

**BOARD OF REGENTS**  
EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

<b>SECTION:</b> 18
<b>DATE:</b> December 13, 2019

**RECOMMENDATION**

**WEMU-FM FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS OF JUNE 30, 2019 AND  
AUDITOR'S REPORT**

**ACTION REQUESTED**

It is recommended that the Board of Regents receive and place on file the WEMU-FM Financial Statements as of June 30, 2019 and related auditor's report.

**STAFF SUMMARY**

WEMU-FM, Eastern Michigan University's public radio station, is required as a condition of participation in the public broadcasting program to file an annual audited statement of financial operations. Plante & Moran, PLLC prepares this audit annually as part of its financial audit engagement with the University.

The financial report, statements and opinion are attached. Plante & Moran indicates that, in their opinion, the financial statements present fairly the financial position of WEMU-FM as of June 30, 2019 and 2018. Additionally, it is Plante & Moran's opinion that the changes in WEMU-FM's financial position and cash flows for the years ended 2019 and 2018 were in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. WEMU-FM realized a negative Change in Net Position of (\$89,372) during the period ended June 30, 2019 (see Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position, Page 10). Increased MPSERS and OPEB retirement benefits expenses and decreased rental revenues and contributions were the largest contributing factors in the change in net position.

During their review, Plante & Moran did not identify any internal control material weaknesses. Plante & Moran did identify a significant deficiency related to the timely review and approval of certain grant eligible expenditures, which lead to the accounting of these expenditures being incorrect.

**FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

None

**ADMINISTRATIVE RECOMMENDATION**

The proposed Board action has been reviewed and is recommended for Board approval.

  
University Executive Officer

December 13, 2019  
Date

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## **Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM**

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**Financial Report**

**June 30, 2019**

# Draft

## Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM

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# Draft

## Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Regents  
Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM

### **Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM (the "Station" or WEMU), a department of Eastern Michigan University, as of and for the years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise WEMU's basic financial statements, as listed in the table of contents.

### ***Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements***

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

### ***Auditor's Responsibility***

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audits to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

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

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

### ***Opinions***

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM as of June 30, 2019 and 2018, and the changes in its financial position and cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

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To the Board of Regents  
Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM

## ***Emphasis of Matter***

We draw attention to Note 1 to the basic financial statements, which explains that these financial statements of Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM are intended to present the financial position, the changes in financial position, and the changes in cash flows of only the portion of Eastern Michigan University's business-type activities that is attributable to the transactions of the department. They do not purport to, and do not, present fairly the financial position of Eastern Michigan University as of June 30, 2019 and 2018, the changes in its financial position, or the changes in its cash flows thereof for the years then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

## ***Other Matters***

Management has omitted the required supplemental information related to the adoption of Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statements No. 68 and No. 75, which accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the GASB, which considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

## ***Required Supplementary Information***

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, as identified in the table of contents, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, which 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 supplemental 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.

November 15, 2019

# Draft

## Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM

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### Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited)

This section of Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM's (the "Station" or "WEMU") annual financial report presents management's discussion and analysis of the financial performance of the Station during the fiscal years ended June 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017. This discussion should be read in conjunction with the accompanying financial statements and footnotes. The financial statements, notes, and this discussion are the responsibility of the Station's management.

#### Using the Annual Financial Report

This annual report consists of financial statements prepared in accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 35, *Basic Financial Statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis for Public Colleges and Universities*. In 2015, the Station adopted GASB Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions*, and GASB Statement No. 71, *Pension Transition for Contributions Made Subsequent to the Measurement Date*. The Station reported a liability of \$272,119, \$263,245, and \$113,322 for its allocated share of the University's net pension liability at June 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017, respectively. In 2018, the Station adopted GASB Statement No. 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other than Pensions*. The Station reported a liability of \$49,707 and \$64,796 for its allocated share of the University's Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) liability at June 30, 2019 and 2018, respectively. The Station had deferred outflows consisting of \$21,826, \$24,027, and \$7,778 primarily in University pension and OPEB contributions subsequent to the measurement date of the accrued actuarial pension obligation at June 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017, respectively. In addition, at June 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017, the Station had deferred inflows consisting of \$18,502, \$9,013, and \$2,678, respectively, in the net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension and OPEB plan investments in respect to the fair value of pension and OPEB obligations.

The financial statements prescribed by GASB statements (the statement of net position, statement of revenue, expenses, and changes in net position, and statement of cash flows) present financial information in a form similar to that used by corporations. They are prepared under the accrual basis of accounting, whereby revenue and assets are recognized when the service is provided and expenses and liabilities are recognized when others provide the service, regardless of when cash is exchanged.

The statement of net position includes all assets and liabilities. Over time, increases or decreases in net position (the difference between assets and liabilities) are one indicator of the improvement or erosion of the Station's financial health when considered with nonfinancial facts such as the condition of facilities.

The statement of revenue, expenses, and changes in net position presents the revenue earned and expenses incurred during the year. Activities are reported as either operating or nonoperating. A public radio station's dependency upon gifts could result in operating deficits because the financial reporting model classifies gifts as nonoperating revenue. The utilization of capital assets is reflected in the financial statements as depreciation, which amortizes the cost of an asset over its expected useful life.

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## Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM

### Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited) (Continued)

#### Using the Annual Financial Report (Continued)

The statement of cash flows presents information related to cash inflows and outflows summarized by operating, noncapital financing, capital financing, and related investing activities, and helps measure the ability to meet financial obligations as they mature.

#### Condensed Statement of Net Position (in thousands)

	June 30		
	2019	2018	2017
<b>Assets</b>			
Current assets	\$ 105	\$ 161	\$ 267
Noncurrent assets	<u>100</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>108</u>
Total assets	205	261	375
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources</b>	22	24	8
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Noncurrent liabilities	<u>414</u>	<u>392</u>	<u>235</u>
Total liabilities	414	392	235
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources</b>	<u>19</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>3</u>
<b>Net Position</b>			
Net investment in capital assets	100	100	108
Restricted - Expendable	204	217	256
Unrestricted (deficit)	<u>(510)</u>	<u>(433)</u>	<u>(219)</u>
Total net position	<u>\$ (206)</u>	<u>\$ (116)</u>	<u>\$ 145</u>

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## Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM

### Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited) (Continued)

