

**BIENVILLE PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT,  
WARD 7  
BIENVILLE PARISH, LOUISIANA  
FINANCIAL REPORT  
DECEMBER 31, 2020**

Bienville Parish Fire Protection District, Ward 7  
Financial Report  
December 31, 2020

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# Bienville Parish Fire Protection District, Ward 7

**P. O. Box 309  
Saline, LA 71070**

## MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

This section of the Bienville Parish Fire Protections District, Ward 7's, (hereafter referred to as the District) annual financial report presents an overview and analysis of the District's financial activities for the year ended December 31, 2020. The intent of the MD&A is to look at the District's financial performance as a whole. It should, therefore be read in conjunction with this report. Certain comparative information is presented to provide an overview of the District's operations.

### Financial Highlights

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements. The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities provide information about the activities of the District as a whole and presents a longer-term view of the District's finances. These statements tell how these services were financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending.

#### Government-Wide Financial Statements

- The Statement of Net Position presents all of the District's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as "net position". Over time, increases or decreases in the District's net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the District is improving or deteriorating.
- The Statement of Activities presents information showing how the District's net position changed during the current year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows. Therefore, some revenues and some expenses that are reported in this statement will not result in cash flows until future years.

#### Fund Financial Statements

The services provided by the District are financed through a governmental fund. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The District uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. The District conducts its day-to-day operations through a governmental fund, the General Fund. These statements provide a short-term view of the District's finances and assists in determining whether there will be adequate financial resources available to meet the current needs of the District.

A summary of the basic government-wide financial statements is as follows:

Summary of Statement of Net Position

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
ASSETS:		
Assets	\$1,390,180	\$1,254,024
Capital Assets, Net of Accumulated Depreciation	<u>931,891</u>	<u>935,746</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$2,322,071</u>	<u>\$2,189,770</u>
LIABILITIES:		
Current Liabilities	\$ <u>7,212</u>	\$ <u>7,713</u>
NET POSITION:		
Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$ 931,891	\$ 935,746
Unrestricted	<u>1,382,968</u>	<u>1,246,311</u>
Total Net Position	<u>\$2,314,859</u>	<u>\$2,182,057</u>

## Summary of Statement of Activities

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
REVENUES:		
Program Revenues-		
Intergovernmental	\$ 19,576	\$ 18,339
General Revenues-		
Taxes	524,902	565,300
Other	<u>2,857</u>	<u>13,819</u>
Total Revenues	\$547,335	\$597,458
EXPENSES:		
Current-		
Public Safety	<u>414,533</u>	<u>412,719</u>
Change in Net Position	<u>\$132,802</u>	<u>\$184,739</u>

- The District's assets exceeded its liabilities by \$2,314,859 (net position) for the year. For the prior year this was \$2,182,057.
- Unrestricted Net Position of \$1,382,968 represents the portion available to maintain the District's obligation to both citizens and creditors. This is an increase of \$136,657 from prior year.

### General Fund Budgetary Highlights

Revenues continue to be sufficient to enable the District to provide the necessary fire protection services to the citizens of the District.

### Economic Factors and Next Year's Budget

As the primary revenue source for the District is property taxes, this type of tax is not subject to changes in the economy, in the short-term. However, in the long-term, significant increases or decreases in the tax base would be evident. Revenues and expenditures for 2021 should not change significantly from 2020.

### Contacting the Fire District

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, and creditors with a general overview of the District's finances and to show the District's accountability for the money it receives. Any questions about this report or requests for additional information may be directed to the District at P. O. Box 309, Saline, LA 71070.

**T | C | B | T**  
**THOMAS, CUNNINGHAM, BROADWAY & TODTENBIER**  
*Certified Public Accountants*

Eddie G. Johnson, CPA - A Professional Corporation (1927-1996)

Mark D. Thomas, CPA - A Professional Corporation  
Roger M. Cunningham, CPA - A Professional Corporation  
Jessica H. Broadway, CPA - A Professional Corporation  
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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT**

Bienville Parish Fire  
Protection District, Ward 7  
Bienville Parish, Louisiana

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and major fund of the Bienville Parish Fire Protection District, Ward 7, a component unit of the Bienville Parish Policy Jury, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the Table of Contents.

