           | 344,590        | (349,273)    | 4,444,734             |
| Other capital assets:                           |                     |                |              |                       |
| Land improvements                               | 1,024,158           | 7,400          |              | 1,031,558             |
| Buildings and improvements                      | 106,542,532         | 914,423        |              | 107,456,955           |
| Water system                                    | 1,581,098           | 2,090          |              | 1,583,188             |
| Wastewater system                               | 932,208             | 26,139         | (1,077)      | 957,270               |
| Vehicles and equipment                          | 11,568,533          | 550,144        | (62,247)     | 12,056,430            |
| Intangible right-to-use building                | 337,105             |                |              | 337,105               |
| Intangible right-to-use subscriptions           | 595,141             |                |              | 595,141               |
| Total other capital assets at historical cost   | 122,580,775         | 1,500,196      | (63,324)     | 124,017,647           |
| Less accumulated depreciation and amortization: |                     |                |              |                       |
| Land improvements                               | (606,717)           | (33,393)       |              | (640,110)             |
| Buildings and improvements                      | (38,144,527)        | (3,609,091)    |              | (41,753,618)          |
| Water system                                    | (1,363,921)         | (18,050)       |              | (1,381,971)           |
| Wastewater system                               | (4,225,501)         | (21,587)       | 431          | (4,246,657)           |
| Vehicles and equipment                          | (5,812,733)         | (980,893)      | 61,599       | (6,732,027)           |
| Intangible right-to-use building                | (42,138)            | (42,138)       |              | (84,276)              |
| Intangible right-to-use subscriptions           | (155,770)           | (109,842)      |              | (265,612)             |
| Accumulated depreciation and amortization       | (50,351,307)        | (4,814,994)    | 62,030       | (55,104,271)          |
| Total other capital assets, net                 | 72,229,468          | (3,314,798)    | (1,294)      | 68,913,376            |
| Total capital assets, net                       | \$ 76,678,885       | \$ (2,970,208) | \$ (350,567) | \$ 73,358,110         |

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

Depreciation and amortization expense were charged to governmental functions as follows:

|                    |                     |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| General government | \$ 393,830          |
| Public safety      | 2,334,160           |
| Human services     | 208,749             |
| Nursing home       | <u>1,878,255</u>    |
| Total              | <u>\$ 4,814,994</u> |

**NOTE 4—INTERFUND BALANCES AND TRANSFERS**

The County has combined the cash resources of its governmental, proprietary, and fiduciary funds. For accounting and reporting purposes, that portion of the pooled cash balance is reported in the specific fund as an interfund balance. Interfund balances at December 31, 2025 are as follows:

|        |              | Due from            |                   |                    |
|--------|--------------|---------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
|        |              | Nonmajor            |                   |                    |
|        |              | EMS                 | Governmental      |                    |
|        |              | <u>Fund</u>         | <u>Funds</u>      | <u>Totals</u>      |
| Due to | General Fund | \$ 1,941,339        | \$ 20,212         | \$1,961,551        |
|        | EMS Fund     |                     | 201,203           | 201,203            |
|        |              | <u>\$ 1,941,339</u> | <u>\$ 221,415</u> | <u>\$2,162,754</u> |
|        |              |                     |                   |                    |

During the year, several interfund transactions occurred between funds. The various transfers were made in accordance with budgetary authorizations. Transfers out of the ARPA and Opioid Funds, both Nonmajor Governmental Funds, were to reimburse applicable funds for qualifying expenditures incurred related to those respective grants. The General Fund transfer to the EMS Fund was budgeted to assist with operations. Transfers during the year ended December 31, 2025 are as follows:

|             |              | Transfer from       |                   |                     |
|-------------|--------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
|             |              | Nonmajor            |                   |                     |
|             |              | General             | Governmental      |                     |
|             |              | <u>Fund</u>         | <u>Funds</u>      | <u>Totals</u>       |
| Transfer to | General Fund |                     | \$ 91,615         | \$ 91,615           |
|             | EMS Fund     | \$ 1,200,000        | 221,203           | 1,421,203           |
|             |              | <u>\$ 1,200,000</u> | <u>\$ 312,818</u> | <u>\$ 1,512,818</u> |
|             |              |                     |                   |                     |

**NOTE 5—SHORT-TERM OBLIGATIONS**

The County issues tax anticipation notes during the year. These borrowings are to assist in the payment of operating expenses during the year and are guaranteed to be repaid from the tax revenue received in December from the Towns/City within the County.

The changes in short-term debt obligations for the year ended December 31, 2025 are as follows:

|                             |                     |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Balance - January 1, 2025   | \$ -                |
| Additions                   | 11,700,000          |
| Reductions                  | <u>(11,700,000)</u> |
| Balance - December 31, 2025 | <u>\$ -</u>         |

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

**NOTE 6—LEASE RECEIVABLE**

The County currently leases the Keene Courthouse to the State of New Hampshire to provide space for courtroom services. The original lease agreement between the State of New Hampshire and a third party was assigned to the County effective February 21, 2020. Terms of the agreement include monthly rental payments through November 30, 2028, including two options to extend for an additional 5 years per extension and an annual cost escalation of 3%.

During the year ended December 31, 2025, the County recognized \$640,773 in lease revenue and \$131,125 in lease interest revenue under the terms of the agreement. As of December 31, 2025, deferred inflows of resources related to the lease receivable amounted to \$9,970,350 and the lease receivable at year-end had a balance of \$10,622,130.

**NOTE 7—LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS**

***Changes in Long-Term Obligations***

Changes in long-term obligations of the governmental activities are as follows:

|                                | Balance<br><u>1/1/2025</u> | <u>Additions</u> | <u>Reductions</u>     | Balance<br><u>12/31/2025</u> | Due Within<br><u>One Year</u> |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Bonds payable                  | \$ 30,495,000              |                  | \$ (3,635,000)        | \$ 26,860,000                | \$ 3,605,000                  |
| Unamortized bond premium       | <u>1,912,885</u>           |                  | <u>(362,140)</u>      | <u>1,550,745</u>             |                               |
| Total Bonds payable            | 32,407,885                 | \$ -             | (3,997,140)           | 28,410,745                   | 3,605,000                     |
| Joint obligation payable       | 90,000                     |                  | (15,000)              | 75,000                       | 15,000                        |
| Lease liability                | 303,815                    |                  | (35,568)              | 268,247                      | 38,861                        |
| Financed purchase obligations  | 2,214,666                  |                  | (191,937)             | 2,022,729                    | 199,805                       |
| SBITA liability                | 422,182                    |                  | (98,613)              | 323,569                      | 103,095                       |
| Compensated absences payable * | <u>1,079,140</u>           |                  | <u>(69,827)</u>       | <u>1,009,313</u>             | <u>137,255</u>                |
| Total                          | <u>\$ 36,517,688</u>       | <u>\$ -</u>      | <u>\$ (4,408,085)</u> | <u>\$ 32,109,603</u>         | <u>\$ 4,099,016</u>           |

\* The change in compensated absences payable is presented as a net change

Payments on the general obligation bonds, joint obligation payable, lease liability, financed purchase obligations, and SBITA liability of the governmental activities are paid out of the General Fund. Amortization of the governmental activities bond premium is recognized as a component of interest expense on the Statement of Activities (Exhibit B).

***General Obligation Bonds***

General obligation bonds are direct obligations of the County, for which its full faith and credit are pledged, and are payable from taxes levied on all taxable property located within County boundaries. All general obligation bonds are considered direct placements for the County. Bonds are not subject to redemption prior to maturity.

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

Bonds payable at December 31, 2025 are comprised of the following individual issues:

|                                  | Original<br>Issue<br><u>Amount</u> | Interest<br><u>Rate</u> | Final<br>Maturity<br><u>Date</u>     | Balance at<br><u>12/31/2025</u> |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b><i>Direct Placements:</i></b> |                                    |                         |                                      |                                 |
| 2017 Series bond issue           | \$ 31,040,000                      | 3.0-5.0%                | October 2037                         | \$ 18,600,000                   |
| 2015 Refunding bond issue        | 17,425,000                         | 3.0-5.0%                | October 2027                         | 3,460,000                       |
| 2020 Series bond issue           | 6,415,000                          | 2.5-4.0%                | January 2040                         | 4,800,000                       |
|                                  |                                    |                         |                                      | <u>26,860,000</u>               |
|                                  |                                    |                         | <i>Add: Unamortized bond premium</i> | <u>1,550,745</u>                |
|                                  |                                    |                         |                                      | <u>\$ 28,410,745</u>            |

Debt service requirements to retire outstanding general obligation bonds for governmental activities at December 31, 2025 are as follows:

| <u>Year Ending<br/>December 31,</u>  | <b><u>Direct Placements</u></b> |                     |                      |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
|                                      | <u>Principal</u>                | <u>Interest</u>     | <u>Totals</u>        |
| 2026                                 | \$ 3,605,000                    | \$ 981,400          | \$ 4,586,400         |
| 2027                                 | 3,595,000                       | 821,700             | 4,416,700            |
| 2028                                 | 1,870,000                       | 662,400             | 2,532,400            |
| 2029                                 | 1,870,000                       | 572,100             | 2,442,100            |
| 2030                                 | 1,870,000                       | 481,800             | 2,351,800            |
| 2031-2035                            | 9,350,000                       | 1,443,500           | 10,793,500           |
| 2036-2040                            | 4,700,000                       | 238,700             | 4,938,700            |
|                                      | <u>26,860,000</u>               | <u>5,201,600</u>    | <u>32,061,600</u>    |
| <i>Add: Unamortized bond premium</i> | <u>1,550,745</u>                | <u>-</u>            | <u>1,550,745</u>     |
|                                      | <u>\$ 28,410,745</u>            | <u>\$ 5,201,600</u> | <u>\$ 33,612,345</u> |

***Joint Obligation Payable***

The joint obligation payable at December 31, 2025 consists of:

\$161,500 Joint Obligation agreement with the City of Keene,  
New Hampshire with principal payment of \$26,500 in 2021  
and then annual installments of \$15,000 through October 2030;  
interest paid semi-annually at 1.36%.

