WEST HENNEPIN PUBLIC SAFETY DEPARTMENT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Wednesday, February 12, 2025 8:00 a.m. WHPS Conference Room

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Election of 2025 Treasurer and Secretary
- 3. Additions to the Agenda
- 4. ****Consent Agenda ****

All items listed under Consent Agenda are routine by police commissioners and will be acted upon by one motion. There will be no separate discussion on these items. If discussion is desired, that item will be removed from the Consent agenda and will be considered separately.

- a. Approval of January 28, 2025, Police Commission Minutes
- b. Sign the Previously Approved December 2024 Monthly Claims

Old Business

5. Choose Top Police Chief Candidate

New Business

- Suggested 2025 PC Meeting Dates. All Meetings Held in WHPS' Conference Room at 8:00 a.m.
 - March 12, 2025, Police Commission confirms job offer and hires interim Police Chief
 - April 8, 2025
 - July 22, 2025
 - September 9, 2025
 - December 9, 2025 (if needed)
- 7. Adjourn

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS Tuesday, January 28, 2025 2:30 p.m.

West Hennepin Public Safety Conference Room

MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order.

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the West Hennepin Public Safety Board of Commissioners was called to order at 2:30 p.m. by Chairperson Julie Maas-Kusske.

Present in Person: Commissioner Mayor Brad Spencer, Commissioner Mayor Julie

Maas-Kusske, Commissioner Ray McCoy, Alternate Commissioner

Connie Francis, Director Gary Kroells, Alternate Recording

Secretary Administrative Assistant Kaylen Dwinell

Others Present: Maple Plain City Administrator Jacob Kolander, Independence City

Administrator Mark Kaltsas

Absent: Commissioner Mike DeLuca

2. Election of 2025 WHPS Officers – Chairperson/Vice-Chairperson/Secretary/ Treasurer

Motion by McCoy, for Spencer to be Chairperson and Maas-Kusske to be Vice Chairperson, seconded by Francis. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Spencer then led the meeting.

There were no motions to change Treasurer and Secretary positions.

3. Additions to the Agenda

There were no additions to the agenda. Motion by McCoy, seconded by Maas-Kusske, to accept the agenda. All voted aye. Motion carried.

4. ***Consent Agenda***

There were no questions of the consent agenda items consisting of:

- a) Approval of December 10,2024, Police Commission Minutes
- b) Review of December 2024 Activity Report
- c) Review of December 2024 Claims
- d) Review of 2024 YTD Budget Report and Cash Assets Reports
- e) Review of 2024 Accrued Vacation/Comp/Sick Time Reports

Motion by McCoy, seconded by Maas-Kusske, to approve consent agenda items. All voted aye. Motion carried.

5. Items of Interest-Community Events

The following items were reviewed:

- December 8 Thank you email to Chief Kroells for assistance in changing speed limit on Co 92
- December 11 WHPS department meeting annual potluck breakfast
- December 12 Part-time officer interviewed at WHPS
- December 13, 16, 17 Chief Kroells participated in City of Independence Public Works interviews.
- December 13 Sgt. Howes and Reserve Officer Schreier attended Toys for Tots drop-off
- December 18 Chief Kroells attended meeting with MN State Patrol and Hennepin County Dispatch on Local Based Reporting (LBR) on Highway 12
- December 23 Chief Kroells met with many potential applicants for Chief's position
- January 2, 2025 Hwy 12 Safety Coalition meeting. Sqt. Howes elected vice-chair
- January 6 WHPS officers attended swearing in for Maple Plain elected officials
- January 7 WHPS officer attended swearing in for Independence elected officials
- January 8 Police commission interviews for part-time officer
- January 9 Chief Kroells, Sgt. Howes, and Sgt. Ebeling attending Hennepin County Chief's Association meeting
- January 10 Chief Kroells and Officer Lueth attended Orono Forensic Day at Orono High School

Old Business

6. West Hennepin Public Safety Department Joint Powers Agreement Signed December 16, 2024

The commissioners agreed at the December 10, 2024, meeting to update the JPA to five years with a three year out notification period and requested it be signed by both councils. On December 16, 2024, both city councils approved the updated JPA. A copy was included in the packets as well as copies of both signed resolutions. In early 2025, Director Kroells will review the signed WHPS JPA for minor language changes. He recommended the commission consider rewriting this to not include city clerks or city administrators as signors on WHPS bank accounts and only have the two mayors and the Director of Public Safety authorized to sign checks and perform electronic transfers. Once the changes are made to the JPA, it must be approved by both city councils. Motion by Maas-Kusske, and pending city council approval, that the suggested changes be made in the JPA and bank signature cards be updated to the four commissioners. Motion seconded by McCoy. All voted aye. Motion carried.

