

# CALHOUN COUNTY COMMISSION

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April 8, 2019

Ora Ash  
West Virginia State Auditor's Office  
153 West Main Street, Suite C  
Clarksburg, WV 26301

Dear Mr. Ash,

This letter is being written pursuant to a letter received by the Calhoun County Commission on March 25, 2019, regarding an outstanding balance owed to the West Virginia Regional Jail Authority.

The County Commission is aware of this debt obligation and intends to make an effort to make payments to the Regional Jail Authority once finances stabilize and the Commission is confident that county payroll can be met for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Over the past three years, available funds have decreased at a rate of approximately thirty-percent, leading to the current budgetary shortfall. To respond to this revenue loss, the County Commission has been forced to increase the employees' cost of health insurance coverage, has not filled personnel positions upon retirements or departures, and has not contributed financially to any program or organization that is not directly related to the operation of the courthouse. To increase frustration, expectations of additional tax revenue from the construction of a natural gas compressor station did not materialize for the upcoming 2019-2020 fiscal year.

Before this current financial situation, the County Commission invariably paid the regional jail bill monthly, and once the Commission is confident that county payroll can be met, payments to the Regional Jail Authority will resume.

Thank you for your understanding in this matter.



Kevin Helmick, Commission President