\$ 75,000

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

Debt service requirements to retire the outstanding joint obligation payable for governmental activities at December 31, 2025 are as follows:

| <u>Year Ending<br/>December 31,</u> | <u>Principal</u> | <u>Interest</u> | <u>Totals</u>    |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 2026                                | \$ 15,000        | \$ 1,020        | \$ 16,020        |
| 2027                                | 15,000           | 816             | 15,816           |
| 2028                                | 15,000           | 612             | 15,612           |
| 2029                                | 15,000           | 408             | 15,408           |
| 2030                                | 15,000           | 204             | 15,204           |
|                                     | <u>\$ 75,000</u> | <u>\$ 3,060</u> | <u>\$ 78,060</u> |

***Lease Liability***

Lease agreements represent contracts that convey control of the right to use another entity's nonfinancial assets for a specified period of time.

The following is the lease liability outstanding at December 31, 2025:

\$337,105 Lease liability for building space in Keene, New Hampshire,  
with monthly payments of \$3,696 to \$4,225 per month beginning in  
January 2023 through December 2031, including interest at 4% \$ 268,247

Debt service requirements to retire the outstanding lease liability for governmental activities at December 31, 2025 are as follows:

| <u>Year Ending<br/>December 31,</u> | <u>Principal</u>  | <u>Interest</u>  | <u>Totals</u>     |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 2026                                | \$ 38,861         | \$ 10,023        | \$ 48,884         |
| 2027                                | 42,288            | 8,406            | 50,694            |
| 2028                                | 44,011            | 6,683            | 50,694            |
| 2029                                | 45,804            | 4,890            | 50,694            |
| 2030                                | 47,670            | 3,024            | 50,694            |
| 2031                                | 49,613            | 1,082            | 50,695            |
|                                     | <u>\$ 268,247</u> | <u>\$ 34,108</u> | <u>\$ 302,355</u> |

***Financed Purchase Obligations***

Financed purchase obligations represent lease agreements entered into for the financing of equipment acquisitions or building improvements. These contracts are subject to cancellation should funds not be appropriated to meet payment obligations. Amounts are annually budgeted in the applicable function. The following are the individual financed purchase obligations outstanding at December 31, 2025:

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

|                                                                                                                                                                          |                     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Energy lease, paid in annual installments of \$178,914 through 2031<br>and then annual installments of \$118,140 through September 2041;<br>interest from 1.99 to 2.477% | \$ 1,885,536        |
| Vehicles lease, paid in annual installments of \$76,924 through 2027,<br>with interest of 7.713%                                                                         | 137,193             |
|                                                                                                                                                                          | <u>\$ 2,022,729</u> |

Debt service requirements to retire outstanding financed purchase obligations for governmental activities at December 31, 2025 are as follows:

| Year Ending<br>December 31, | <u>Principal</u>    | <u>Interest</u>   | <u>Totals</u>       |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 2026                        | \$ 199,805          | \$ 56,034         | \$ 255,839          |
| 2027                        | 208,132             | 47,706            | 255,838             |
| 2028                        | 140,027             | 38,887            | 178,914             |
| 2029                        | 143,226             | 35,689            | 178,915             |
| 2030                        | 146,498             | 32,416            | 178,914             |
| 2031-2035                   | 533,813             | 117,659           | 651,472             |
| 2036-2040                   | 535,944             | 54,753            | 590,697             |
| 2041                        | 115,284             | 2,856             | 118,140             |
|                             | <u>\$ 2,022,729</u> | <u>\$ 386,000</u> | <u>\$ 2,408,729</u> |

***SBITA Liability***

SBITA liabilities represent agreements that allow the right to use another entity's software for a specified period of time. The SBITA liability outstanding at December 31, 2025 consists of:

|                                                                                                                                                                |                   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Registrar record subscriptions, paid in monthly installments of \$3,110<br>and quarterly installments of \$4,000 through December 2028;<br>discount rate of 5% | \$ 148,078        |
| UKG Ready Professional software, paid in annual installments<br>of \$63,327 through April 2028; discount rate of 4%                                            | 175,491           |
|                                                                                                                                                                | <u>\$ 323,569</u> |

Annual requirements to amortize the SBITA liability and related interest at December 31, 2025 are as follows:

| Year Ending<br>December 31, | <u>Principal</u>  | <u>Interest</u>  | <u>Totals</u>     |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
| 2026                        | \$ 103,095        | \$ 13,555        | \$ 116,650        |
| 2027                        | 107,784           | 8,866            | 116,650           |
| 2028                        | 112,690           | 3,960            | 116,650           |
|                             | <u>\$ 323,569</u> | <u>\$ 26,381</u> | <u>\$ 349,950</u> |

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

**NOTE 8—OTHER POSTEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS**

***Total OPEB Liabilities, Deferred Outflows of Resources, Deferred Inflows of Resources and OPEB Expense***

|                                     | Deferred<br>Outflows | OPEB<br>Liability   | Deferred<br>Inflows | OPEB<br>Expense    |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| Cost-Sharing Multiple Employer Plan | \$ 72,875            | \$ 746,809          | \$ 917              | \$ 67,217          |
| Single Employer Plan                | 73,318               | 1,326,763           | 428,418             | (104,466)          |
| Total                               | <u>\$ 146,193</u>    | <u>\$ 2,073,572</u> | <u>\$ 429,335</u>   | <u>\$ (37,249)</u> |

The net amount of deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB is reflected as a decrease to unrestricted net position in the amount of \$283,142.

**COST-SHARING MULTIPLE EMPLOYER PLAN**

***Plan Description***

The New Hampshire Retirement System (NHRS) is a public employee retirement system which administers a cost-sharing multiple-employer other postemployment benefit plan (OPEB Plan). The OPEB Plan provides a medical insurance subsidy to qualified retired members.

The NHRS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for NHRS. That report may be obtained by writing to New Hampshire Retirement System at 54 Regional Drive, Concord, New Hampshire 03301 or from their website at [www.nhrs.org](http://www.nhrs.org).

The OPEB Plan is divided into four membership types. The four membership types are Group II Police Officer and Firefighters, Group I Teachers, Group I Political Subdivision Employees, and Group I State Employees. The OPEB plan is closed to new entrants.

***Benefits Provided***

Benefit amounts and eligibility requirements for the OPEB Plan are set by state law (RSA 100-A:52, RSA 100-A:52-a and RSA 100-A:52-b), and members are designated in statute by type. The medical insurance subsidy is a payment made by NHRS to the former employer or its insurance administrator toward the cost of health insurance for a qualified retiree, his/her qualified spouse, and his/her certified dependent children with a disability who are living in the household and being cared for by the retiree. If the health insurance premium amount is less than the medical subsidy amount, then only the health insurance premium amount will be paid. If the health insurance premium amount exceeds the medical subsidy amount, then the retiree or other qualified person is responsible for paying any portion that the employer does not pay.

Group I benefits are based on creditable service, age and retirement date. Group II benefits are based on hire date, age and creditable service. Medical subsidy rates established by RSA 100-A:52 II are dependent upon whether retirees are eligible for Medicare. Retirees not eligible for Medicare may receive a maximum medical subsidy of \$375.56 for a single person plan and \$751.12 for a two-person plan. Retirees eligible for Medicare may receive a maximum medical subsidy of \$236.84 for a single person plan and \$473.68 for a two-person plan.

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

***Funding Policy***

Per RSA-100:16, contribution rates are established and may be amended by the New Hampshire State legislature and are determined by the NHRS Board of Trustees based on an actuarial valuation. The County's contribution rates for the covered payroll of public safety employees and general employees were 2.60% and 0.26%, respectively, through June 30, 2025, and 2.23% and 0.22%, respectively, thereafter. Contributions to the OPEB plan for the County were \$88,722 for the year ended December 31, 2025. Employees are not required to contribute to the OPEB plan.

***OPEB Liabilities, OPEB Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB***

At December 31, 2025, the County reported a liability of \$746,809 for its proportionate share of the net OPEB liability. The net OPEB liability was measured as of June 30, 2025, and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by a roll forward of the actuarial valuation from June 30, 2024. The County's proportion of the net OPEB liability was based on actual contributions by the County during the relevant fiscal year relative to the actual contributions of all participating plan members, excluding contributions to separately finance specific liabilities of individual employers or NHRS. At June 30, 2025, the County's proportion was approximately 0.2498 percent, which was an increase of 0.0110 percentage points from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2024.