7. Interview and Hiring Timeline for Director Position

Director Kroells will retire on April 30, 2025. His last day in the office will be April 24, 2025. His position was posted on multiple websites with an application deadline of January 10, 2025. Applications received were reviewed. One applicant withdrew. Four applicants were interviewed today. The other five will be interviewed tomorrow. Second round interviews will be held February 5, 2025, and the Police Commission should meet again on February 12, 2025, to make a final decision on the top candidate. Director Kroells will then reach out to that candidate to make a conditional offer and would like both the Police Commission Chair and Vice Chair present during

negotiations. Motion by Maas-Kusske seconded by McCoy, that the Chair and Vice Chair, on behalf of the Police Commission, work with the Director during negotiations for the next Director of Public Safety and that the next Police Commission meeting be held Wednesday, February 12, 2025, 8 a.m., in the WHPS conference room to select the top candidate. All voted aye. Motion carried.

8. Updates on Officers and Staff

Per Director Kroells, officers, and staff updates were:

- New officer unexpectedly turned in her resignation on December 6, 2024.
- Administrative Assistant will be out sometime in the next month or so on maternity leave. WHPS is currently having the chief, sergeants, and office manager pick up the gaps and perform her job duties while she is on maternity leave. Chief Kroells would like to have a discussion with the Police Commissioners on assisting this valuable employee during maternity leave. Director Kroells asked the Police Commission for approval to front load 2025 sick time for an Administrative Assistant who will be out soon on maternity leave. Motion by McCoy, seconded by Maas-Kusske, for sick time to be front loaded for WHPS employee. All voted aye. Motion carried.
- Administrative assistant is having some medical needs that are being worked through.
- Part-time officer who took a new position at Minneapolis Police Department has resigned from WHPS.
- Chief Kroells' last day of employment will be April 24, 2025. His open house will be held on April 22, 2025.
- Officer Anderson resigned from his position as reserve coordinator. Officer Zilles will be taking over this role as reserve coordinator.
- Sergeant Ebeling has stepped down from his role as primary use of force/firearms instructor and has shifted the position to Officer Raskin. Sergeant Ebeling will continue to supervise and monitor our use of force program.

9. Promoting a Part-Time Officer to Full-Time Officer

One part-time officer approached Director Kroells and expressed interest in the open full-time police officer position. Negotiations are being worked out with an expected start date of March 26, 2025. This will put WHPS at ten full-time police officers. Because he will be taking a significant pay cut to become a full-time officer the following was negotiated with him:

- start at 2025 rate for top patrol
- have three weeks of vacation front loaded in 2025 and after that earn three weeks of vacation per year according to the monthly vacation schedule,
- have one full year of 96 hours of sick time front loaded for 2025,
- receive nine years of prior years of service,
- receive longevity pay after three years of full-time employment.

Motion by Maas-Kusske, seconded by McCoy, to promote this part-time officer to full-time officer with the negotiated terms. All voted aye. Motion carried.

10. Part-Time Officer Interviews

A final interview with a part-time candidate went well and a conditional job offer was made pending a successful background, psychology exam, and fitness for duty exam

that are expected to be completed in the next six weeks. Once those are done his field training will begin.

New Business

11. Discontinuation of Weapon Mounted Camera Program

Director Kroells requested to end the use of the Viridian weapon mounted cameras with officer duty weapons and updating Policy #421 Portable Audio/Video Recorders to become current with this change. Director Kroells and Sergeant Ebeling met with Viridian to talk about the current challenges with finding holsters to fit the officers' guns with the weapon mounted cameras. Motion by McCoy, seconded by Maas-Kusske, to discontinue the use of Viridian weapon mounted cameras. All voted aye. Motion carried.

