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As the Comanche County Assessor and on behalf of our entire team, I want to apologize for the Goodyear valuation error that was made in 2021. I agree with the statement from Cache's Superintendent, Chad Hance, that transparency is extremely important, and I want to provide more information about when and how the error occurred, what has been done to correct it, and what we are doing to prevent something like this moving forward.

In March of 2021, Goodyear provided several valuation numbers to our office. When a Deputy Assessor input the data into our system, a clerical error was made that resulted in a decrease in tax revenue of \$3,334,588. The rest of the deficit mentioned by Mr. Hance came from three of Goodyear's exemptions that the Oklahoma Tax Commission did not allow that were unrelated to the clerical error.

More than a year passed before the error was caught and brought to our attention on June 22, 2022 by Goodyear's accounting firm. Over the course of that year, there was some communication back and forth between our office and the Oklahoma Tax Commission about removing and reinstating Goodyear's exemptions, but nothing about the valuation was discussed and we were not aware of the error until a few weeks ago.

The property valuation process involves many different entities and requires great attention to detail, and we take the responsibility of our role very seriously. I want to express my deepest apologies to everyone impacted by our error, and I know the timing of this is especially bad with the current inflation environment and the increase in taxes from the recently passed bond issues. To better understand how this could impact your property taxes in the Cache school district (if they do go up 15% as Superintendent Hance estimated) that would be approximately \$157 on a \$100,000 home.

It's unfathomable that one simple clerical error could cause a situation like this and be overlooked for so long, but that's the reality of the situation, and I am so sorry to everyone. My team and I have met and implemented several new due diligence steps to prevent anything like this from happening again. If anyone would like more information about this situation or the error itself, please feel free to contact my office or come by.

Sincerely,

Grant Edwards
Comanche County Assessor