For the year ended December 31, 2025, the County recognized OPEB expense of \$67,217. At December 31, 2025, the County reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

|                                                                                                             | Deferred<br>Outflows of<br><u>Resources</u> | Deferred<br>Inflows of<br><u>Resources</u> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Differences between expected and actual experience                                                          | \$ 5,298                                    |                                            |
| Net difference between projected and actual earnings on OPEB plan investments                               |                                             | \$ 917                                     |
| Changes in proportion and differences between County contributions and proportionate share of contributions | 25,818                                      |                                            |
| County contributions subsequent to the measurement date                                                     | <u>41,759</u>                               |                                            |
| Totals                                                                                                      | <u>\$ 72,875</u>                            | <u>\$ 917</u>                              |

The County reported \$41,759 as deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB resulting from County contributions subsequent to the measurement date. This amount will be recognized as a reduction of the net OPEB liability in the measurement period ended June 30, 2026. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense for the measurement periods as follows:

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

| <u>June 30,</u> |                  |
|-----------------|------------------|
| 2026            | \$ 11,857        |
| 2027            | 8,803            |
| 2028            | 9,084            |
| 2029            | <u>455</u>       |
|                 | <u>\$ 30,199</u> |

***Actuarial Assumptions***

The total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2025 is based on an actuarial valuation performed as of June 30, 2024 rolled forward to June 30, 2025, using the following actuarial assumptions:

|                           |                                                                                                                    |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Inflation                 | 2.25%                                                                                                              |
| Wage inflation            | 3.00% (2.50% for teachers)                                                                                         |
| Salary increases          | 6.00%, average, including inflation                                                                                |
| Investment rate of return | 6.75% per year, net of OPEB plan investment expense,<br>including inflation for determining solvency contributions |

Mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 Healthy Retiree Mortality Tables with creditability adjustments for each group (Police and Fire combined) and projected fully generational mortality improvements using Scale MP-2021.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2024 valuation to calculate the total OPEB liability as of June 30, 2025 were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period from July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2023.

The long-term expected rate of return on OPEB Plan investments was selected from a best estimate range determined using the building block approach. Under this method, an expected future real return range is calculated separately for each asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return net of investment expenses by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. Following is a table presenting target allocations and geometric real rates of return for each asset class:

| <u>Asset Class</u>    | <u>Target Allocation</u> | <u>Weighted Average Long-Term<br/>Expected Real Rate of Return</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Public equity         | 40%                      | 5.35-5.40%                                                         |
| Private market equity | 20%                      | 4.25-6.45%                                                         |
| Private debt          | 10%                      | 4.90%                                                              |
| Fixed income          | 25%                      | 2.55%                                                              |
| Infrastructure        | <u>5%</u>                | 4.45%                                                              |
| Total                 | <u>100%</u>              |                                                                    |

The discount rate used to measure the collective total OPEB liability was 6.75%. The projection of cash flows used to determine this discount rate assumed that employer contributions will be made under the current statutes RSA 100-A:16 and RSA 100-A:53. Based on those assumptions, the OPEB Plan's fiduciary net position was projected to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on OPEB Plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the collective total OPEB liability.

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

***Sensitivity of the County's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate***

The following presents the County's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability calculated using the discount rate of 6.75%, as well as what the County's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the single discount rate:

|                    | <u>1% Decrease</u> | <u>Current<br/>Discount Rate</u> | <u>1% Increase</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Net OPEB liability | \$ 809,681         | \$ 746,809                       | \$ 692,218         |

**SINGLE EMPLOYER PLAN**

***Plan Description***

The County of Cheshire, New Hampshire administers the retiree health care benefits program, a single employer defined benefits plan that is used to provide postemployment benefits other than pensions (OPEB) for all permanent full-time employees. No assets are accumulated in a trust that meets the criteria in paragraph 4 of Statement 75.

***Benefits Provided***

The County provides medical benefits to its eligible retirees and their covered spouses. The benefits are provided through the County's self-funded insurance plan that is administered by Harvard Pilgrim. Employees other than police hired prior to July 1, 2011 are eligible to retire at age 60 regardless of years of creditable service, age 50 with at least 10 years of creditable service, or at any age if they have at least 20 years of creditable service and the sum of their age and years of service is at least 70. Employees other than police hired on or after July 1, 2011 are eligible to retire at age 65 regardless of years of creditable service, or age 60 with at least 30 years of creditable service. Police officers hired prior to July 1, 2011 are eligible to retire at age 45 with at least 20 years of Group II creditable service, or at age 60 regardless of their years of creditable service. Police officers hired on or after July 1, 2011 are eligible to retire at age 50 with 25 years of Group II creditable service or at age 60 regardless of years of creditable service. Retirees and their covered spouses are required to pay 100% of the cost of the premium. The valuation does not account for the cost of benefits to retirees or their spouses after age 65. Surviving spouses continue to receive coverage after the death of the eligible retired employee but are required to pay 100% of the premium. Benefits are provided under New Hampshire RSA 100-A:50.

***Employees Covered By Benefit Terms***

At January 1, 2024, the actuarial valuation date, the following employees were covered by the benefit terms:

|                                                                          |            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Inactive employees or beneficiaries currently receiving benefit payments | 2          |
| Inactive employees entitled to but not yet receiving benefit payments    | -          |
| Active employees                                                         | <u>293</u> |
|                                                                          | <u>295</u> |

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

***Total OPEB Liability***

The County's total OPEB liability of \$1,326,763 was measured as of December 31, 2025, and was determined by an actuarial valuation as of January 1, 2024, with updating procedures used to roll forward the OPEB liability to the measurement date. The total OPEB liability represents the sum of expected future benefit payments which may be attributed to past service or earned, discounted to the end of the year using the current discount rate.

The County's funding policy for the implicit rate subsidy is a pay-as-you-go basis.

***OPEB Expense and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB***

For the year ended December 31, 2025, the County recognized negative OPEB expense of (\$104,466). At December 31, 2025, the County reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

|                                                    | Deferred<br>Outflows of<br><u>Resources</u> | Deferred<br>Inflows of<br><u>Resources</u> |
|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Differences between expected and actual experience |                                             | \$ 301,066                                 |
| Changes of assumptions                             | \$ 73,318                                   | 127,352                                    |
| Totals                                             | <u>\$ 73,318</u>                            | <u>\$ 428,418</u>                          |

Amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

| <u>December 31,</u> |                     |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| 2026                | \$ (263,024)        |
| 2027                | (59,587)            |
| 2028                | (14,538)            |
| 2029                | (14,538)            |
| 2030                | (3,413)             |
|                     | <u>\$ (355,100)</u> |

***Actuarial Assumptions and Other Inputs for OPEB***

The total OPEB liability in the January 1, 2024 valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions and other inputs, applied to all periods included in the measurement, unless otherwise specified:

|                             |                                                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Salary increases            | 3.50%                                                                                                             |
| Discount rate               | 4.83%                                                                                                             |
| Healthcare cost trend rates | 5.00% initial, increasing to 9.00% in 2026, then decreasing to an ultimate rate of 4.75% for 2092 and later years |

The discount rate was based on the index provided by the *Bond Buyer 20-Bond General Obligation Index* based on the 20-year AA municipal bond rate as of December 31, 2025.

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

Mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 General Employees Headcount-Weighted Mortality fully generational using Scale MP-2021, Pub-2010 General Retirees Headcount-Weighted Mortality fully generational using Scale MP-2021, Pub-2010 General Contingent Survivors Headcount-Weighted Mortality, Pub-2010 Safety Contingent Survivors Headcount-Weighted Mortality, Pub-2010 Safety Employees Headcount-Weighted Mortality fully generational using Scale MP-2021, and Pub-2010 Safety Retirees Headcount-Weighted Mortality fully generational using Scale MP-2021.

The following were significant changes from the previous actuarial valuation:

- Increased the discount rate from 4.08% to 4.83%.
- The initial trend rates were advanced, the model for trends in subsequent years is based on the Getzen Model as updated through 2025.

***Changes in the Total OPEB Liability***

|                                        | Total OPEB<br><u>Liability</u> |
|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Balance at January 1, 2025             | \$ 1,189,722                   |
| Changes for the year:                  |                                |
| Service cost                           | 74,264                         |
| Interest                               | 62,013                         |
| Changes in assumptions or other inputs | 39,072                         |
| Benefit payments                       | <u>(38,308)</u>                |
| Net changes                            | <u>137,041</u>                 |
| Balance at December 31, 2025           | <u>\$ 1,326,763</u>            |

***Sensitivity of the Total OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate***

The following presents the total OPEB liability of the County, calculated using the discount rate of 4.83%, as well as what the County's total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the current discount rate:

|                      | Discount Rate      |                 |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
|                      | <u>1% Decrease</u> | <u>Baseline</u> | <u>1% Increase</u> |
| Total OPEB liability | \$ 1,447,359       | \$ 1,326,763    | \$ 1,216,741       |

***Sensitivity of the Total OPEB Liability to Changes in the Healthcare Cost Trend Rate***

The following presents the total OPEB liability of the County, calculated using the trend rate starting at 5.00%, as well as what the County's total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that are 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the current healthcare cost trend rate:

|                      | Healthcare Cost Trend Rates |                 |                    |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
|                      | <u>1% Decrease</u>          | <u>Baseline</u> | <u>1% Increase</u> |
| Total OPEB liability | \$ 1,158,970                | \$ 1,326,763    | \$ 1,527,793       |

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

**NOTE 9—DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN**

***Plan Description***

The County contributes to the New Hampshire Retirement System (NHRS), a public employee retirement system that administers a single cost-sharing multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. The plan provides service, disability, death and vested retirement allowances to plan members and beneficiaries. Benefit provisions are established and may be amended by the New Hampshire State legislature.