12. Update of Evidence Policy and Awards Policy

The Commission approved updating WHPS' Property Inventory Policy 801, Commendation and Awards Policy 1013, and Uniform Policy 1022. Motion by Maas-Kusske, seconded by McCoy, to approve policy 801, 1013, and 1022 updates. All voted aye. Motion carried.

13. Life Saving Award January 22, 2025

On January 22, 2025, WHPS, North Memorial and Mac Dermod Alpha presented two of their employees a lifesaving award for a cardiac arrest on November 19, 2024. This was well attended by police commissioners and city officials.

14. New Squad for 2025

The Commission reviewed a memo from Sergeant Ebeling regarding a proposal for purchasing a 2024 Chevy Silverado in 2025. The cost is \$52,252 through North Country, which is a state contract bid and is in WHPS' Capital Improvement Plan for 2025. This is about \$4,000 more than a Tahoe but Tahoe's are hard to come by and these pickups are available now and will have a higher resale value. Motion by McCoy, seconded by Francis, to purchase a 2024 Chevrolet Silverado. All voted aye. Motion carried.

15. Citizens Police Academy Postponement

Due to staffing changes, Citizens Police Academy will be pushed off to Fall of 2025 or Spring of 2026.

16. Discussion on Lift Assists at Care Facilities

WHPS and Maple Plain Fire have been called to Haven Homes in Maple Plain on numerous calls for service for minor medicals, falls and lift assists. Sgt. Ebeling is working putting together call data in regard to these types of calls for service at that facility. He and Investigator Thompson attended training at Crystal City Hall because all public safety facilities are seeing an increase in these types of calls at congregate living facilities. Their key takeaway was that the State of Minnesota doesn't use the term 'independent living'. The State of Minnesota considers all congregate living as 'assisted living', no matter what level of care is required.

Conversation was had about ongoing concerns regarding Haven Homes employees not assisting with falls as staff are not authorized to assist since they aren't covered under the Good Samaritan if something happens to the patient. There is another potential new senior care facility coming to Maple Plain called Comfort Haven. As these facilities are being built, WHPS is going to be busier with more calls for service.

17. Minnesota Department of Human Rights Complaint

WHPS received a subpoena on January 17th, 2025, regarding an individual who claims to have been discriminated against. Director Kroells is struggling with who WHPS' attorney is to assist with this civil litigation. He reached out to Maple Plain's city attorney and was told it's not theirs and to call the League of MN Cities. He called WHPS' attorney who handles criminal and was told they don't handle civil for WHPS. He has also reached out to the League of MN Cities but hasn't heard back from them yet. Carson & Clelland's office advised Director Kroells to give the MN Department of Human Rights whatever they want. The data will be put together and forwarded to the MN Department of Human Rights.

18. West Metro Drug Task Force JPA Update

When the West Metro Drug Task Force (WMDTF) combined with the Southwest Metro Drug Task Force (SMDTF), the JPA was required to updated. Multiple city attorneys have reviewed and approved the updated JPA. Director Kroells did not have the WHPS city attorney review it to save money and didn't find it necessary. The WMDTF will meet this Thursday, February 6, 2025, to approve this JPA. Director Kroells asked for approval to sign it. Motion by Maas-Kusske, seconded by McCoy, for approval to give direction to Director Kroells to sign the updated WMDTF JPA. All voted aye. Motion carried.

19. Hennepin County 911 Embedded Social Worker JPA Renewal

This program is asking to renew the current JPA WHPS has with them for the free 911 embedded social worker. Director Kroells requested the Police Commission's approval for him to sign the JPA renewal. Motion by McCoy, seconded by Francis, to approve the updated 911 Embedded Social Worker JPA and for Director Kroells to sign it. All voted aye. Motion carried.