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

Management of the District 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 the 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 audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide*. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit 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 respective financial position of the governmental activities and major fund of the District as of December 31, 2020, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

## **Other Matters**

### *Required Supplementary Information*

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis on pages 1 through 4 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, who 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 Management's Discussion and Analysis 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.

### *Other Information*

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements. The Budgetary Comparison Schedule and Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer, listed as other supplementary information in the Table of Contents, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The Budgetary Comparison Schedule and Schedule of Compensation, Benefits, and Other Payments to Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the Budgetary Comparison Schedule and Schedule of Compensation, Benefits, and Other Payments to Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.



*Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 23, 2021, on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

*Thomas, Cunningham, Broadway & Todtenbier, CPA's*

Thomas, Cunningham, Broadway & Todtenbier, CPA's  
Natchitoches, Louisiana

June 23, 2021

## BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

GOVERNMENT-WIDE  
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Bienville Parish Fire Protection District, Ward 7  
Statement of Net Position  
December 31, 2020

ASSETS:

Current Assets-

Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 897,785
Revenue Receivable	<u>491,965</u>

Total Current Assets	<u>\$1,389,750</u>
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Non-Current Assets-

Capital Assets (Net)	\$ 931,891
Utility Deposits	<u>430</u>

Total Non-Current Assets	<u>\$ 932,321</u>
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Total Assets	<u>\$2,322,071</u>
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LIABILITIES:

Accounts Payable	\$ 5,155
Payroll Liabilities	<u>2,057</u>

Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 7,212</u>
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NET POSITION:

Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$ 931,891
Unrestricted	<u>1,382,968</u>

Total Net Position	<u>\$2,314,859</u>
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See notes to financial statements and independent auditor's report.

Bienville Parish Fire Protection District, Ward 7  
Statement of Activities  
December 31, 2020

<u>Activities</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Program Revenues</u>		<u>Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position Governmental Activities</u>
		<u>Charges for Services</u>	<u>Operating Grants and Contributions</u>	
Governmental Activities:				
Public Safety	<u>\$414,533</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$19,576</u>	<u>\$ (394,957)</u>
General Revenues:				
	Taxes-			
	Property Tax			\$ 524,902
	Interest & Miscellaneous			<u>2,857</u>
	Total General Revenues			<u>\$ 527,759</u>
	Change in Net Position			\$ 132,802
	Net Position January 1, 2020			<u>2,182,057</u>
	Net Position December 31, 2020			<u>\$2,314,859</u>

See notes to financial statements and independent auditor's report.

## FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Bienville Parish Fire Protection District, Ward 7  
Balance Sheet-Governmental Fund  
December 31, 2020

Assets:

Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 897,785
Revenue Receivable	491,965
Other Assets - Deposits	<u>430</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$1,390,180</u>

Liabilities:

Accounts Payable	\$ 5,155
Payroll Liabilities	<u>2,057</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 7,212</u>

Fund Balance:

Nonspendable- Deposits	\$ 430
Unassigned	<u>1,382,538</u>
Total Fund Balance	<u>\$1,382,968</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	<u>\$1,390,180</u>

See notes to financial statements and independent auditor's report.

Bienville Parish Fire Protection District, Ward 7  
Reconciliation of the Governmental Fund  
Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Position  
December 31, 2020

Total Fund Balance for the Governmental Fund	\$1,382,968
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Amounts reported for Governmental Activities  
in the Statement of Net Position are different because:

Capital Assets used in Governmental Activities are not  
current financial resources and, therefore, are not  
reported in the Governmental Fund Balance Sheet.  
Those assets consist of:

Capital Assets (Net)	<u>931,891</u>
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Total Net Position of Governmental Activities	<u>\$2,314,859</u>
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Bienville Parish Fire Protection District, Ward 7  
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance-  
Governmental Fund  
Year Ended December 31, 2020

REVENUES:

