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In estimating what the General Fund Surplus would be at year-end, I had to estimate remaining claims and salary expenses. I am assuming that we will have approximately \$300,000 in claims and \$310,000 in wages yet to pay in 2016. With those estimates, that puts the surplus percentage at 39% at year-end. We have to be at or below 40%.

Below is an estimate of percentages with various amounts of new designations:

\$1 million	31% surplus
\$1.5 million	27% surplus
\$2 million	23% surplus

Historically, we've ended the year at 26% over the past 5 years.

23% in 2011
29% in 2012
28% in 2013
26% in 2014
24% in 2015

My recommendation would be to stay around that 25% surplus, which means an additional \$1.5 - \$1.75 million could be designated. I caution that these are estimates only.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stacy Steffensen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "S".

Stacy Steffensen
Commission Department Director
Brookings County, South Dakota