#### Condensed Statement of Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position (in thousands)

	Year Ended June 30		
	2019	2018	2017
<b>Operating Revenue</b>			
Grants from Corporation for Public Broadcasting	\$ 145	\$ 140	\$ 145
Rental income	25	46	54
Total operating revenue	170	186	199
<b>Operating Expenses</b>			
Program services:			
Programming and production	1,212	1,244	1,035
Broadcasting	102	119	235
Program information	54	108	110
Support services:			
Fundraising	160	175	134
Management	307	332	221
Total operating expenses	1,835	1,978	1,735
<b>Operating Loss</b>	(1,665)	(1,792)	(1,536)
<b>Nonoperating Revenue</b>			
General appropriations from the University	357	371	413
Administrative support from the University	521	533	490
Contributions	697	693	770
Total nonoperating revenue	1,575	1,597	1,673
<b>Change in Net Position</b>	(90)	(195)	137
<b>Net Position - Beginning of year</b>	(116)	145	8
<b>Adjustment for Change in Accounting Principle</b>	-	(66)	-
<b>Net Position - Beginning of year - As restated</b>	(116)	79	8
<b>Net Position - End of year</b>	<u>\$ (206)</u>	<u>\$ (116)</u>	<u>\$ 145</u>



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## Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM

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### Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited) (Continued)

#### Noteworthy Financial Activity

Significant components of the radio station's financial condition include:

- The Station's total assets as of June 30, 2019 decreased versus the prior year by approximately \$55,000, primarily due to a decrease in Rental Revenue (\$21,000) and a decrease in General appropriations and Administrative Support from the University (\$25,000). \$100,000 is invested in capital assets as of June 30, 2019. The Station's total assets as of June 30, 2018 decreased versus the prior year by approximately \$114,000 primarily due to decreased contributions (\$77,000).
- In 2019, liabilities increased by approximately \$22,000, primarily due to the Station's increase in Accrued Payroll & Compensated Absences (\$29,000) and an increase in its Pension Obligation (\$9,000) offset by a decrease in the Station's OPEB Obligation (\$15,000). In 2018, liabilities increased by approximately \$157,000, driven by the increase in the Station's share of the MPSERS pension liability and the adoption of GASB 75, which created an OPEB liability of approximately \$65,000 during the year.
- In 2019, operating revenue decreased by approximately \$16,000, primarily due to a decrease in Rental Revenue (\$21,000) offset by an increase in Grants from Corporation of Public Broadcasting (\$5,000). In 2018, operating revenue decreased by approximately \$13,000, primarily due to decreased support from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (\$5,000) and Rental Revenue (\$8,000).
- In 2019, nonoperating revenue decreased by approximately \$21,000, primarily due to decreased general appropriations (\$14,000), decreased administrative support (\$11,000), and increased general appropriations (\$3,000). In 2018, nonoperating revenue decreased by approximately \$76,000, primarily due to decreased contributions (\$77,000), increased administrative support (\$43,000), and decreased general appropriations (\$42,000).
- In 2019, operating expenses decreased by approximately \$143,000, primarily due to decreases in program information (\$54,000), programming and production (\$32,000) and management support (\$25,000). In 2018, operating expenses increased by approximately \$243,000, primarily due to increases in programming and production (\$209,000) and management support (\$111,000).

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## Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM

### Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited) (Continued)

#### Condensed Statement of Cash Flows (in thousands)

	Year Ended June 30		
	2019	2018	2017
<b>Cash (Used in) Provided by</b>			
Operating activities	\$ (1,671)	\$ (1,636)	\$ (1,626)
Noncapital financing activities	1,587	1,587	1,684
<b>Net (Decrease) Increase in Cash</b>	(84)	(49)	58
<b>Cash - Beginning of year</b>	97	146	88
<b>Cash - End of year</b>	<u>\$ 13</u>	<u>\$ 97</u>	<u>\$ 146</u>

#### Looking Ahead

In fiscal year 2019, the Station continued in its goal to reduce reliance on General Fund support. The Station continues to look for cost-cutting opportunities. During 2019, the Station reduced operating expenses by \$143,253 due to cost-cutting and cost containment strategies.

The Station reduced overall expenditures across all operating categories and moved a percentage of administrative salaries from the General Fund to giving-supported funds in a continued effort to reduce University support. WEMU hosted its seventh annual State of the Station breakfast in January 2019, a jazz brunch in May, and its annual Blues Barbecue in June, all including the major donor community champions program. Donations to the program were even with FY2018, with increased giving from donors who typically give under the community champions level.

The Station continued its aggressive strategy to increase listening and made new and lapsed donors a priority in FY2019, acquiring 306 new donors in FY2019 with 875 re-joining the donor ranks after a lapse of two or more years. The station has initiated a new donor event for fall to welcome first time givers to the WEMU community.

In fiscal year 2020, WEMU will continue its aggressive audience building and fundraising strategies with increased focus on corporate and foundation gifts and a continued heavy emphasis on recruiting and retaining first-time and lapsed donors. The Station will also continue incentive-based fundraising events throughout the year to keep donor revenue more consistent and pledge drives shorter and more creative. A third annual pledge drive was added in 2019 out of necessity, something now common to the public broadcasting industry. WEMU will continue to explore opportunities to shorten the on-air component of each pledge drive while keeping its existing on-air pledge drives creative and entertaining.

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## Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM

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### Management's Discussion and Analysis (Unaudited) (Continued)

WEMU's technical issues were fewer than in 2019, however aging equipment continues to be a concern. The Station is assessing and inspecting all broadcast equipment with the eventual goal of a capital campaign to replace all equipment over a three-year period. The Station is also actively seeking new rental clients for the broadcast tower after losing T-Mobile as a renter (T-Mobile merged with sprint in October 2018 and terminated its lease). Washtenaw County Emergency Management renewed their ten year tower rental lease, making annual payments of approximately \$6,800 beginning in FY2019. Equipment purchases will continue to come from the Station's designated equipment fund.

The Station remains committed to serve the University's mission of public service through programming, community support, civic engagement, and free public service announcements to nonprofits and arts organizations.