20. 2025 PC Meeting Dates. All Meetings Held in WHPS' Conference Room at 8:00 a.m. Suggested dates:

- January 28-29, 2025, Chief of Police interviews with entire Police Commission
- February 5, 2025, second Chief of Police interviews for top candidates
- February 12, 2025, offer conditional job to top candidate
- March 12, 2025, confirm job offer and hire interim Police Chief
- April 8, 2025
- July 22, 2025
- September 9, 2025
- December 9, 2025 (if needed)

21. Adjourn

Motion by Maas-Kusske, seconded by Francis, to adjourn. All voted aye. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

West Hennepin Public Safety Monthly Claims December 2024

Туре	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Account	Clı	Split	Amount
D	40/0/04			Parasi's	West Hammis Berner	.1	500 H. Davetieve December	500.00
Deposit	12/3/24 12/3/24			Deposit	West Hennepin Reserves	√ √	503 U · Donations-Reserves -SPLIT-	500.00 ########
Deposit General Jo		731		Deposit monthly requisition, December 2024	West Hennepin Public Safety West Hennepin Public Safety	√ √	1701 - Capital Improvement Fund	-10,000.00
Liability Ch			Internal Revenue Service	2024 Holiday Checks	West Hennepin Public Safety	√ √	-SPLIT-	-5,108.76
Liability Ch		MN REV	MN Dept. of Revenue	2024 Holiday Checks	West Hennepin Public Safety	√	2100 · Payroll Liabilities	-1,786.00
Liability Ch			PERA	2024 Holiday Checks	West Hennepin Public Safety	V	-SPLIT-	-11,014.44
Deposit	12/9/24			Deposit	West Hennepin Reserves	V	503 U · Donations-Reserves	250.00
Check	12/9/24	1689	Employee	View Santa expense reimb	West Hennepin Reserves		601 A · View Santa	-518.09
Check	12/10/24	35720	Streicher's Police Equipment	uniform expenses	West Hennepin Public Safety		-SPLIT-	-3,149.67
Check	12/10/24	35721	CenterPoint Energy	office gas usage	West Hennepin Public Safety		207 · Utilities/Gas/Electric	-188.77
Check	12/10/24	35723	City of Independence	utility expense reimb	West Hennepin Public Safety		207 · Utilities/Gas/Electric	-562.53
Check	12/10/24	35722	Loffler - Leasing	monhtly copier lease	West Hennepin Public Safety		203 · Office/Opr Equip Maintenance	-260.57
Check	12/10/24	35724	Thomson Reuters - West	monthly subscription fee	West Hennepin Public Safety	V	302 A3 · Investigative IT Fees	-140.03
Check	12/10/24	35725	Suburban Tire Wholesale Inc.	4 squad tires	West Hennepin Public Safety	√.	303 · Auto Maintenance	-720.00
Check	12/10/24		Element Technologies, LLC	monthly IT services	West Hennepin Public Safety	√,	-SPLIT-	-18,244.21
Check	12/10/24		Hennepin County Accounts Receivable		West Hennepin Public Safety	٧,	302 F · Radios, MDCs	-1,015.36
Check	12/10/24		Delano Carquest	squad maintenance expense	West Hennepin Public Safety	٧	303 · Auto Maintenance	-29.94
Check	12/10/24		PERA	Officer Ben Raskin	West Hennepin Public Safety	٧	101 · Payroll Expenses	-20,133.09
Check	12/10/24 12/10/24		HealthPartners Inc MN Chiefs of Police Assoc.	medical ins premiums	West Hennepin Public Safety	√ √	-SPLIT-	-21,983.11 -593.00
Check Check	12/10/24		Employee	2025 membership dues View Santa expense reimb	West Hennepin Public Safety West Hennepin Reserves	√ √	601 A · View Santa	-336.03
Check	12/10/24		Total Printing Services	View Santa expense	West Hennepin Reserves	V	601 A · View Santa	-145.00
General Jo			rotal Finding Colvidos	WHPS' share, Off. Raskin's Military LOA	1704 · Military PERA Designation	√	-SPLIT-	-20,133.09
General Jo				for 2025 medical ins. premium	104 A · Disability Medical Insurance		-SPLIT-	-1,535.09
Liability Ch	12/16/24	PERA	PERA	Dec 16, 2024 payroll	West Hennepin Public Safety	V	-SPLIT-	-14,938.17
Liability Ch	12/16/24	FSA	TASC	Dec 16, 2024 payroll	West Hennepin Public Safety		2100 · Payroll Liabilities	-147.83
Liability Ch	12/16/24	IRS	Internal Revenue Service	Dec 16, 2024 payroll	West Hennepin Public Safety		-SPLIT-	-7,983.10
Liability Ch	12/16/24	MN REV	MN Dept. of Revenue	Dec 16, 2024 payroll	West Hennepin Public Safety		2100 · Payroll Liabilities	-2,475.00