The NHRS issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for NHRS. That report may be obtained by writing to New Hampshire Retirement System, 54 Regional Drive, Concord, New Hampshire 03301 or from their website at [www.nhrs.org](http://www.nhrs.org).

Substantially all full-time state and local employees, public school teachers, permanent firefighters and permanent police officers within the State are eligible and required to participate in the Pension Plan.

The Pension Plan is divided into two membership groups. State and local employees and teachers belong to Group I. Police and firefighters belong to Group II.

***Benefits Provided***

Benefit formulas and eligibility requirements for the pension plan are set by State law (RSA 100-A).

Group I benefits are provided based on creditable service and average final salary for the highest of either three or five years, depending on when service commenced.

Group II benefits are provided based on age, years of creditable service and a benefit multiplier depending on vesting status as of January 1, 2012. The maximum retirement allowance for Group II members vested by January 1, 2012 (45 years of age with 20 years of service or age 60 regardless of years of creditable service) is the average final compensation multiplied by 2.5% multiplied by creditable service. For Group II members not vested by January 1, 2012 the benefit is calculated the same way but the multiplier used in the calculation will change depending on age and years of creditable service as follows:

| Years of Creditable Service as of<br><u>January 1, 2012</u> | Minimum<br><u>Age</u> | Minimum<br><u>Service</u> | Benefit<br><u>Multiplier</u> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| At least 8 but less than 10 years                           | 46                    | 21                        | 2.4%                         |
| At least 6 but less than 8 years                            | 47                    | 22                        | 2.3%                         |
| At least 4 but less than 6 years                            | 48                    | 23                        | 2.2%                         |
| Less than 4 years                                           | 49                    | 24                        | 2.1%                         |

***Funding Policy***

Covered public safety employees are required to contribute 11.55% of their covered salary, whereas general employees are required to contribute 7.0% of their covered salary. The County is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. The County's pension contribution rates for covered payroll of public safety employees and general employees were 28.68% and 13.27%, respectively, through June 30, 2025, and 28.72% and 12.53%, respectively, thereafter. The County contributes 100% of the employer cost for public safety employees and general employees of the County.

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

Per RSA-100-A:16, plan member contribution rates are established and may be amended by the New Hampshire State legislature and employer contribution rates are determined by the NHRS Board of Trustees based on their actuarial funding policy. The County's pension contributions to the NHRS for the year ending December 31, 2025 were \$3,150,097.

***Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pension***

At December 31, 2025, the County reported a liability of \$24,589,410 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2025, and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by a roll forward of the actuarial valuation from June 30, 2024. The County's proportion of the net pension liability was based on actual contributions by the County during the relevant fiscal year relative to the actual contributions of all participating plan members, excluding contributions to separately finance specific liabilities of individual employers or NHRS. At June 30, 2025, the County's proportion was approximately 0.4943 percent, which was an increase of 0.0259 percentage points from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2024.

For the year ended December 31, 2025, the County recognized pension expense of \$2,486,449. At December 31, 2025, the County reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension from the following sources:

|                                                                                                             | <u>Deferred<br/>Outflows of<br/>Resources</u> | <u>Deferred<br/>Inflows of<br/>Resources</u> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Difference between expected and actual experience                                                           | \$ 1,607,770                                  |                                              |
| Changes of assumptions                                                                                      |                                               | \$ 220,868                                   |
| Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments                            |                                               | 1,110,933                                    |
| Changes in proportion and differences between County contributions and proportionate share of contributions | 2,168,117                                     |                                              |
| County contributions subsequent to the measurement date                                                     | <u>1,558,797</u>                              |                                              |
| Total                                                                                                       | <u>\$ 5,334,684</u>                           | <u>\$ 1,331,801</u>                          |

The net amount of deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension is reflected as an increase to unrestricted net position in the amount of \$4,002,883. The County reported \$1,558,797 as deferred outflows of resources related to pension resulting from County contributions subsequent to the measurement date. This amount will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the measurement period ended June 30, 2026. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension will be recognized as a component of pension expense in the measurement periods as follows:

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

| <u>June 30,</u> |                     |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| 2026            | \$ 1,920,966        |
| 2027            | 314,705             |
| 2028            | 157,677             |
| 2029            | <u>50,738</u>       |
|                 | <u>\$ 2,444,086</u> |

***Actuarial Assumptions***

The total pension liability as of June 30, 2025 is based on an actuarial valuation performed as of June 30, 2024 rolled forward to June 30, 2025, using the following actuarial assumptions:

|                           |                                                       |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Inflation                 | 2.25%                                                 |
| Wage inflation            | 3.00% (2.50% for teachers)                            |
| Salary increases          | 6.00%, average, including inflation                   |
| Investment rate of return | 6.75%, net of investment expense, including inflation |

Mortality rates were based on the Pub-2010 Healthy Retiree Mortality Tables with creditability adjustments for each group (Police and Fire combined) and projected fully generational mortality improvements using Scale MP-2021.

The actuarial assumptions used in the June 30, 2024 valuation to calculate the total pension liability as of June 30, 2025 were based on the results of an actuarial experience study for the period from July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2023.

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was selected from a best estimate range determined using the building block approach. Under this method, an expected future real return range is calculated separately for each asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return net of investment expenses by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. Following is a table presenting target allocations and geometric real rates of return for each asset class:

| <u>Asset Class</u>    | <u>Target Allocation</u> | <u>Weighted Average Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| Public equity         | 40%                      | 5.35-5.40%                                                     |
| Private market equity | 20%                      | 4.25-6.45%                                                     |
| Private debt          | 10%                      | 4.90%                                                          |
| Fixed income          | 25%                      | 2.55%                                                          |
| Infrastructure        | <u>5%</u>                | 4.45%                                                          |
| Total                 | <u>100%</u>              |                                                                |

***Discount Rate***

The discount rate used to measure the collective pension liability was 6.75%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that plan member contributions will be made at the current contribution rate and that employer contributions will be made at rates equal to the difference between

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

actuarially determined contribution rates and the member rate. For purposes of the projection, member contributions and employer contributions are projected based on the expected payroll of current members only. Employer contributions are determined based on the pension plan's actuarial funding policy and as required by RSA 100-A:16. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments to current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the collective pension liability.

***Sensitivity of the County's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate***

The following presents the County's proportionate share of the net pension liability calculated using the discount rate of 6.75%, as well as what the County's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower or 1-percentage-point higher than the single discount rate:

|                                                           | <u>1% Decrease</u> | <u>Current<br/>Discount Rate</u> | <u>1% Increase</u> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| County's proportionate share of the net pension liability | \$ 34,309,743      | \$ 24,589,410                    | \$ 15,713,578      |

**NOTE 10—PROPERTY TAXES**

Property taxes levied to support the County are based on the assessed valuation of the prior April 1st for all taxable real property. Under state statutes, the twenty-three Towns/City that comprise Cheshire County (all independent governmental units) collect County taxes as part of local property tax assessments. As collection agent, the Towns/City are required to pay over to the County its share of property tax assessments. The Towns/City assume financial responsibility for all uncollected property taxes under state statutes.

**NOTE 11—SELF INSURANCE**

The County established a Health and Dental Insurance Fund (an Internal Service Fund) to account for and finance its self-insurance program related to employee and retiree health benefits. Under this program, the Health and Dental Insurance Fund provides coverage for up to a maximum of \$175,000 annually for each individual plan participant. The County purchases commercial insurance for claims in excess of coverage provided by the fund and for all other risks of loss.

All funds of the County participate in the program and make payments to the Health and Dental Insurance Fund based on estimates of the amounts needed to pay prior and current year claims. The claims liability reported in the fund at year end is based on the requirements of Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 10, which requires that a liability for claims be reported if information is available prior to the issuance of the financial statements and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. Changes in the fund's claims liability amount for the past five years are as follows:

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

| Year Ending<br><u>December 31,</u> | Beginning<br>of Year<br><u>Liability</u> | Current Year<br>Claims and<br>Changes in<br><u>Estimates</u> | Claims<br><u>Paid</u> | End<br>of Year<br><u>Liability</u> |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|
| 2021                               | \$ 292,777                               | \$ 5,059,513                                                 | \$(5,120,033)         | \$ 232,257                         |
| 2022                               | \$ 232,257                               | \$ 5,831,833                                                 | \$(5,545,440)         | \$ 518,650                         |
| 2023                               | \$ 518,650                               | \$ 6,403,184                                                 | \$(6,248,063)         | \$ 673,771                         |
| 2024                               | \$ 673,771                               | \$ 7,805,499                                                 | \$(7,986,628)         | \$ 492,642                         |
| 2025                               | \$ 492,642                               | \$ 8,966,706                                                 | \$(8,676,301)         | \$ 783,047                         |

**NOTE 12—RESTRICTED NET POSITION**

Net position of governmental activities is restricted for specific purposes at December 31, 2025 as follows:

|                           |                   |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Donations                 | \$ 226,903        |
| Deeds surcharge funds     | 218,145           |
| Miscellaneous grant funds | 513,603           |
|                           | <u>\$ 958,651</u> |