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## Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM

### Statement of Net Position

	June 30	
	2019	2018
<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 12,744	\$ 96,643
Accounts receivable from the University	92,747	63,878
Total current assets	105,491	160,521
Noncurrent assets - Property and equipment - Net (Note 3)	100,000	100,000
Total assets	205,491	260,521
<b>Deferred Outflows of Resources (Note 5)</b>	21,826	24,027
<b>Liabilities</b>		
Noncurrent liabilities:		
Compensated absences	92,747	63,880
Pension obligation	272,119	263,245
OPEB obligation	49,707	64,796
Total liabilities	414,573	391,921
<b>Deferred Inflows of Resources (Note 5)</b>	18,502	9,013
<b>Net Position</b>		
Net investment in capital assets	100,000	100,000
Restricted - Expendable	204,087	216,432
Unrestricted	(509,845)	(432,818)
Total net position	<u>\$ (205,758)</u>	<u>\$ (116,386)</u>

# Draft

## Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM

### Statement of Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position

	Year Ended June 30	
	2019	2018
<b>Operating Revenue</b>		
Grants from Corporation for Public Broadcasting	\$ 144,958	\$ 140,475
Rental income	25,080	45,935
Total operating revenue	170,038	186,410
<b>Operating Expenses</b>		
Program services:		
Programming and production	1,212,497	1,244,428
Broadcasting	102,220	119,101
Program information	53,585	107,824
Support services:		
Fundraising	160,026	175,288
Management	306,841	331,781
Total operating expenses	1,835,169	1,978,422
<b>Operating Loss</b>	(1,665,131)	(1,792,012)
<b>Nonoperating Revenue</b>		
General appropriations from the University	357,023	371,116
Administrative support from the University	521,545	532,435
Contributions	697,191	693,276
Total nonoperating revenue	1,575,759	1,596,827
<b>Change in Net Position</b>	(89,372)	(195,185)
<b>Net Position - Beginning of year</b>	(116,386)	145,151
<b>Adjustment for Change in Accounting Principle</b>	-	(66,352)
<b>Net Position - Beginning of year, as restated</b>	(116,386)	78,799
<b>Net Position - End of year</b>	<b>\$ (205,758)</b>	<b>\$ (116,386)</b>

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## Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM

### Statement of Cash Flows

	Year Ended June 30	
	2019	2018
<b>Cash Flows from Operating Activities</b>		
Cash received from Corporation for Public Broadcasting	\$ 144,958	\$ 140,475
Cash received from tower leases	25,080	45,935
Cash paid for programming services	(1,374,517)	(1,317,070)
Cash paid for management and fundraising	(466,867)	(505,031)
Net cash used in operating activities	(1,671,346)	(1,635,691)
<b>Cash Flows from Noncapital Financing Activities</b>		
Cash received from University appropriations	368,713	361,203
Cash received from administrative support	521,543	532,435
Contributions received	697,191	693,276
Net cash provided by noncapital financing activities	1,587,447	1,586,914
<b>Net Decrease in Cash</b>	(83,899)	(48,777)
<b>Cash - Beginning of year</b>	96,643	145,420
<b>Cash - End of year</b>	<u>\$ 12,744</u>	<u>\$ 96,643</u>
<b>Reconciliation of Operating Loss to Net Cash used in Operating Activities</b>		
Operating loss	\$ (1,665,131)	\$ (1,792,012)
Adjustments to reconcile operating loss to net cash from operating activities:		
Depreciation expense	-	7,955
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable - Net	(28,867)	58,121
Accrued compensated absences	28,867	(58,121)
Net pension obligation and related deferred inflows and outflows	8,874	149,923
Net OPEB obligation and related deferred inflows and outflows	(15,089)	(1,557)
Total changes in assets and liabilities	(6,215)	148,366
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>\$ (1,671,346)</u>	<u>\$ (1,635,691)</u>

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## Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM

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Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2019 and 2018

### Note 1 - Organization

Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM (the "Station" or "WEMU") is a public telecommunications radio station licensed to Eastern Michigan University (the "University"). WEMU serves the Washtenaw County radio market with a mission to participate in the educational and public service purposes of the University by providing programming which addresses the needs and the interests of the Station's coverage area.

WEMU is owned and operated by the University and does not have separate legal status or existence. The financial position, support, revenue, and expenditures of WEMU are included in the University's financial statements.

### Note 2 - Basis of Presentation and Significant Accounting Policies

**Basis of Presentation** - The accompanying financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as prescribed by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). The accompanying financial statements have been prepared using the economic resource measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America for publicly owned colleges and universities and is presented in accordance with the reporting model as prescribed in Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements-and Management's Discussion and Analysis-for State and Local Governments*, and GASB Statement No. 35, *Basic Financial Statements-and Management's Discussion and Analysis-for Public Colleges and Universities*, as amended by GASB Statements No. 37, No. 38, and No. 63. WEMU follows the "business-type" activities requirements of GASB Statement No. 34. This approach requires the following components of WEMU's financial statements:

- Management's Discussion and Analysis
- Basic Financial Statements including a Statement of Net Position; Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position; Statement of Cash Flows; and Notes to the Financial Statements

The GASB established standards for external financial reporting for public colleges and universities and requires that financial statements be presented on a consolidated basis to focus on the University as a whole, with resources classified for accounting and reporting purposes into three net position categories according to externally imposed restrictions.

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## Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM

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Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2019 and 2018

### Note 2 - Basis of Presentation and Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

The three net position categories are as follows:

- **Net Investment in Capital Assets** - Includes capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, and outstanding principal balances of debt attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.
- **Restricted - Expendable** - Includes net position whose whole use is subject to externally imposed stipulations that can be fulfilled by actions of the University pursuant to those stipulations or that expire by the passage of time.
- **Unrestricted** - Includes net position not subject to externally imposed stipulations. Unrestricted net position may be designated for specific purposes by action of the Board of Regents or may otherwise be limited by contractual agreements with outside parties.

**Cash** - Cash is held in Eastern Michigan University funds. The amounts reflected in the accompanying statement of net position represent the net amounts due to the Station from the University's pooled cash system.

**Property and Equipment** - Property and equipment are recorded at cost or, if acquired by gift, at the fair value as of the date of donation. Depreciation is computed on the straight-line method over the estimated service lives (5 to 15 years) of the respective assets. Expenditures for repairs and maintenance are charged to expense as incurred.

**Compensated Absences** - Compensated absences include sick leave, annual leave, and compensatory time accrued by station employees per University policy and paid by the University. It is the University's policy to permit employees to accumulate earned but unused sick and vacation pay benefits. There is a liability for unpaid accumulated sick leave since the University does have a policy to pay half of any amounts accumulated when eligible employees retire from the University. All vacation pay is accrued when incurred. A receivable from the University and a liability is reported for these amounts as of year-end.

**General Appropriations from the University** - General appropriations from the University consist of certain payroll and other direct expenses paid by the University on behalf of WEMU. Because the University pays for WEMU's compensated absences, a receivable from the University has been established in the statement of net position in the amount of accrued compensated absences.