Liability Ch	12/16/24	B-MP	Bank of Maple Plain - Paychecks	Dec 16, 2024 payroll	West Hennepin Public Safety		2100 · Payroll Liabilities	-37,854.37
Liability Ch	12/16/24	EJ	John Hancock	Dec 16, 2024 payroll	West Hennepin Public Safety		2100 · Payroll Liabilities	-350.00
Liability Ch	12/16/24	HSA	Optum Bank	Dec 16, 2024 payroll	West Hennepin Public Safety		2100 - Payroll Liabilities	-1,379.62
Check	12/16/24	35732	Elan Financial Services	monthly credit card charges	West Hennepin Public Safety	V	-SPLIT-	-2,278.03
Check	12/16/24	1692	Elan Financial Services	View Santa expense	West Hennepin Reserves	√.	601 A · View Santa	-363.02
Deposit	12/19/24			Deposit	West Hennepin Crime Prevention	٧,	503 G · Miscellaneous	100.00
Deposit	12/20/24			Deposit	West Hennepin Public Safety	٧,	-SPLIT-	8,695.93
Check	12/20/24		West Hennepin Public Safety Petty Cas		West Hennepin Public Safety	V	-SPLIT-	-200.00
Check Check	12/30/24		Employee Streicher's Police Equipment	expense reimbursement uniform expense	West Hennepin Public Safety		105 A · Full-Time Employee 105 C · WHPS Expense	-134.64
Check	12/30/24 12/30/24		Verizon Wireless	cell phones/wireless aircards	West Hennepin Public Safety West Hennepin Public Safety		201 · Telephone	-23.98 -733.58
Check	12/30/24		Office of MNIT Services	monthly WAN fees	West Hennepin Public Safety		206 · Books/Dues/Subscriptions	-52.88
Check	12/30/24		Davis Chevrolet of Delano	squad repair	West Hennepin Public Safety		-SPLIT-	-1,543.75
Check	12/30/24		Mid-County Coop	fuel tank fills	West Hennepin Public Safety		-SPLIT-	-2,222.10
Check	12/30/24		Jordan Consulting and Counseling	officer wellness	West Hennepin Public Safety		307 F · Wellness Program	-150.00
Check	12/30/24	35741	CenterPoint Energy	office gas usage	West Hennepin Public Safety		207 · Utilities/Gas/Electric	-632.96
Check	12/30/24	35742	VitalSigns	squad equipment decals	West Hennepin Public Safety		303 · Auto Maintenance	-325.00
Check	12/30/24	35743	Davis Chevrolet of Delano	VOID: squad maint/repair	West Hennepin Public Safety		303 · Auto Maintenance	0.00
Check	12/30/24	35744	Mid-County Coop	fuel tank fill	West Hennepin Public Safety		304 · Fuel and Oil	-716.70
Check	12/30/24	35745	Lynn Lembcke Consulting	BWC Audit 2024	West Hennepin Public Safety		404 · Contingency Fund	-1,000.00
Check	12/30/24	35746	Peterson Counseling & Consulting	officer wellness visits	West Hennepin Public Safety		307 F · Wellness Program	-290.00
Check	12/30/24	35747	Superior Background Investigations	background investigation	West Hennepin Public Safety		610 · State Public Safety Aid	-1,225.00
Check	12/30/24	35748	TASC	qrtly COBRA admin Fee	West Hennepin Public Safety		104 D · Benefits Administration Fees	
Check	12/30/24		City of Independence	dental ins premiums	West Hennepin Public Safety		104 E · Dental Insurance	-1,049.24
Check	12/30/24		Standard Insurance Company	life and std ins premiums	West Hennepin Public Safety		-SPLIT-	-533.55
Check	12/30/24		Reliance Standard Life Ins.	Itd ins premiums	West Hennepin Public Safety		104 H · Long Term Disability	-596.60
Check	12/30/24		City of Independence	shared office cleaning expense	West Hennepin Public Safety		207 · Utilities/Gas/Electric	-614.50
Check General Jo	12/30/24		Delano Sportsmen's Club	annual membership dues TASC 2025 crtly CORRA admin fee	West Hennepin Public Safety 104 D · Benefits Administration Fees		-SPLIT-	-550.00 -41.46
Deposit	12/30/24	1 JH		TASC, 2025 qrtly COBRA admin fee Deposit	West Hennepin Crime Prevention	\$ √	-SPLIT- 503 G · Miscellaneous	-41.46 100.00
Deposit	12/30/24			Deposit	West Hennepin Public Safety		-SPLIT-	250.00
Deposit	12/30/24			Deposit	West Hennepin Public Safety	√ √	-SPLIT-	94.25
Liability Ch		B-MP	Bank of Maple Plain - Paychecks	Dec 31, 2024 payroll	West Hennepin Public Safety	√	2100 · Payroll Liabilities	-36,324.00
Liability Ch			PERA	Dec 31, 2024 payroll	West Hennepin Public Safety		-SPLIT-	Pag,648o752