Taxes	\$ 524,902
Intergovernmental-	
State Grant	5,362
Local - Fire Insurance Rebate	14,214
Miscellaneous	
Other	1,826
Interest	<u>1,031</u>
Total Revenues	<u>\$ 547,335</u>

EXPENDITURES:

Current-	
Public Safety-	
Fuel	\$ 6,317
Equipment Repairs & Maint.	45,879
Capital Outlay	139,930
Insurance	40,109
Legal & Accounting	15,817
Office	2,981
Outside Services	90
Rent	1,800
Building & Grounds	3,539
Salaries & Related Costs	106,807
Supplies	16,787
Travel/Education	1,010
Utilities/Telephone	14,457
Uniforms	5,250
Volunteers	<u>9,905</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 410,678</u>

Excess of Revenues over Expenditures \$ 136,657

Fund Balance-Beginning of Year 1,246,311

Fund Balance-End of Year \$1,382,968

See notes to financial statements and independent auditor's report.

Bienville Parish Fire Protection District, Ward 7  
Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures  
and Changes in Fund Balance of the Governmental Fund  
to the Statement of Activities  
for the Year Ended December 31, 2020

Net Change in Fund Balance-Governmental Fund	\$ 136,657
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Amounts reported for Governmental Activities  
in the Statement of Activities is different because:

Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures.  
However, in the Statement of Activities, the cost of these  
assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as  
depreciation expense. The cost of capital assets recorded  
in the current period is

139,930
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Depreciation Expense on capital assets is reported in the  
government-wide financial statements, but does not  
require the use of current financial resources and is not  
reported in the Fund Financial Statements. Current year  
depreciation expense is

<u>(143,785)</u>
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Change in Net Position, per Statement of Activities	\$ <u>132,802</u>
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## NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Bienville Parish Fire Protection District, Ward 7  
Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2020

1. Introduction:

Bienville Parish Fire Protection District, Ward 7 was created by the Bienville Parish Police Jury under the provisions of Louisiana Revised Statutes 40:1492-1601, for the purpose of providing fire protection for the citizens of the District. The District is governed by a Board of Commissioners who are resident property taxpayers of the District. The District was created to acquire and maintain buildings, machinery, equipment, water tanks, water hydrants and water lines, and any other such things necessary to provide proper fire protection and control within the District.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:

The accounting and reporting policies of Bienville Parish Fire Protection District, Ward 7 conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governmental units. Such accounting and reporting policies also conform to the requirements of Louisiana Revised Statutes 24:517 and to the guides set forth in the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide*.

A. Reporting Entity-

As the governing authority of the Parish, for reporting purposes, the Bienville Parish Police Jury (Police Jury) is the financial reporting entity for Bienville Parish. The financial reporting entity consists of (a) the primary government (police jury), (b) organizations for which the primary government is financially accountable, and (c) other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the primary government are such that exclusion would cause the reporting entity's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 14 established criteria for determining which component units should be considered part of the Police Jury for financial reporting purposes. The basic criteria for including a potential component unit within the reporting entity is financial accountability. The GASB has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. This criteria includes:

1. Appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body and
  - a. The ability of the police jury to impose its will on that organization and/or
  - b. The potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to or impose specific financial burdens on the Police Jury.
2. Organizations for which the Police Jury does not appoint a voting majority but are fiscally dependent on the Police Jury.
3. Organizations for which the reporting entity financial statements would be misleading if data of the organization is not included because of the nature or significance of the relationship.

Because the Police Jury approves the District's governing board, the District was determined to be a component unit of the Police Jury, the financial reporting entity. The accompanying financial statements present information only on the funds maintained by the District and do not present information on the Police Jury, the general government services provided by that governmental unit, or the other governmental units that comprise the financial reporting entity.

Bienville Parish Fire Protection District, Ward 7  
Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2020

B. Basis of Presentation-

Government-Wide Financial Statements (GWFS)

The Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities report information about the reporting government as a whole. They include all funds of the reporting entity. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other non-exchange revenues.

The Statement of Net Position presents the governmental-type activities on a consolidated basis, and is reported on a full accrual, economic resource basis, which recognizes all long-term assets and receivables as well as long-term debt and obligations.