**NOTE 13—COMPONENTS OF FUND BALANCE**

Fund balance components of the County's governmental funds at December 31, 2025 are comprised as follows:

| <u>Fund Balances</u>        | <u>General<br/>Fund</u> | <u>EMS<br/>Fund</u>   | <u>Nonmajor<br/>Governmental<br/>Funds</u> | <u>Total<br/>Governmental<br/>Funds</u> |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| <b>Nonspendable:</b>        |                         |                       |                                            |                                         |
| Prepaid items               | \$ 224,142              |                       |                                            | \$ 224,142                              |
| <b>Restricted for:</b>      |                         |                       |                                            |                                         |
| Donations                   | 95,720                  |                       | \$ 131,183                                 | 226,903                                 |
| Deeds surcharge             |                         |                       | 218,145                                    | 218,145                                 |
| Miscellaneous grant funds   |                         |                       | 513,603                                    | 513,603                                 |
| <b>Committed for:</b>       |                         |                       |                                            |                                         |
| Capital reserves            | 878,391                 |                       |                                            | 878,391                                 |
| <b>Assigned for:</b>        |                         |                       |                                            |                                         |
| Jail canteen                |                         |                       | 121,213                                    | 121,213                                 |
| Sheriff civil processing    |                         |                       | 647                                        | 647                                     |
| Encumbrances                | 53,361                  |                       |                                            | 53,361                                  |
| Carryforward appropriations | 491,218                 |                       |                                            | 491,218                                 |
| <b>Unassigned (deficit)</b> | <u>18,521,574</u>       | <u>\$ (1,533,423)</u> |                                            | <u>16,988,151</u>                       |
|                             | <u>\$20,264,406</u>     | <u>\$ (1,533,423)</u> | <u>\$ 984,791</u>                          | <u>\$19,715,774</u>                     |

**NOTE 14—RISK MANAGEMENT**

The County is exposed to various risks of losses related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During the year ended December 31, 2025, the County was a member of and participated in a public entity risk pool (Trust) for property and liability insurance and worker's compensation coverage. Coverage has not been significantly reduced from the prior year and settled claims have not exceeded coverage in any of the past three years.

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

The Trust agreements permit the Trust to make additional assessments to members should there be a deficiency in Trust assets to meet its liabilities. Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require members of pools with a sharing of risk to determine whether or not such assessment is probable and, if so, a reasonable estimate of such assessment. At this time, the Trust foresees no likelihood of an additional assessment for any of the past years. Claims expenditures and liabilities are reported when it is probable that a loss has occurred and the amount of that loss can be reasonably estimated. These losses include an estimate of claims that have been incurred but not reported. Based on the best available information there is no liability at December 31, 2025.

***Property and Liability Insurance***

The Trust provides certain property and liability insurance coverage to member towns, cities, and other qualified political subdivisions of New Hampshire. As a member of the Trust, the County shares in contributing to the cost of and receiving benefit from a self-insured pooled risk management program. The program includes a Self-Insured Retention Fund from which is paid up to \$200,000 for each and every covered property, crime and/or liability loss that exceeds \$1,000, up to an aggregate of \$1,200,000. Each property loss is subject to a \$1,000 deductible. All losses over the aggregate are covered by insurance policies.

***Worker's Compensation***

The Trust provides statutory worker's compensation coverage to member towns, cities, and other qualified political subdivisions of New Hampshire. The Trust is self-sustaining through annual member premiums and provides coverage for the statutorily required workers' compensation benefits and employer's liability coverage up to \$2,000,000. The program includes a Loss Fund from which is paid up to \$500,000 for each and every covered claim.

**NOTE 15—COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES**

***Litigation***

There may be various claims and suits pending against the County, which arise in the normal course of the County's activities. In the opinion of management, any potential claims against the County which are not covered by insurance are immaterial and would not affect the financial position of the County.

***Other Contingencies***

The County participates in the federally assisted Medicaid program at the County Nursing Home. This program is subject to financial and compliance audits by the grantors or their representatives. The amount, if any, of expenditures which may be disallowed by the granting agency cannot be determined at this time; although the County expects such amounts, if any, to be immaterial.

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

***Federal Grants***

The County participates in a number of federally assisted grant programs. These programs are subject to financial and compliance audits by the grantors or their representatives. The amounts, if any, of expenditures which may be disallowed by the granting agency cannot be determined at this time, although the County expects such amounts, if any, to be immaterial.

**NOTE 16—CHANGE IN ACCOUNTING PRINCIPLES**

***GASB Statement No. 102 – Certain Risk Disclosures***

During the year ended December 31, 2025, the County implemented GASB Statement No. 102, *Certain Risk Disclosures*. Under GASB Statement No. 102, governments are required to disclose risks from certain concentrations or constraints that limit its ability to acquire resources or control spending. Management has determined the County does not have any concentrations or constraints requiring disclosure in the notes to the basic financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2025.

SCHEDULE 1  
**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance**  
**Budget and Actual (Budgetary Basis) - General Fund**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

|                                           | Budgeted Amounts     |                      | Actual               | Variance with                                |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------------------|
|                                           | Original             | Final                | Amounts              | Final Budget -<br>Favorable<br>(Unfavorable) |
| Revenues:                                 |                      |                      |                      |                                              |
| Taxes                                     | \$ 30,085,205        | \$ 30,085,205        | \$ 30,085,205        | \$ -                                         |
| Intergovernmental                         | 9,836,404            | 10,869,336           | 10,340,114           | (529,222)                                    |
| Charges for services                      | 23,376,855           | 23,376,855           | 20,761,893           | (2,614,962)                                  |
| Interest income                           | 300,000              | 300,000              | 234,587              | (65,413)                                     |
| Miscellaneous                             | 936,316              | 936,316              | 1,183,391            | 247,075                                      |
| Total Revenues                            | <u>64,534,780</u>    | <u>65,567,712</u>    | <u>62,605,190</u>    | <u>(2,962,522)</u>                           |
| Expenditures:                             |                      |                      |                      |                                              |
| Current operations:                       |                      |                      |                      |                                              |
| General government                        | 8,741,714            | 8,741,714            | 8,337,240            | 404,474                                      |
| Public safety                             | 11,441,633           | 11,441,633           | 10,927,731           | 513,902                                      |
| Human services                            | 17,498,274           | 17,528,274           | 14,838,408           | 2,689,866                                    |
| Conservation                              | 98,782               | 98,782               | 97,707               | 1,075                                        |
| Nursing home                              | 24,079,140           | 24,079,140           | 22,586,702           | 1,492,438                                    |
| Capital outlay                            | 2,416,768            | 1,925,550            | 1,465,271            | 460,279                                      |
| Debt service:                             |                      |                      |                      |                                              |
| Principal retirement                      | 3,780,857            | 3,780,857            | 3,780,856            | 1                                            |
| Interest and fiscal charges               | 1,324,032            | 1,324,032            | 1,251,315            | 72,717                                       |
| Total Expenditures                        | <u>69,381,200</u>    | <u>68,919,982</u>    | <u>63,285,230</u>    | <u>5,634,752</u>                             |
| Excess revenues over (under) expenditures | <u>(4,846,420)</u>   | <u>(3,352,270)</u>   | <u>(680,040)</u>     | <u>2,672,230</u>                             |
| Other financing sources (uses):           |                      |                      |                      |                                              |
| Transfers in                              | 896,585              | 814,379              | 755,107              | (59,272)                                     |
| Transfers out                             | (1,451,625)          | (1,451,625)          | (1,451,625)          | -                                            |
| Total Other financing sources (uses)      | <u>(555,040)</u>     | <u>(637,246)</u>     | <u>(696,518)</u>     | <u>(59,272)</u>                              |
| Net change in fund balance                | (5,401,460)          | (3,989,516)          | (1,376,558)          | 2,612,958                                    |
| Fund Balance at beginning of year         |                      |                      |                      |                                              |
| - Budgetary Basis                         | <u>20,613,492</u>    | <u>20,613,492</u>    | <u>20,613,492</u>    | <u>-</u>                                     |
| Fund Balance at end of year               |                      |                      |                      |                                              |
| - Budgetary Basis                         | <u>\$ 15,212,032</u> | <u>\$ 16,623,976</u> | <u>\$ 19,236,934</u> | <u>\$ 2,612,958</u>                          |

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information

SCHEDULE 2

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**Schedule of Changes in the County's Proportionate Share of the Net OPEB Liability**

For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

**Cost-Sharing Multiple Employer Plan Information Only**

| <u>Measurement<br/>Period Ended</u> | <u>County's<br/>Proportion of<br/>the Net OPEB<br/>Liability</u> | <u>County's<br/>Proportionate<br/>Share of the<br/>Net OPEB<br/>Liability</u> | <u>County's<br/>Covered<br/>Payroll</u> | <u>County's Proportionate<br/>Share of the Net<br/>OPEB Liability<br/>as a Percentage of<br/>Covered Payroll</u> | <u>Plan Fiduciary<br/>Net Position<br/>as a Percentage<br/>of the Total<br/>OPEB Liability</u> |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| June 30, 2025                       | 0.24976266%                                                      | \$ 746,809                                                                    | \$ 21,810,046                           | 3.42%                                                                                                            | 15.46%                                                                                         |
| June 30, 2024                       | 0.23878464%                                                      | \$ 742,285                                                                    | \$ 19,617,027                           | 3.78%                                                                                                            | 14.01%                                                                                         |
| June 30, 2023                       | 0.22163806%                                                      | \$ 757,382                                                                    | \$ 17,711,462                           | 4.28%                                                                                                            | 12.80%                                                                                         |
| June 30, 2022                       | 0.22520356%                                                      | \$ 851,016                                                                    | \$ 16,002,096                           | 5.32%                                                                                                            | 10.64%                                                                                         |
| June 30, 2021                       | 0.21442462%                                                      | \$ 858,678                                                                    | \$ 15,603,420                           | 5.50%                                                                                                            | 11.06%                                                                                         |
| June 30, 2020                       | 0.23335097%                                                      | \$ 1,021,398                                                                  | \$ 14,880,674                           | 6.86%                                                                                                            | 7.74%                                                                                          |
| June 30, 2019                       | 0.27241462%                                                      | \$ 1,194,296                                                                  | \$ 14,146,452                           | 8.44%                                                                                                            | 7.75%                                                                                          |
| June 30, 2018                       | 0.30274245%                                                      | \$ 1,386,093                                                                  | \$ 13,807,662                           | 10.04%                                                                                                           | 7.53%                                                                                          |
| June 30, 2017                       | 0.22908185%                                                      | \$ 1,047,440                                                                  | \$ 13,971,937                           | 7.50%                                                                                                            | 7.91%                                                                                          |
| June 30, 2016                       | 0.25690930%                                                      | \$ 1,243,711                                                                  | \$ 13,076,762                           | 9.51%                                                                                                            | 5.21%                                                                                          |