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## Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM

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Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2019 and 2018

### Note 2 - Basis of Presentation and Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

**Indirect Administrative Support** - A portion of the University's general overhead costs relates to and benefits WEMU. Such items include administration, utilities, maintenance, repairs, and other institutional support expenditures of the University. These services were provided without cost and have been allocated to WEMU. The fair value of these services is reported as revenue (administrative support from the University) and expenditures in the accompanying statement of revenue, expenses, and changes in net position.

**Contributions and Grants** - Unrestricted gifts are recognized as revenue when received.

WEMU receives an annual community service grant from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. These funds may be used at the discretion of WEMU and are reported as restricted grant revenue in the accompanying financial statements.

**Allocation of Expenditures** - Expenditures are reported by their functional classification. Accordingly, certain expenditures for facility operations, institutional support, interest, and depreciation have been allocated to functional classifications based on the time devoted to these activities.

**Use of Estimates** - The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of sources and application of net assets during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**Deferred Outflows** - In addition to assets, the statement of net position reports a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred outflows of resources, represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. Deferred outflows are related to pension and OPEB obligations described in Note 5.

**Deferred Inflows** - In addition to liabilities, the statement of net position reports a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred inflows of resources, represents an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. Deferred inflows are related to the pension and OPEB plans described in Note 5.

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## Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM

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Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2019 and 2018

### Note 2 - Basis of Presentation and Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

**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 Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System (MPERS) and additions to/deductions from MPERS fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by MPERS. MPERS uses the economic resources measurement focus and the full accrual basis of accounting. Contribution revenue is recorded as contributions are due, pursuant to legal requirements. Benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized as expense when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Related plan investments are reported at fair value.

**Other Postemployment Benefit Costs** - For purposes of measuring the net other employment benefit (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 MPERS and additions to/deductions from MPERS fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by MPERS. MPERS uses the economic resources measurement focus and the full accrual basis of accounting. For this purpose, MPERS recognizes benefit payments when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value, except for money market investments and participating interest-earning investment contracts that have a maturity at the time of purchase of one year or less, which are reported at cost.

**Adoption of New Accounting Pronouncement** - The GASB issued GASB Statement No. 75, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Postemployment Benefits Other than Pensions, which requires governments providing other postemployment benefit (OPEB) plans to recognize their unfunded OPEB obligation as a liability for the first time, and to more comprehensively and comparably measure the annual costs of OPEB benefits. The statement also enhances accountability and transparency through revised note disclosures and required supplemental information (RSI). In accordance with the statements, the University has reported a change in accounting principle adjustment to unrestricted net position of \$28.5 million, which is the net of the net OPEB liability and related deferred outflows as of July 1, 2018. The portion of this change in accounting principle adjustment allocated to WEMU is \$66,352. June 30, 2017 amounts have not been restated to reflect the impact of GASB No. 75 because the information is not available to calculate the impact on OPEB expense.

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## Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM

### Notes to Financial Statements June 30, 2019 and 2018

#### Note 3 - Property and Equipment

Property and equipment at June 30, 2019 and 2018 consist of the following:

	2018	Additions	Retirement	Reclassification	2019
Land	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000
Transmitter and tower	288,800	-	-	-	288,800
Studio and technical equipment	140,797	-	-	-	140,797
Furniture, fixture, and equipment	126,813	-	-	-	126,813
Subtotal	656,410	-	-	-	656,410
Less accumulated depreciation	(556,410)	-	-	-	(556,410)
Net property and equipment	<u>\$ 100,000</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 100,000</u>

  

	2017	Additions	Retirement	Reclassification	2018
Land	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000
Transmitter and tower	288,800	-	-	-	288,800
Studio and technical equipment	140,797	-	-	-	140,797
Furniture, fixture, and equipment	126,813	-	-	-	126,813
Subtotal	656,410	-	-	-	656,410
Less accumulated depreciation	(548,455)	(7,955)	-	-	(556,410)
Net property and equipment	<u>\$ 107,955</u>	<u>\$ (7,955)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 100,000</u>

#### Note 4 - Retirement Benefits and Compensated Absences

Through December 31, 1995, the University offered participation in one of two retirement plans for all qualified employees: the Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System (MPSERS) and the Teachers Insurance and Annuities Association - College Retirement Equities Fund (TIAA-CREF). The MPSERS plan is further discussed in Note 5.

# Draft

## Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM

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Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2019 and 2018

### Note 4 - Retirement Benefits and Compensated Absences (Continued)

#### Defined Contribution Plan

TIAA-CREF is a defined contribution retirement plan. Substantially all full-time employees of the University are eligible to participate in the TIAA-CREF plan. Employee benefits generally vest immediately. The University contributes a specified percentage of employee wages, as defined by the appropriate labor contract. For the years ended June 30, 2019, 2018, and 2017, WEMU-FM contributed approximately \$40,000, \$42,000, and \$55,000, respectively, to the TIAA-CREF plan. The University has no liability beyond its own contributions under the TIAA-CREF plan.

The University provides termination benefits upon retirement resulting from unused sick days. The University calculates its sick pay liability in accordance with the provisions of GASB Statement No. 16, *Accounting for Compensated Absences*. The University established a policy to eliminate sick leave accruals and retirement payouts for certain employees. The policy also includes a short-term disability plan to provide income protection for certain employees unable to work for an extended period because of nonwork-related illness or period of incapacity. The Station's portion of this liability is \$92,747 and \$63,880 as of June 30, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

### Note 5 - Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System

**Plan Description** - The Station, through the University, participates in the Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System (MPSERS or the "System"), a statewide, cost sharing, multiple employer defined benefit public employee retirement system governed by the State of Michigan that covers substantially all employees of the University hired 1996 or earlier. Certain University employees also receive defined contribution retirement and healthcare benefits through the System. The System provides retirement, survivor, and disability benefits to plan members and their beneficiaries. The System also provides postemployment healthcare benefits to retirees and beneficiaries who elect to receive those benefits.

The Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplemental information for the pension and postemployment healthcare plans. The report is available on the web at <http://www.michigan.gov/orsschools>, or by writing to the Office of Retirement System (ORS) at P.O. Box 30171, Lansing, MI 48909-7671. Separate pension information related to the Station's employees included in this plan is not available.

# Draft

## Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM

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Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2019 and 2018

### Note 5 - Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System (Continued)

**Benefits Provided** - Benefit provisions of the defined benefit pension plan and the postemployment healthcare plan are established by state statute, which may be amended. Public Act 300 of 1980, as amended, establishes eligibility and benefit provisions for the defined benefit pension plan and the postemployment healthcare plan.