The Statement of Activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the District's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function. Program revenues include (a) fees and charges paid by the recipient for goods or services offered by the program, and (b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, are presented as general revenues.

C. Fund Accounting-

The accounts of the District are organized on the basis of funds. A fund is an independent fiscal and accounting entity with a separate set of self-balancing accounts. Fund accounting segregates funds according to their intended purpose and is used to aid management in demonstrating compliance with finance-related legal and contractual provisions. The minimum number of funds maintained is consistent with legal and managerial requirements.

The District maintains only one fund. It is categorized as a governmental fund. A fund is considered major if it is the primary operating fund of the entity.

The major fund of the District is described below:

Governmental Fund-

General Fund

The General Fund is the general operating fund of the District. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Bienville Parish Fire Protection District, Ward 7  
Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2020

D. Measurement Focus/Basis of Accounting-

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues or expenditures/expenses are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. It relates to the timing of the measurements made regardless of the measurement focus applied.

Accrual Basis - Government-Wide Financial Statements (GWFS)

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities display information about the District as a whole. Both of these statements have been prepared using the economic measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets, and liabilities resulting from exchange and exchange-like transactions are recognized when the exchange takes place.

Modified Accrual Basis - Fund Financial Statements (FFS)

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. Governmental fund types use the flow of current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when susceptible to accrual; i.e., when they are both measurable and available. "Measurable" means the amount of the transaction can be determined and "available" means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. The District considers all revenues "available" if collected within 60 days after year-end. Expenditures are generally recorded under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related liability is incurred. The exceptions to this general rule are that (1) unmatured principal and interest on long-term debt, if any, are recorded when due and (2) claims and judgments and compensated absences are recorded as expenditures when paid with expendable available financial resources.

E. Assets, Liabilities, and Equity-

Cash and Interest-Bearing Deposits-

For purposes of the Statement of Net Position, cash and interest-bearing deposits include all demand accounts, savings accounts, money market accounts, and certificates of deposit of the District.

Capital Assets-

Capital assets, which include property, plant, and equipment, are reported in the governmental activities column in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are capitalized at historical cost or estimated cost if historical cost is not available. Donated assets are recorded as capital assets at their estimated fair market value at the date of donation. The District maintains a threshold level of \$500 or more for capitalizing capital assets.

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of that asset or materially extend the life of that asset are not capitalized.

Bienville Parish Fire Protection District, Ward 7  
Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2020

Depreciation of all exhaustible capital assets is recorded as an expense in the Statement of Activities, with accumulated depreciation reflected in the Statement of Net Position. Depreciation is provided over the assets' estimated useful lives using the straight-line method of depreciation. The range of useful lives by type of asset is as follows:

Furniture, computers	5 years
Firefighting equipment	10 years
Ladders, hoses, airpacks	7 years
Radios	10 years
Fire trucks	10 years
Other vehicles	5 years
Buildings	40 years

#### Compensated Absences-

There is no formal leave policy for the District; therefore no entry is made to record compensated absences.

#### Equity Classifications-

In the government-wide statements, equity is classified as net position and displayed in three components:

- a. Net investment in capital assets - Consists of capital assets including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.
- b. Restricted net position - Consists of net resources with constraints placed on their use either by (1) external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (2) law through constitutional provision or enabling legislation.
- c. Unrestricted net position - All other net resources that do not meet the definition of "restricted" or "net investment in capital assets".

When an expense is incurred for the purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position is available, management applies unrestricted resources first, unless a determination is made to use restricted resources. The policy concerning which to apply first varies with the intended use and legal requirements. This decision is typically made by management at the incurrence of the expense.