West Hennepin Public Safety **Monthly Claims**

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Dece	mber	2024	

Liability Ch	12/31/24 IRS	Internal Revenue Service	Dec 31, 2024 payroll	West Hennepin Public Safety	$\sqrt{}$	-SPLIT-	-8,2	85.50
Liability Ch	12/31/24 MN REV	MN Dept. of Revenue	Dec 31, 2024 payroll	West Hennepin Public Safety		2100 · Payroll Liabilities	-2,5	77.00
Liability Ch	12/31/24 FSA	TASC	Dec 31, 2024 payroll	West Hennepin Public Safety		2100 · Payroll Liabilities	-1	47.83
Liability Ch	12/31/24 EJ	John Hancock	Dec 31, 2024 payroll	West Hennepin Public Safety		2100 · Payroll Liabilities	-3	50.00
Liability Ch	12/31/24 HSA	Optum Bank	Dec 31, 2024 payroll	West Hennepin Public Safety	$\sqrt{}$	2100 · Payroll Liabilities	-1,3	79.62
Check	12/31/24 MSRS	MN State Retirement System	2024 HCSP contributions	West Hennepin Public Safety		-SPLIT-	-5,9	62.56
Deposit	12/31/24		Deposit	West Hennepin Public Safety	$\sqrt{}$	503 V3 - Other	3,9	14.20
Deposit	12/31/24		Deposit	West Hennepin Public Safety	$\sqrt{}$	503 V3 · Other	5,3	36.06
General Jo	12/31/24 735		FFP JUSTICE Funds, Asset ID #21-DEA-677074	503 V3 - Other		West Hennepin Public Safety	3,9	14.20
General Jo	12/31/24 736		transfer FFP JUSTICE Funds, Asset ID #21-DEA-67707	West Hennepin Forfeiture Fund	$\sqrt{}$	503 N6 · Justice Funds	3,9	14.20
General Jo	12/31/24 737		FFP JUSTICE Funds, Asset ID #23-DEA-698980	503 V3 · Other		West Hennepin Public Safety	5,3	36.06
General Jo	12/31/24 738		transfer FFP JUSTICE Funds, Asset ID #23-DEA-6989	West Hennepin Forfeiture Fund	$\sqrt{}$	503 N6 - Justice Funds	5,3	36.06
Check	12/31/24 1693	Pilgrim Dry Cleaners	dry cleaning expense	West Hennepin Reserves		601 A · View Santa	-3	28.63
Deposit	12/31/24		Interest	West Hennepin Public Safety	$\sqrt{}$	503 F ⋅ Interest	2	58.61
Deposit	12/31/24		Interest	West Hennepin Crime Prevention	$\sqrt{}$	503 F ⋅ Interest		1.02
Deposit	12/31/24		Interest	West Hennepin Reserves	$\sqrt{}$	503 F · Interest		0.68
General Jo	12/31/24 740	Vendor	record expenses in 2024	2000 · Accounts Payable		-SPLIT-	-2,5	44.87
General Jo	12/31/24 741	Customer	Streicher's CM301443, CM301468	1200 - Accounts Receivable		503 V4 · Vest Reimbursement	1,6	16.09
General Jo	12/31/24 742	Vendor	record expenses to '24	2000 · Accounts Payable		-SPLIT-	-3,5	87.03

AUDITED &		
APPROVED		