Depending on the plan option selected, member retirement benefits are calculated as final average compensation times years of service times a pension factor ranging from 1.25 percent to 1.50 percent. The requirements to retire range from attaining the age of 46 to 60 with years of service ranging from 5 to 30 years, depending on when the employee became a member. Early retirement is computed in the same manner as a regular pension, but is permanently reduced to 0.50 percent for each full and partial month between the pension effective date and the date the member will attain age 60. There is no mandatory retirement age.

Depending on the member's date of hire, MPSERS offers the option of participating in the Defined Contribution plan that provides a 50 percent employer match (up to 3 percent of salary) on employee contributions.

Members are eligible for nonduty disability benefits after 10 years of service and for duty-related disability benefits upon hire. Disability retirement benefits are determined in the same manner as retirement benefits but are payable immediately without an actuarial reduction. The disability benefits plus authorized outside earnings are limited to 100 percent of the participant's final average compensation with an increase of 2 percent each year thereafter.

Benefits may transfer to a beneficiary upon death and are determined in the same manner as retirement benefits, but with an actuarial reduction.

Benefit terms provide for annual cost-of-living adjustments to each employee's retirement allowance subsequent to the employee's retirement date. The annual adjustment, if applicable, is 3 percent. For some members who do not receive an annual increase, they are eligible to receive a supplemental payment in those years when investment earnings exceed actuarial assumptions.

MPSERS provides medical, prescription drug, dental, and vision coverage for retirees and beneficiaries. A subsidized portion of the premium is paid by MPSERS with the balance deducted from the monthly pension of each retiree healthcare recipient. Depending on the member's date of hire, this subsidized portion ranges from 80 percent to the maximum allowed by the statute.

# Draft

## Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM

Notes to Financial Statements  
June 30, 2019 and 2018

### Note 5 - Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System (Continued)

**Contributions** - Public Act 300 of 1980, as amended, requires the University to contribute amounts necessary to finance the coverage of pension benefits of active and retired members. Contribution provisions are specified by state statute and may be amended only by action of the state legislature. Under these provisions, each University's contribution is expected to finance the costs of benefits earned by employees during the year, with an additional amount to finance a portion of the unfunded accrued liability.

Under the OPEB plan, retirees electing this coverage contribute an amount equivalent to the monthly cost for Part B Medicare and 10 percent, or 20 percent for those not Medicare eligible, of the monthly premium amount for the health, dental, and vision coverage at the time of receiving the benefits. The MPSERS board of trustees annually sets the employer contribution rate to fund the benefits. Participating employers are required to contribute at that rate.

Under Public Act 300 of 2012, members were given the choice between continuing the 3 percent contribution to the retiree healthcare and keeping the premium subsidy benefit described above, or choosing not to pay the 3 percent contribution and instead opting out of the subsidy benefit and becoming a participant in the Personal Healthcare Fund (PHF), a portable, tax-deferred fund that can be used to pay healthcare expenses in retirement. Participants in the PHF are automatically enrolled in a 2 percent employee contribution into their 457 account as of their transition date, earning them a 2 percent employer match into a 401(k) account. Members who selected this option stop paying the 3 percent contribution to the retiree healthcare as of the day before their transition date, and their prior contributions were deposited into their 401(k) account.

The University's contributions are determined based on employee elections. There are multiple different pension and healthcare benefit options included in the plan available to employees based on date of hire and the elections available at that time. Contribution rates are adjusted annually by the ORS.

The range of rates is as follows:

	<u>Pension</u>	<u>OPEB</u>
October 1, 2016 - September 30, 2017	18.75% - 23.05%	6.98% - 7.36%
October 1, 2017 - September 30, 2018	19.60% - 24.47%	6.13% - 6.44%
October 1, 2018 - September 30, 2019	19.74% - 25.03%	5.99% - 6.42%

Depending on the plan selected, member pension contributions range from 0 percent up to 7.0 percent of gross wages. For certain plan members, a 4 percent employer contribution to the defined contribution pension plan is required. In addition, for certain plan members, a 3 percent employer match is provided to the defined contribution pension plan.

# Draft

## Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM

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### Notes to Financial Statements June 30, 2019 and 2018

#### Note 5 - Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System (Continued)

The University's required and actual pension contributions to the plan for the year ended June 30, 2019 and 2018 were \$5,496,721 and \$5,930,902, respectively, which include the University's contributions required for those members with a defined contribution benefit. The University's required and actual pension contributions include an allocation of \$674,924 and \$752,433 in revenue received from the State of Michigan, and remitted to the System, to fund the MPSERS unfunded actuarial accrued liability (UAAL) stabilization rate for the year ended June 30, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

The University's required and actual OPEB contributions to the plan for the years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018 were \$1,383,060 and \$1,608,321, respectively. These amounts include the University's contributions required for those members with a defined contribution benefit.

As a result of the above requirements, WEMU records an allocation of the University's required and actual contributions to the plan for the years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018, which was approximately \$25,000 (\$20,000 for pension and \$5,000 for OPEB) and \$32,000 (\$24,000 for pension and \$8,000 for OPEB), respectively.

**Net Pension Liability** - At June 30, 2019 and 2018, the Station reported a liability of \$272,119 and \$263,245, respectively, for its allocated share of the University's net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of September 30, 2018 and 2017 and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of September 30, 2017 and 2016, which used updated procedures to roll forward the estimated liability to September 30, 2018 and 2017. The University's proportion of the MPSERS net pension liability was based on a projection of its long-term share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating reporting units, actuarially determined. The amount the University allocated to the Station is based on the Station's current year contributions to the Plan, as a percentage of the University's total current year contributions to the Plan. At September 30, 2018, 2017 and 2016, the Station's allocation was 0.34, 0.36 and 0.16 percent, respectively, of the University's proportionate share.

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## Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM

### Notes to Financial Statements June 30, 2019 and 2018

#### Note 5 - Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System (Continued)

**Net OPEB Liability** - At June 30, 2019 and 2018, the Station reported a liability of \$49,707 and \$64,796, respectively, for its allocated share of the University's OPEB liability. The net OPEB liability was measured as of September 30, 2018 and 2017 and the total OPEB liability used to calculate the net OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of September 30, 2017 and 2016, which used updated procedures to roll forward the estimated liability to September 30, 2018. The University's proportion of the MPSERS net OPEB liability was based on a projection of its long-term share of contributions to the OPEB plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating reporting units, actuarially determined. The amount the University allocated to the Station is based on the Station's current year contributions to the Plan, as a percentage of the University's total current year contributions to the Plan. At September 30, 2018 and 2017, the Station's allocation was 0.34 and 0.36 percent, respectively, of the University's proportionate share.