In the fund statements, governmental fund equity is classified as fund balance and displayed in five components. The following classifications describe the relative strength of the spending constraints placed on the purposes for which resources can be used:

- a. Nonspendable fund balance - amounts that are not in a spendable form (such as prepaid expenses) or are required to be maintained intact;

Bienville Parish Fire Protection District, Ward 7  
Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2020

- b. Restricted fund balance - amounts constrained to specific purposes by their providers (such as grantors, bondholders, and higher levels of government), through constitutional provisions, or by enabling legislation;
- c. Committed fund balance - amounts constrained to specific purposes by a government itself, using its highest level of decision-making authority; to be reported as committed, amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the government takes the same highest level action to remove or change the constraint;
- d. Assigned fund balance - amounts a government intends to use for a specific purpose; intent can be expressed by the governing body or by an official or body to which the governing body delegates the authority;
- e. Unassigned fund balance - amounts that are available for any purpose; positive amounts are reported only in the general fund.

The General Fund has an unassigned fund balance of \$1,382,538. If applicable, the District would typically use restricted fund balances first, followed by committed resources and assigned resources as appropriate opportunities arise, but reserves the right to selectively spend unassigned resources first and to defer the use of these other classified funds.

F. Budget-

Prior to the beginning of each fiscal year, Bienville Parish Fire Protection District, Ward 7 adopts a budget for the next fiscal year. The budget is open for public inspection. All budgetary appropriations lapse at the end of the fiscal year. The budget is prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting.

G. 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 revenues, expenditures and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

3. Cash and Cash Equivalents:

The cash and cash equivalents of the Bienville Parish Fire Protection District, Ward 7 are subject to the following risk:

*Custodial Credit Risk:* Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that, in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution, the District will not be able to recover its deposits. Under state law, these deposits (or the resulting bank balances) must be secured by federal deposit insurance or the pledge of securities owned by the fiscal agent bank. The market value of the pledged securities plus the federal deposit insurance must at all times equal or exceed the amount on deposit with the fiscal agent. These securities are held in the name of the pledging fiscal agent bank in a holding or custodial



Bienville Parish Fire Protection District, Ward 7  
Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2020

bank that is mutually acceptable to both parties. Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1229 imposes a statutory requirement on the custodial bank to advertise and sell the pledged securities within 10 days of being notified by the District that the fiscal agent bank has failed to pay deposited funds upon demand. Further, Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1224 states that securities held by a third party shall be deemed to be held in the District's name.

Bank account balances at December 31, 2020, totaled \$909,469 and of this amount, \$250,000 was secured by FDIC Insurance, \$600,000 was secured with pledged securities from Gibbsland Bank & Trust. The remaining amount of \$59,469 was unsecured.

4. Receivables:

The following is a summary of receivables at December 31, 2020:

<u>Class of Receivable</u>	<u>General Fund</u>
Taxes-	
Ad Valorem	<u>\$491,965</u>

Substantially all receivables are considered to be fully collectible, and no allowance for uncollectible is used.

5. Leases:

On July 1, 1988, the District entered into three 99-year leases for land to be used for fire stations. The consideration for the leases is the benefit that will be provided to lessor by having fire protection equipment on the leased premises.

6. Capital Assets:

Capital asset balances and activity for the year ended December 31, 2020, is as follows:

<u>Governmental Activities</u>	<u>Balance 01-01-20</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deletions</u>	<u>Balance 12-31-20</u>
Capital Assets Not Depreciated:				
Land	\$ 17,071	\$ 0	\$0	\$ 17,071
Capital Assets Depreciated:				
Fire Trucks/Equipment	2,509,577	6,773	0	2,516,350
Buildings	<u>179,868</u>	<u>133,157</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>313,025</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$2,706,516</u>	<u>\$ 139,930</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$2,846,446</u>
Less Accumulated Depreciation:				
Fire Trucks/Equipment	\$1,661,004	\$ 137,371	\$0	\$1,798,375
Buildings	<u>109,766</u>	<u>6,414</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>116,180</u>
Total Depreciation	<u>\$1,770,770</u>	<u>\$ 143,785</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$1,914,555</u>
Net Capital Assets	<u>\$ 935,746</u>	<u>\$ (3,855)</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$ 931,891</u>

Depreciation expense of \$143,785 was charged to the public safety function.

Bienville Parish Fire Protection District, Ward 7  
Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2020

7. Ad Valorem Taxes:

The District levies taxes on real and business personal property located within the boundaries of Bienville Parish Fire Protection District, Ward 7. Property taxes are levied by the District on property values assessed by the Bienville Parish Tax Assessor and approved by the State of Louisiana Tax .