**Significant Actuarial Assumptions**

| <u>Measurement<br/>Periods</u> | <u>Inflation</u> | <u>Salary<br/>Increases</u> | <u>Investment<br/>Rate of<br/>Return</u> | <u>Mortality<br/>Table</u> | <u>Mortality<br/>Scale</u> |
|--------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| June 30, 2024 - 2025           | 2.25%            | 6.00%                       | 6.75%                                    | Pub-2010                   | MP-2021                    |
| June 30, 2022 - 2023           | 2.00%            | 5.40%                       | 6.75%                                    | Pub-2010                   | MP-2019                    |
| June 30, 2020 - 2021           | 2.00%            | 5.60%                       | 6.75%                                    | Pub-2010                   | MP-2019                    |
| June 30, 2016 - 2019           | 2.50%            | 5.60%                       | 7.25%                                    | RP-2014                    | MP-2015                    |

*See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information*

SCHEDULE 3  
**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Schedule of County OPEB Contributions**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

| <b>Cost-Sharing Multiple Employer Plan Information Only</b> |                                                    |                                                                                             |                                                 |                                         |                                                                     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <u>Year Ended</u>                                           | <u>Contractually<br/>Required<br/>Contribution</u> | <u>Contributions in<br/>Relation to the<br/>Contractually<br/>Required<br/>Contribution</u> | <u>Contribution<br/>Deficiency<br/>(Excess)</u> | <u>County's<br/>Covered<br/>Payroll</u> | <u>Contributions<br/>as a Percentage<br/>of Covered<br/>Payroll</u> |
| December 31, 2025                                           | \$ 88,722                                          | \$ (88,722)                                                                                 | \$ -                                            | \$ 22,455,468                           | 0.40%                                                               |
| December 31, 2024                                           | \$ 89,991                                          | \$ (89,991)                                                                                 | \$ -                                            | \$ 20,828,805                           | 0.43%                                                               |
| December 31, 2023                                           | \$ 90,755                                          | \$ (90,755)                                                                                 | \$ -                                            | \$ 18,778,455                           | 0.48%                                                               |
| December 31, 2022                                           | \$ 94,783                                          | \$ (94,783)                                                                                 | \$ -                                            | \$ 16,496,902                           | 0.57%                                                               |
| December 31, 2021                                           | \$ 97,790                                          | \$ (97,790)                                                                                 | \$ -                                            | \$ 15,803,266                           | 0.62%                                                               |
| December 31, 2020                                           | \$ 106,980                                         | \$ (106,980)                                                                                | \$ -                                            | \$ 15,311,264                           | 0.70%                                                               |
| December 31, 2019                                           | \$ 113,350                                         | \$ (113,350)                                                                                | \$ -                                            | \$ 14,333,058                           | 0.79%                                                               |
| December 31, 2018                                           | \$ 130,727                                         | \$ (130,727)                                                                                | \$ -                                            | \$ 14,021,972                           | 0.93%                                                               |
| December 31, 2017                                           | \$ 132,899                                         | \$ (132,899)                                                                                | \$ -                                            | \$ 13,673,027                           | 0.97%                                                               |
| December 31, 2016                                           | \$ 136,622                                         | \$ (136,622)                                                                                | \$ -                                            | \$ 13,250,079                           | 1.03%                                                               |

*See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information*

## SCHEDULE 4

## COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

## Schedule of Changes in the County's Total OPEB Liability and Related Ratios

For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

| <b>Single Employer Plan Information Only</b>                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |             |             |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------------|-------------|
|                                                                  | <u>2025</u>         | <u>2024</u>         | <u>2023</u>         | <u>2022</u>         | <u>2021</u>         | <u>2020</u>         | <u>2019</u>         | <u>2018</u>         | <u>2017</u> | <u>2016</u> |
| Total OPEB Liability:                                            |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |             |             |
| Service cost                                                     | \$ 74,264           | \$ 73,293           | \$ 65,344           | \$ 63,000           | \$ 133,953          | \$ 131,172          | \$ 119,362          | \$ 127,528          | *           | *           |
| Interest                                                         | 62,013              | 47,354              | 44,847              | 41,495              | 48,026              | 44,990              | 67,576              | 55,307              | *           | *           |
| Changes of assumptions or other inputs                           | 39,072              | (2,528)             |                     | (555,035)           |                     | 782,655             |                     | (116,393)           | *           | *           |
| Differences between expected and actual experience               |                     | (133,741)           |                     | (814,999)           |                     | (466,012)           |                     |                     | *           | *           |
| Benefit payments                                                 | (38,308)            | (36,543)            | (17,038)            | (16,427)            | (33,320)            | (32,628)            | (26,533)            | (25,488)            | *           | *           |
| Net change in total OPEB liability                               | 137,041             | (52,165)            | 93,153              | (1,281,966)         | 148,659             | 460,177             | 160,405             | 40,954              | *           | *           |
| Total OPEB Liability at beginning of year                        | 1,189,722           | 1,241,887           | 1,148,734           | 2,430,700           | 2,282,041           | 1,821,864           | 1,661,459           | 1,620,505           | *           | *           |
| Total OPEB Liability at end of year                              | <u>\$ 1,326,763</u> | <u>\$ 1,189,722</u> | <u>\$ 1,241,887</u> | <u>\$ 1,148,734</u> | <u>\$ 2,430,700</u> | <u>\$ 2,282,041</u> | <u>\$ 1,821,864</u> | <u>\$ 1,661,459</u> | <u>*</u>    | <u>*</u>    |
| Covered employee payroll                                         | \$ 18,251,962       | \$ 17,634,746       | \$ 15,037,722       | \$ 14,599,730       | \$ 12,995,347       | \$ 12,740,536       | \$ 11,883,534       | \$ 11,650,524       | *           | *           |
| Total OPEB liability as a percentage of covered employee payroll | 7.27%               | 6.75%               | 8.26%               | 7.87%               | 18.70%              | 17.91%              | 15.33%              | 14.26%              | *           | *           |
| <b>Significant Actuarial Assumptions</b>                         |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |             |             |
| Discount rate                                                    | 4.83%               | 4.08%               | 3.72%               | 3.72%               | 2.12%               | 2.12%               | 4.10%               | 3.44%               | *           | *           |
| Health cost trend rates:                                         |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |                     |             |             |
| Initial                                                          | 5.0% - 2025         | 5.0% - 2024         | 2.0% - 2022         | 2.0% - 2022         | 2.0% - 2020         | 2.0% - 2020         | 2.21% - 2018        | 2.21% - 2018        | *           | *           |
| Ultimate                                                         | 4.75% - 2092        | 4.54% - 2090        | 4.54% - 2090        | 4.54% - 2090        | 5.0% - 2030         | 5.0% - 2030         | 5.0% - 2028         | 5.0% - 2028         | *           | *           |
| Mortality data set                                               | Pub-2010            | Pub-2010            | Pub-2010            | Pub-2010            | SOA RP-2014         | SOA RP-2014         | SOA RP-2014         | SOA RP-2014         | *           | *           |
| Mortality improvement scale                                      | MP-2021             | MP-2021             | MP-2021             | MP-2021             | MP-2020             | MP-2020             | MP-2017             | MP-2017             | *           | *           |

**Note To Schedule:**

No assets are accumulated in a trust that meets the criteria in paragraph 4 of Statement 75