**Pension Expense and Deferrals of Resources Related to Pensions** - For the years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018, WEMU recognized a pension expense of \$50,948 and of \$29,401, respectively. At June 30, 2019 and 2018, WEMU reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to the plan from the following sources:

	June 30, 2019		June 30, 2018	
	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Difference between expected and actual experience	\$ -	\$ (211)	\$ -	\$ (283)
Changes in assumptions	2,183	-	2,222	-
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	-	(9,001)	-	(5,854)
Changes in proportion and differences between University contributions and proportionate share of contributions	-	(54)	-	(178)
Total amortized deferrals	2,183	(9,266)	2,222	(6,315)
University contributions subsequent to the measurement date	14,150	-	16,855	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 16,333</b>	<b>\$ (9,266)</b>	<b>\$ 19,077</b>	<b>\$ (6,315)</b>



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## Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM

### Notes to Financial Statements June 30, 2019 and 2018

#### Note 5 - Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System (Continued)

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

Years Ending	
June 30	Amount
2020	\$ 1,538
2021	(3,428)
2022	(3,639)
2023	(1,555)
Total	<u>\$ (7,084)</u>

In addition, the contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be included as a reduction of the net pension liability in the next year (2020).

**OPEB Expense and Deferrals of Resources Related to OPEB** - For the years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018, WEMU recognized OPEB recovery of \$2,943 and expense of \$3,312, respectively. At June 30, 2019 and 2018, WEMU reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to the OPEB plan from the following sources:

	June 30, 2019		June 30, 2018	
	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Difference between expected and actual experience	\$ -	\$ (3,911)	\$ -	\$ (487)
Changes in assumptions	2,123			
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments		(2,832)		(2,102)
Changes in proportion and differences between University contributions and proportionate share of contributions	-	(211)	-	(109)
Total amortized deferrals	2,123	(6,954)	-	(2,698)
University contributions subsequent to the measurement date	3,369	-	4,950	-
<b>Total</b>	<u>\$ 5,493</u>	<u>\$ (6,954)</u>	<u>\$ 4,950</u>	<u>\$ (2,698)</u>

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## Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM

### Notes to Financial Statements June 30, 2019 and 2018

#### Note 5 - Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System (Continued)

Amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB were recognized in OPEB expense as follows (note that employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date will reduce the net OPEB liability and therefore will not be included in future pension expense):

Years Ending	Amount
June 30	
2020	\$ (2,827)
2021	(829)
2022	(829)
2023	(345)
Total	<u>\$ (4,830)</u>

**Actuarial Assumptions** - The total pension liability and total OPEB liability as of September 30, 2018 and 2017 is based on the results of an actuarial valuation as of September 30, 2017 and September 30, 2016, and rolled forward. The following actuarial assumptions applied to all periods included in the measurement:

As of September 30, 2017:

Actuarial cost method		Entry age normal cost actuarial method
Investment rate of return - Pension	7.05%	Net of investment expenses based on the groups
Investment rate of return - OPEB	7.15%	Net of investment expenses based on the groups
Salary increases	2.75 - 11.55%	Including wage inflation of 2.75%
Healthcare cost trend rate	7.50%	Year 1 graded to 3.0% Year 12
Mortality basis	Retirees & Active	RP-2014 Male and Female Healthy Annuitant Mortality Tables, scaled by 82% for females and adjusted for mortality improvements using projection scale MP-2017 from 2006
Cost of living pension adjustments	3.00%	Annual non-compounded for MIP members

As of September 30, 2016:

Actuarial cost method		Entry age normal cost actuarial method
Investment rate of return - Pension	7.50%	Net of investment expenses based on the groups
Investment rate of return - OPEB	7.50%	Net of investment expenses based on the groups
Salary increases	7.00% - 12.30%	Including wage inflation of 3.50%
Healthcare cost trend rate	7.50%	Year 1 graded to 3.5% Year 12
Mortality basis	Retirees & Active	RP-2000 Combined Healthy Mortality Table, adjusted for mortality improvements to 2025 using projection scale BB
Cost of living pension adjustments	3.00%	Annual non-compounded for MIP members

Assumption changes as a result of an experience study for the periods 2012 to 2017 have been adopted by the System for use in the annual pension valuations beginning with the September 30, 2017 valuation.

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## Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM

### Notes to Financial Statements June 30, 2019 and 2018

#### Note 5 - Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System (Continued)

**Discount Rate** - The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.05 percent and 7.50 percent as of September 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively, depending on the plan option. The discount rate used to measure the total OPEB liability was 7.15 and 7.50 percent as of September 30, 2018 and 2017, respectively. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that employee contributions will be made at the current contribution rate and that University contributions will be made at statutorily required rates.

Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position and the OPEB plan's fiduciary net position were projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current active and inactive employees. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan and OPEB plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability and total OPEB liability.

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan and OPEB plan investments was determined using a building block method in which best estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of plan investment expense, and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

Investment Category	Plan Year		Plan Year	
	September 30, 2018		September 30, 2017	
	Long-term		Long-term	
	Expected		Expected	
	Target	Real Rate of	Target	Real Rate of
	Allocation	Return	Allocation	Return
Domestic equity pools	28.0%	5.7%	28.0%	5.6%
Alternate investment pools	18.0%	9.2%	18.0%	8.7%
International equity pools	16.0%	7.2%	16.0%	7.2%
Fixed-income pools	10.5%	5.0%	10.5%	-0.1%
Real estate and infrastructure pools	10.0%	3.9%	10.0%	4.2%
Absolute return pools	15.5%	5.2%	15.5%	5.0%
Short-term investment pools	2.0%	0.0%	2.0%	-0.9%
Total	100%		100%	

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## Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM

### Notes to Financial Statements June 30, 2019 and 2018

#### Note 5 - Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System (Continued)

**Sensitivity of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate** - The following presents the net pension liability of the University, calculated using the discount rate depending on the plan option. The following also reflects what the University's 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 current rate:

	2019		
	1% Decrease (6.05%)	Current Discount Rate (7.05%)	1% Increase (8.05%)
Station's proportionate share of the net pension liability - June 30, 2019	\$ 321,693	\$ 272,119	\$ 229,828

  

