

OFFICE OF THE STATE AUDITOR E-Update

May 22, 2015

The official online news publication of the Office of the State Auditor

	1.	Pension:	Joint-Powers	Subgroup	Meetings
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2. Released: TIF Newsletter

3. Avoiding Pitfalls: Computer Scams

1. Pension: Joint-Powers Subgroup Meetings

The Volunteer Fire Relief Association Working Group agreed to form a subgroup to identify issues related to joint-powers fire departments and their affiliated relief associations. Meetings of the Joint-Powers Subgroup have been scheduled for June 16, June 24, July 13, and August 4. All meetings will be held from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. at our office in Saint Paul.

Meetings are open to the public and those interested are encouraged to attend. If you have any questions, please contact Rose Hennessy Allen at <u>rose.hennessy-allen@osa.state.mn.us</u> or at (651) 296-5985.

2. Released: TIF Newsletter

The May **TIF Newsletter** has been released. The Newsletter contains information on the 2014 TIF Annual Reporting Forms and Pooled Debt Forms, including details on a new series of videos which provide guidance for completing the forms. The Newsletter also includes information on upcoming TIF trainings for development authorities and for counties.

To view the complete Newsletter, go to:

http://www.auditor.state.mn.us/default.aspx?page=tifDocs.

3. Avoiding Pitfalls: Computer Scams

Government entities, like individuals, may be targets of scams. Recent scams involve telephone calls from someone offering to fix your computer or to protect your computer from

the latest computer virus or malware. The caller may claim to be a software or computer representative. To provide you with assistance, the caller will ask for remote access to your computer.

If you receive a telephone call asking you to provide someone with remote access to your computer, do not agree unless you initiated the request for assistance from a vendor you know and trust. Do not use a telephone number or website provided by the caller to verify the identity of the caller.

If you fall victim to one of these scams, report it to law enforcement and to the Federal Trade Commission at https://www.ftccomplaintassistant.gov/. Local units of government may want to contact their attorney for advice on appropriate steps to take if security is breached.

If you are interested in signing up to receive an e-mail version of the E-Update regularly, <u>click</u> <u>here</u>.

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