\* 10 Year schedule, historical information not available

*See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information*

## SCHEDULE 5

## COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

## Schedule of Changes in the County's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability

For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

| <u>Measurement<br/>Period Ended</u> | <u>County's<br/>Proportion of<br/>the Net Pension<br/>Liability</u> | <u>County's<br/>Proportionate<br/>Share of the<br/>Net Pension<br/>Liability</u> | <u>County's<br/>Covered<br/>Payroll</u> | <u>County's Proportionate<br/>Share of the Net<br/>Pension Liability (Asset)<br/>as a Percentage of<br/>Covered Payroll</u> | <u>Plan Fiduciary<br/>Net Position<br/>as a Percentage<br/>of the Total<br/>Pension Liability</u> |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| June 30, 2025                       | 0.49425134%                                                         | \$ 24,589,410                                                                    | \$ 21,810,046                           | 112.74%                                                                                                                     | 72.91%                                                                                            |
| June 30, 2024                       | 0.46835543%                                                         | \$ 24,286,757                                                                    | \$ 19,617,027                           | 123.80%                                                                                                                     | 70.33%                                                                                            |
| June 30, 2023                       | 0.44583298%                                                         | \$ 24,958,978                                                                    | \$ 17,711,462                           | 140.92%                                                                                                                     | 67.18%                                                                                            |
| June 30, 2022                       | 0.42557925%                                                         | \$ 24,411,785                                                                    | \$ 16,002,096                           | 152.55%                                                                                                                     | 65.12%                                                                                            |
| June 30, 2021                       | 0.42136353%                                                         | \$ 18,674,491                                                                    | \$ 15,603,420                           | 119.68%                                                                                                                     | 72.22%                                                                                            |
| June 30, 2020                       | 0.42490015%                                                         | \$ 27,177,256                                                                    | \$ 14,880,674                           | 182.63%                                                                                                                     | 58.72%                                                                                            |
| June 30, 2019                       | 0.44018702%                                                         | \$ 21,180,279                                                                    | \$ 14,146,452                           | 149.72%                                                                                                                     | 65.59%                                                                                            |
| June 30, 2018                       | 0.44406881%                                                         | \$ 21,382,812                                                                    | \$ 13,807,662                           | 154.86%                                                                                                                     | 64.73%                                                                                            |
| June 30, 2017                       | 0.49770168%                                                         | \$ 24,476,933                                                                    | \$ 13,971,937                           | 175.19%                                                                                                                     | 62.66%                                                                                            |
| June 30, 2016                       | 0.49712847%                                                         | \$ 26,435,280                                                                    | \$ 13,076,762                           | 202.15%                                                                                                                     | 58.30%                                                                                            |

## Significant Actuarial Assumptions

| <u>Measurement<br/>Periods</u> | <u>Inflation</u> | <u>Salary<br/>Increases</u> | <u>Investment<br/>Rate of<br/>Return</u> | <u>Mortality<br/>Table</u> | <u>Mortality<br/>Scale</u> |
|--------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| June 30, 2024 - 2025           | 2.25%            | 6.00%                       | 6.75%                                    | Pub-2010                   | MP-2021                    |
| June 30, 2022 - 2023           | 2.00%            | 5.40%                       | 6.75%                                    | Pub-2010                   | MP-2019                    |
| June 30, 2020 - 2021           | 2.00%            | 5.60%                       | 6.75%                                    | Pub-2010                   | MP-2019                    |
| June 30, 2016 - 2019           | 2.50%            | 5.60%                       | 7.25%                                    | RP-2014                    | MP-2015                    |

See accompanying notes to the required supplementary

SCHEDULE 6  
**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Schedule of County Pension Contributions**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

| <u>Year Ended</u> | <u>Contractually<br/>Required<br/>Contribution</u> | <u>Contributions in<br/>Relation to the<br/>Contractually<br/>Required<br/>Contribution</u> | <u>Contribution<br/>Deficiency<br/>(Excess)</u> | <u>County's<br/>Covered<br/>Payroll</u> | <u>Contributions<br/>as a Percentage<br/>of Covered<br/>Payroll</u> |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| December 31, 2025 | \$ 3,150,097                                       | \$ (3,150,097)                                                                              | \$ -                                            | \$ 22,455,468                           | 14.03%                                                              |
| December 31, 2024 | \$ 2,998,778                                       | \$ (2,998,778)                                                                              | \$ -                                            | \$ 20,828,805                           | 14.40%                                                              |
| December 31, 2023 | \$ 2,766,587                                       | \$ (2,766,587)                                                                              | \$ -                                            | \$ 18,778,455                           | 14.73%                                                              |
| December 31, 2022 | \$ 2,522,882                                       | \$ (2,522,882)                                                                              | \$ -                                            | \$ 16,496,902                           | 15.29%                                                              |
| December 31, 2021 | \$ 2,192,391                                       | \$ (2,192,391)                                                                              | \$ -                                            | \$ 15,803,266                           | 13.87%                                                              |
| December 31, 2020 | \$ 1,923,784                                       | \$ (1,923,784)                                                                              | \$ -                                            | \$ 15,311,264                           | 12.56%                                                              |
| December 31, 2019 | \$ 1,852,292                                       | \$ (1,852,292)                                                                              | \$ -                                            | \$ 14,333,058                           | 12.92%                                                              |
| December 31, 2018 | \$ 1,886,114                                       | \$ (1,886,114)                                                                              | \$ -                                            | \$ 14,021,972                           | 13.45%                                                              |
| December 31, 2017 | \$ 1,822,410                                       | \$ (1,822,410)                                                                              | \$ -                                            | \$ 13,673,027                           | 13.33%                                                              |
| December 31, 2016 | \$ 1,755,339                                       | \$ (1,755,339)                                                                              | \$ -                                            | \$ 13,250,079                           | 13.25%                                                              |

*See accompanying notes to the required supplementary information*

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

**NOTE 1—BUDGET TO ACTUAL RECONCILIATION**

***General Fund***

Amounts recorded as budgetary amounts in the Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget and Actual (Budgetary Basis) – General Fund (Schedule 1) are reported on the basis budgeted by the County. Those amounts differ from those reported in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America in the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances – Governmental Funds (Exhibit D). General Fund budgetary revenues and other financing sources and expenditures and other financing uses were adjusted for encumbrances, non-budgetary revenues and expenditures, and budgetary transfers as follows:

|                                         | Revenues<br>and Other<br>Financing<br><u>Sources</u> | Expenditures<br>and Other<br>Financing<br><u>Uses</u> |
|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Per Exhibit D                           | \$ 62,754,548                                        | \$ 64,606,871                                         |
| Encumbrances - December 31, 2025        |                                                      | 53,361                                                |
| Encumbrances - December 31, 2024        |                                                      | (155,445)                                             |
| Non-budgetary revenues and expenditures | (57,743)                                             | (19,557)                                              |
| Budgetary transfers                     | 663,492                                              | 251,625                                               |
| Per Schedule 1                          | <u>\$ 63,360,297</u>                                 | <u>\$ 64,736,855</u>                                  |

***Major Special Revenue Fund***

The County adopts its budgets under regulations of the New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration which differ from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Consequently, budgetary information is not presented for the EMS Fund as the information is neither practical nor meaningful.

**NOTE 2—BUDGETARY FUND BALANCE**

The components of the budgetary fund balance for the General Fund at December 31, 2025 are as follows:

|                             |                      |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Nonspendable:</b>        |                      |
| Prepaid items               | \$ 224,142           |
| <b>Assigned for:</b>        |                      |
| Carryforward appropriations | 491,218              |
| <b>Unassigned</b>           | <u>18,521,574</u>    |
|                             | <u>\$ 19,236,934</u> |

SCHEDULE I  
**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

| Federal Grantor / Pass-Through Grantor /<br>Program or Cluster Title                                  | Assistance<br>Listing<br>Number | Pass-Through Entity<br>Identifying Number | Total Federal<br>Expenditures | Expenditures to<br>Subrecipients |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE</b>                                                                      |                                 |                                           |                               |                                  |
| Direct Award Program                                                                                  |                                 |                                           |                               |                                  |
| Community Facilities Loans and Grants                                                                 | 10.766                          | 34-003-462144402                          | \$ 20,060                     | \$ -                             |
| <b>Total Department of Agriculture</b>                                                                |                                 |                                           | <u>20,060</u>                 | <u>-</u>                         |
| <b>DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT</b>                                                    |                                 |                                           |                               |                                  |
| Pass Through Payments from the Community Development Finance Authority                                |                                 |                                           |                               |                                  |
| Community Development Block Grants / State's Program and<br>Non-Entitlement Grants in Hawaii          | 14.228                          | #24-403-FSHS                              | 74,638                        |                                  |
| Community Development Block Grants / State's Program and<br>Non-Entitlement Grants in Hawaii          | 14.228                          | #25-403-CDMC                              | 245,033                       |                                  |
| Community Development Block Grants / State's Program and<br>Non-Entitlement Grants in Hawaii          | 14.228                          | #23-403-CDMC                              | 375,721                       |                                  |
| COVID-19 Community Development Block Grants / State's Program and<br>Non-Entitlement Grants in Hawaii | 14.228                          | #22-403-CDPF-CV                           | 732,179                       |                                  |
| Community Development Block Grants / State's Program and<br>Non-Entitlement Grants in Hawaii          | 14.228                          | #22-403-EGPF                              | 3,882                         |                                  |
|                                                                                                       |                                 |                                           | <u>1,431,453</u>              | <u>1,369,279</u>                 |
| <b>Total Department of Housing and Urban Development</b>                                              |                                 |                                           | <u>1,431,453</u>              | <u>1,369,279</u>                 |
| <b>DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE</b>                                                                          |                                 |                                           |                               |                                  |
| Pass Through Payments from the New Hampshire Department of Justice                                    |                                 |                                           |                               |                                  |
| Crime Victim Assistance                                                                               | 16.575                          | 2025VOC13                                 | 18,168                        |                                  |
| Direct Award Program                                                                                  |                                 |                                           |                               |                                  |
| Drug Court Discretionary Grant Program                                                                | 16.585                          | 15PBJA-21-GG-04130-D                      | 98,972                        |                                  |
| Pass Through Payments from the New Hampshire Department of Justice                                    |                                 |                                           |                               |                                  |
| Violence Against Women Formula Grants                                                                 | 16.588                          | 2025VAW05                                 | 30,000                        |                                  |
| Direct Award Program                                                                                  |                                 |                                           |                               |                                  |
| Rural Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking<br>Assistance Program          | 16.589                          | 15JOVW-24-GG-01032                        | 141,128                       | 125,777                          |
| Direct Award Program                                                                                  |                                 |                                           |                               |                                  |
| Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program                                                                  | 16.607                          | 2023BUBX23036379                          | 537                           |                                  |
| Direct Award Program                                                                                  |                                 |                                           |                               |                                  |
| Public Safety Partnership and Community Policing Grants                                               | 16.710                          | 15JCOPS-22-GG-01522                       | 29,299                        |                                  |
| Public Safety Partnership and Community Policing Grants                                               | 16.710                          | 02233-TECP                                | 79,700                        |                                  |
|                                                                                                       |                                 |                                           | <u>108,999</u>                | <u>-</u>                         |
| Direct Award Program                                                                                  |                                 |                                           |                               |                                  |
| Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program                                                | 16.738                          | 15PBJA-24-GG-04783                        | 8,890                         | 4,684                            |
| <b>Total Department of Justice</b>                                                                    |                                 |                                           | <u>406,694</u>                | <u>130,461</u>                   |