	2018		
	1% Decrease (6.50%)	Current Discount Rate (7.50%)	1% Increase (8.50%)
Station's proportionate share of the net pension liability - June 30, 2018	\$ 308,861	\$ 263,245	\$ 223,873

**Sensitivity of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate** - The following presents the net OPEB liability of the University, calculated using the current discount rate. The following also reflects what the University's 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 current rate:

	2019		
	1% Decrease (6.15%)	Current Discount Rate (7.15%)	1% Increase (8.15%)
Station's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability - June 30, 2019	\$ 59,798	\$ 49,707	\$ 41,090

  

	2018		
	1% Decrease (6.50%)	Current Discount Rate (7.50%)	1% Increase (8.50%)
Station's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability - June 30, 2018	\$ 75,540	\$ 64,796	\$ 55,541

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## Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM

### Notes to Financial Statements June 30, 2019 and 2018

#### Note 5 - Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System (Continued)

**Sensitivity of the Net OPEB Liability to Changes in the Healthcare Cost Trend Rate** - The following presents the net OPEB liability of the University, calculated using the current healthcare cost trend rate. The following also reflects what the University's net OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a healthcare cost trend rate that is 1 percentage point lower or 1 percentage point higher than the current rate:

	2019		
	1% Decrease (6.50%)	Current Healthcare Cost Trend Rate (7.50%)	1% Increase (8.50%)
Station's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability - June 30, 2019	\$ 39,535	\$ 49,707	\$ 60,289
	2018		
	1% Decrease (6.50%)	Current Healthcare Cost Trend Rate (7.50%)	1% Increase (8.50%)
Station's proportionate share of the net OPEB liability - June 30, 2018	\$ 54,848	\$ 64,796	\$ 76,064

**Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position** - Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued MPSERS financial report.

#### Note 6 - Nonfederal Financial Support (NFFS)

The Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) allocates a portion of its funds annually to public broadcasting entities, primarily based on NFFS, which is defined by CPB. NFFS is defined as the total value of cash and the fair market value of services received as contributions or payments and meeting all the respective criteria for each.

Calculated in accordance with CPB guidelines, the combined network reported total NFFS of \$1,575,757 and \$1,594,306 for the years ended June 30, 2019 and 2018, respectively.

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November 15, 2019

To the Board of Regents and Management  
Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM

Dear Regents,

We have audited the financial statements of Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM (WEMU-FM or the "Station") as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019 and have issued our report thereon dated November 15, 2019. Professional standards require that we provide you with the following information related to our audit which is divided into the following sections:

Section I – Internal Control Related Matters Identified in an Audit

Section II – Required Communications with Those Charged With Governance

Section I includes any deficiencies we observed in the Station's accounting principles or internal control that we believe are significant. Current auditing standards require us to formally communicate annually matters we note about the Station's accounting policies and internal control.

Section II includes information that current auditing standards require independent auditors to communicate to those individuals charged with governance. We will report this information annually to the Board of Regents of the Station.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Station's staff for the cooperation and courtesy extended to us during our audit. Their assistance and professionalism are invaluable.

This report is intended solely for the use of the Board of Regents, the Corporation of Public Broadcasting and management of the Station and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

We welcome any questions you may have regarding the following communications and we would be willing to discuss any of these or other questions that you might have at your convenience.

Very truly yours,

**Plante & Moran, PLLC**

Vicki L. VanDenBerg, CPA  
Partner

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## Section I - Internal Control Related Matters Identified in an Audit

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the Station as of and for the year ended June 30, 2019, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the Station'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 opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Station's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Station's internal control.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be significant deficiencies or material weaknesses and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

However, as discussed below, we identified a certain deficiency in internal control that we consider to be a significant deficiency.

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 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. We consider the following deficiency in the Station's internal control to be a significant deficiency:

**Reporting of Grant Expenditures** – Grant expenditures should be reviewed, approved and recorded to the proper Banner accounts as they are incurred throughout the year. During testing of the \$144,958 grant received from the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, we noted the eligible expenditures used by these grant dollars were not documented and reported to EMU Grants timely, in order to be reviewed, approved and recorded to the proper funds within Banner. This delay lead to certain expenditures not being properly recorded to the correct fund accounts within Banner. We recommend expenditures are reviewed throughout the year and sent to EMU Grants so they can be timely reviewed, approved and recorded to the proper Banner accounts.

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## **Section II - Required Communications with Those Charged With Governance**

### **Our Responsibility Under U.S. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards**

As stated in our engagement letter dated June 17, 2019, our responsibility, as described by professional standards, is to express an opinion about whether the financial statements prepared by management with your oversight are fairly presented, in all material respects, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. Our audit of the financial statements does not relieve you or management of your responsibilities. Our responsibility is to plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

As part of our audit, we considered the internal control of Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM. Such considerations were solely for the purpose of determining our audit procedures and not to provide any assurance concerning such internal control.

We are responsible for communicating significant matters related to the audit that are, in our professional judgment, relevant to your responsibilities in overseeing the financial reporting process. However, we are not required to design procedures specifically to identify such matters.

### **Planned Scope and Timing of the Audit**

We performed the audit according to the planned scope and timing previously communicated to you in our meeting about planning matters on June 13, 2019.

### **Significant Audit Findings**

#### ***Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices***

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter, we will advise management about the appropriateness of accounting policies and their application. The significant accounting policies used by Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM are described in Note 2 to the financial statements.

No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during 2019.

We noted no transactions entered into by the Station during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus.

We noted no significant transactions that have been recognized in the financial statements in a different period than when the transaction occurred.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected.



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There were no significant balances, amounts or disclosures in the financial statements based on sensitive management estimates.

The most sensitive estimate affecting the financial statements is the following:

**Net Pension and Other Postemployment Benefits (OPEB) Liability for MPSERS -** Management estimates the University's proportionate share of the net pension and net OPEB liability in the Michigan Public School Employees' Retirement System (MPSERS). The amount the University allocated to the Station is based on WEMU-FM's current year contributions to the plan as a percentage of the University's total current year contributions to the plan. We evaluated key factors and assumptions used to develop the liability in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

The disclosures in the financial statements are neutral, consistent, and clear.

## ***Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit***

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

## ***Disagreements with Management***

For the purpose of this letter, professional standards define a disagreement with management as a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

## ***Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements***

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. We did not detect any misstatements as a result of audit procedures.

## ***Significant Findings or Issues***

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, business conditions affecting the organization, and business plans and strategies that may affect the risks of material misstatement with management each year prior to retention as the Station's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition of our retention.