*See accompanying notes to schedule of expenditures of federal awards*

## SCHEDULE I

## COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

## Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (Continued)

For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

| Federal Grantor / Pass-Through Grantor /<br>Program or Cluster Title                                     | Assistance<br>Listing<br>Number | Pass-Through Entity<br>Identifying Number | Total Federal<br>Expenditures | Expenditures to<br>Subrecipients |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION</b>                                                                      |                                 |                                           |                               |                                  |
| Pass Through Payments from the New Hampshire Department of Natural<br>and Cultural Resources             |                                 |                                           |                               |                                  |
| Recreational Trails Program                                                                              | 20.219                          | RTP24-15                                  | 79,854                        |                                  |
| Recreational Trails Program                                                                              | 20.219                          | RTP25-19                                  | 79,999                        |                                  |
|                                                                                                          |                                 |                                           | 159,853                       | -                                |
| Pass Through Payments from the New Hampshire Department of<br>Transportation                             |                                 |                                           |                               |                                  |
| <i>Transit Services Programs Cluster:</i>                                                                |                                 |                                           |                               |                                  |
| Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities                                           | 20.513                          | NH-2023-012                               | 185,305                       |                                  |
| Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities                                           | 20.513                          | NH-2023-012-01                            | 144,170                       |                                  |
| <i>Total Transit Services Programs Cluster</i>                                                           |                                 |                                           | 329,475                       | 313,455                          |
| Pass Through Payments from the New Hampshire Department of<br>Highway Safety                             |                                 |                                           |                               |                                  |
| <i>Highway Safety Cluster:</i>                                                                           |                                 |                                           |                               |                                  |
| State and Community Highway Safety                                                                       | 20.600                          | 26-222                                    | 9,883                         |                                  |
| <i>Total Highway Safety Cluster</i>                                                                      |                                 |                                           | 9,883                         | -                                |
| <b>Total Department of Transportation</b>                                                                |                                 |                                           | 499,211                       | 313,455                          |
| <b>DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY</b>                                                                        |                                 |                                           |                               |                                  |
| Direct Award Program                                                                                     |                                 |                                           |                               |                                  |
| COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds                                               | 21.027                          | ARPA                                      | 201,203                       |                                  |
| Pass Through Payments from the New Hampshire Department of Justice                                       |                                 |                                           |                               |                                  |
| COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds                                               | 21.027                          | 2026ARVPS11                               | 34,556                        |                                  |
| Pass Through Payments from the New Hampshire Department of Health<br>and Human Services                  |                                 |                                           |                               |                                  |
| COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds                                               | 21.027                          | Unknown                                   | 14,748                        |                                  |
| COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds                                               | 21.027                          | SS-2021-DBH-050CAREM                      | 207,459                       |                                  |
|                                                                                                          |                                 |                                           | 457,966                       | -                                |
| <b>Total Department of the Treasury</b>                                                                  |                                 |                                           | 457,966                       | -                                |
| <b>DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY</b>                                                                              |                                 |                                           |                               |                                  |
| Direct Award Program                                                                                     |                                 |                                           |                               |                                  |
| Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (EECBG)                                           | 81.128                          | IA-0000000544                             | 64,147                        |                                  |
| <b>Total Department of Energy</b>                                                                        |                                 |                                           | 64,147                        | -                                |
| <b>DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES</b>                                                           |                                 |                                           |                               |                                  |
| Direct Award Program                                                                                     |                                 |                                           |                               |                                  |
| Comprehensive Community Mental Health Services for Children<br>with Serious Emotional Disturbances (SED) | 93.104                          | H79SM089670                               | 679,144                       |                                  |
| <b>Total Department of Health and Human Services</b>                                                     |                                 |                                           | 679,144                       | -                                |

See accompanying notes to schedule of expenditures of federal awards

SCHEDULE I  
**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (Continued)**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

| Federal Grantor / Pass-Through Grantor /<br>Program or Cluster Title                                       | Assistance<br>Listing<br>Number | Pass-Through Entity<br>Identifying Number | Total Federal<br>Expenditures | Expenditures to<br>Subrecipients |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY</b>                                                                     |                                 |                                           |                               |                                  |
| Pass Through Payments from the New Hampshire Department of Safety<br>Homeland Security Grant Program       | 97.067                          | EMW-2024-SS-05110                         | 4,747                         |                                  |
| <b>Total Department of Homeland Security</b>                                                               |                                 |                                           | 4,747                         | -                                |
| <b>OTHER AGENCIES</b>                                                                                      |                                 |                                           |                               |                                  |
| Pass Through Payments from the Northern Border Regional Commission<br>Northern Border Regional Development | 90.601                          | NBRC22GNH11                               | 33,748                        |                                  |
| <b>Total Other Agencies</b>                                                                                |                                 |                                           | 33,748                        | -                                |
| <b>Total Expenditures of Federal Awards</b>                                                                |                                 |                                           | \$ 3,597,170                  | \$ 1,813,195                     |

*See accompanying notes to schedule of expenditures of federal awards*

**COUNTY OF CHESHIRE, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES OF FEDERAL AWARDS**  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025

**NOTE 1—BASIS OF PRESENTATION**

The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (the “Schedule”) includes the federal award activity of the County of Cheshire, New Hampshire (the “County”) under programs of the federal government for the year ended December 31, 2025. 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 Requirement for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of the operations of the County, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position, changes in net position, or cash flows of the County.

**NOTE 2—SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

Expenditures reported on the Schedule are reported on the modified accrual basis of accounting, which is described in Note 1 of the County’s basic 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.

**NOTE 3—INDIRECT COST RATE**

The County has elected to use the 10-percent de minimis indirect cost rate for awards received through October 1, 2024, and the 15-percent de minimis indirect cost rate, thereafter, as allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

**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***

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Commissioners  
**County of Cheshire, New Hampshire**

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 governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the County of Cheshire, New Hampshire, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2025, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the County of Cheshire, New Hampshire's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated July 29, 2026.

**Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the County of Cheshire, New Hampshire's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances 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 County of Cheshire, New Hampshire's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the County of Cheshire, New Hampshire'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 or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

## **Report on Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the County of Cheshire, New Hampshire'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 financial statements. 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.

*Vachon Clukay & Company PC*

Manchester, New Hampshire

July 29, 2026

**REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM  
AND REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE  
REQUIRED BY THE UNIFORM GUIDANCE**

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Commissioners  
County of Cheshire, New Hampshire

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

***Opinion on Each Major Federal Program***

We have audited the County of Cheshire, New Hampshire's compliance with the types of compliance requirements identified as subject to audit in the OMB *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of the County of Cheshire, New Hampshire's major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2025. The County of Cheshire, New Hampshire's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, the County of Cheshire, New Hampshire 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 December 31, 2025.

***Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program***

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS); 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). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the County of Cheshire, New Hampshire and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the County of Cheshire, New Hampshire's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

***Responsibilities of Management for Compliance***

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to the County of Cheshire, New Hampshire's federal programs.

### ***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the County of Cheshire, New Hampshire's compliance based on our audit. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material, if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about the County of Cheshire, New Hampshire's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the County of Cheshire, New Hampshire's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of the County of Cheshire, New Hampshire's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances 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 the County of Cheshire, New Hampshire's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

### **Report on 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 a 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 Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that were not identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

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.

*Vachon Clukay & Company PC*

Manchester, New Hampshire  
July 29, 2026

**County of Cheshire, New Hampshire  
Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2025**

**Section I—Summary of Auditor’s Results**

**Financial Statements**

Type of auditor’s report issued on whether the financial statements audited were prepared in accordance with GAAP: Unmodified - all reporting units

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

**Federal Awards**

Internal control over major federal 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:

| ALN Number(s) | Name of Federal Program or Cluster                    |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| 20.513        | Transit Services Program Cluster                      |
| 21.027        | COVID 19- Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery |

Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and Type B program: \$ 1,000,000

Auditee qualified as low-risk auditee?   X   yes    \_\_\_\_\_ no

## **Section II—Financial Statement Findings**

There were no findings relating to the financial statements required to be reported by GAGAS.

## **Section III—Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs**

There were no findings and questioned costs required to be reported under 2 CFR 200.516(a).