## ***Management Representations***

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated November 15, 2019.

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## ***Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants***

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the Station's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

## **Other Information in Documents Containing Audited Financial Statements**

Our responsibility for other information in documents containing the Station's financial statements and report does not extend beyond the financial statements. We do not have an obligation to determine whether or not such other information is properly stated. However, we read management's discussion and analysis, and nothing came to our attention that caused us to believe that such information, or its manner of presentation, is materially inconsistent with the information or manner of its presentation appearing in the financial statements.

This information is intended solely for the use of the board of regents and management of Eastern Michigan University WEMU-FM and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.



EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

## **EMU Board of Regents Update**

### **WEMU-FM**

**December 13, 2019**

### **Agenda**

- Overview
- Successes
- Audit and financials
- Future plans

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## Overview

- WEMU celebrated more strong audience numbers in 2019
- Focused on strategic priorities of strong listener growth, increased fundraising and less reliance on the General Fund
- In 2011, WEMU announced as part of its strategic plan it would voluntarily reduce GF support by \$250,000 over three years; exceeded goal with GF reduction of more than \$450,000 – from \$834K in FY11 to \$357K in FY19
- In FY19, reduced overall operating expenses by \$143K, by elimination of higher-cost national programming, and reduced internal programming, production and personnel costs
- Poised to remain a local, regional and national leader for another 50 years

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## Successes

- Renewed emphasis on expanding audience base with dedicated focus on content, presentation, sound quality, horizontal and vertical promotion, and strategic plan for increased news coverage in on-air and digital platforms
- Successful results:
  - In Spring 2019, posted continued strong listener numbers for WEMU, under the record 67,200/week from 2018 but still over 50,000/week (Nielsen Audio)
  - Five year average audience and share is highest in WEMU history
  - New content partnerships added for news magazines, including exclusive arts and non-profits coverage with the Arts Alliance and Washtenaw United Way

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## Successes

- Strong community support for programming and events:
  - New donor reception for first-time givers
  - Eight Broadcast Excellence Awards plus 2018 Station of the Year runner up from Michigan Association of Broadcasters
  - Annual Blues Barbecue attended by more than 500 donors
  - Annual Jazz Brunch sold out for fourth consecutive year

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## Successes

- Continued providing Eastern students with radio and broadcasting real-world experience
- WEMU wins the Dale Rice Community Partner Award from Engage EMU
- Flagship station for Eastern football and basketball – in FY19 broadcast 50+ games including postseason games for men’s and women’s basketball
- More than 300 first time donors, 62% of annual goal of 500
- More than 800 donors returned to WEMU after a lapse of more than three years, a 220% increase over the previous year
- Football coverage continued “Focus on EMU” – extended halftime segments showcasing academics and community outreach

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## EMU and Community news coverage

- *Dealing With Dementia: The Focus of an EMU Aging Studies Program Open to the Public*
- *EMU Joins Washtenaw County and Others to Expand Collaboration in Support of YCS*
- *Focus On EMU: Anthropology Professor Gets Spotlight on Smithsonian Channel*
- *SisterHOOD Scholars Aims to Put Students on the Path to Success*

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### **Congresswoman Debbie Dingell**

- In studio to discuss the Democratic candidate debates



### **Camellia Bowl**

- WEMU football color commentator, Rob Rubick with EMU fan in Montgomery, AL



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Giving Tuesday live jazz jam session



#teamwemu debuts



Jorge Avellan interviews Governor Gretchen Whitmer

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# WEMU 89.1



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## Challenges in FY19

- **Fundraising**
  - Donations from listeners: Donor base has remained static as audience numbers increase
  - Major gifts/Corporate underwriting: Planned giving is up while major gifts and corporate support remain flat
  - Static Federal support
- **Aging infrastructure/equipment**

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## Audit

- FY18 audit was completed by Plante & Moran in November 2018
- Required annually by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB)
- Significant deficiency identified: Review and approval controls of grant expenditures not completed timely in order to ensure proper accounting. This has been addressed and procedures established for timely and proper reporting in FY20

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## Financials

	FY11	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19
<b>Current sources of funding for WEMU (in thousands):</b>						
General fund	\$ 834	\$ 414	\$ 431	\$ 413	\$ 371	\$ 357
Designated funds	51	59	59	54	48	25
Donor fundraising	597	667	637	770	693	697
CPB grants	188	217	152	145	141	0
Total before allocated administrative support	\$ 1,670	1,357	1,279	1,382	1,251	1,079
Allocated administrative support from EMU	570	461	527	490	532	522
Total audited revenue	\$ 2,240	\$ 1,818	\$ 1,806	\$ 1,872	\$ 1,783	\$ 1,601
<b>Current operational needs for WEMU (in thousands):</b>						
Wages & benefits – general fund:	\$ 613	\$ 327	\$ 338	\$ 325	\$ 279	\$ 235
Wages & benefits – general fund - students:	78	1	4	1	2	1
Wages & benefits – donor and grant funds:	392	600	703	700	624	606
Wages & benefits – donor and grant funds - students:	0	48	21	19	15	19
SS&M – general fund	25	1	0	0	1	0
SS&M – sports broadcasting	58	29	27	27	53	38
SS&M – electricity	14	18	15	13	16	13
SS&M – donor and grant funds	355	164	235	192	290	326
Total, before administrative, capital, and depreciation	1,535	1,188	1,343	1,278	1,280	1,238
Administrative, capital, and depreciation costs	631	506	682	457	698	597
Total audited operating expenses	\$ 2,166	\$ 1,694	\$ 2,025	\$ 1,735	\$ 1,978	\$ 1,835

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## Looking ahead

- Stay focused on strategic priorities of strong listener growth, increased fundraising, and content partnerships for increased coverage
- Increased emphasis on major gifts and corporate underwriting
- Commitment to hyper-local focus in news, music, and arts partnerships
- Continued focus on expense reductions and cost containment
- Review operating costs and reduce expenses to better align with strategic priorities
- Committed to continued reduction of General Fund support

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## Looking ahead

WEMU's dedicated team of broadcast professionals recognizes the challenges presented by remaining a local news, information, cultural, and music provider at a time of the changing media landscape and aging infrastructure.

We remain committed to increasing audience size, donations, and major gifts; becoming more self-sustaining; supporting the career development of more students; providing live coverage of EMU Athletics games; and, remaining a vital public voice and regional presence for Eastern Michigan University.

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