The Bienville Parish Sheriff's office bills and collects property taxes for the District. Collections are remitted to the District monthly. The District recognizes property tax revenues when levied.

Property Tax Calendar

Assessment date	January 1
Levy date	June 30
Tax bills mailed	October 15
Total taxes are due	December 31
Penalties and interest added	January 31
Lien date	January 31
Tax Sale	May 15

The District is permitted to levy taxes up to 10% of the assessed property valuation for each specified purpose or, in the aggregate for all purposes 25% of the assessed valuation for the payment of principal and interest on long-term debt after the approval by the voters of the District.

Assessed values are established by the Bienville Parish Tax Assessor each year on a uniform basis at the following ratios to fair market value:

10% land	15% machinery
10% residential improvements	15% commercial improvements
15% industrial improvements	25% public service properties, excluding land

A revaluation of all property is required to be completed no less than every four years. The last revaluation was completed for the roll of January 1, 2020. Total assessed value was \$34,878,035 in 2020. Louisiana state law exempts the first \$7,500 of assessed value of a taxpayer's primary residence from parish property taxes. This homestead exemption was a total of \$3,293,123 of the assessed value in 2020.

For the year ended December 31, 2020, taxes of 17.16 mills were levied on the property and were dedicated to fire protection.

8. Pending Litigation:

There is one pending litigation against the District as of December 31, 2020; however, it is expected that any judgement rendered in favor of the plaintiff or payments resulting from a settlement will be within the limits of the insurance carried by the District.

Bienville Parish Fire Protection District, Ward 7  
Notes to Financial Statements  
December 31, 2020

9. Compensation Paid to Board Members:

A detailed of compensation paid to individual council members for the year ended December 31, 2020 follows:

Ronnie Mathews	\$ 450
Bennie Martin	450
Stephen Brown	390
Cassandra Peoples	<u>390</u>
Total	<u>\$1,680</u>

10. Subsequent Events:

Management has evaluated events through June 23, 2021, which the financial statements were available for issue. There were no items to be reported as subsequent events.

OTHER REQUIRED  
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Bienville Parish Fire Protection District, Ward 7  
General Fund  
Budgetary Comparison Schedule  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

	Budget			Variance
	Original	Final	Actual	Favorable (Unfavorable)
REVENUES:				
Taxes	\$ 448,057	\$ 530,000	\$ 524,902	\$ (5,098)
Intergovernmental-				
State Grant	4,000	5,300	5,362	62
Local - Fire Insurance Rebate	10,000	14,000	14,214	214
Miscellaneous	3,500	2,825	2,857	32
Total Revenues	\$ 465,557	\$ 552,125	\$ 547,335	\$ (4,790)
EXPENDITURES:				
Current-				
Public Safety-				
Fuel	\$ 14,500	\$ 10,000	\$ 6,317	\$ 3,683
Equipment Repairs & Maint.	10,000	45,000	45,879	(879)
Capital Outlay	350,000	100,000	139,930	(39,930)
Insurance	43,578	40,109	40,109	0
Legal & Accounting	20,000	20,000	15,817	4,183
Office Supplies/Postage	26,850	19,250	2,981	16,269
Outside Services	10,000	10,000	90	9,910
Rent	2,500	2,000	1,800	200
Building & Grounds	12,000	4,000	3,539	461
Salary/Related Costs	128,994	111,000	106,807	4,193
Supplies	20,000	20,000	16,787	3,213
Travel/Education	5,000	1,500	1,010	490
Utilities/Telephone	14,452	15,000	14,457	543
Uniforms	3,000	8,000	5,250	2,750
Volunteers	7,000	7,500	9,905	(2,405)
Total Expenditures	\$ 667,874	\$ 413,359	\$ 410,678	\$ 2,679
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues over Expenditures	\$ (202,317)	\$ 138,766	\$ 136,657	\$ (2,111)
Fund Balance-Beginning of Year	1,246,311	1,246,311	1,246,311	0
Fund Balance-End of Year	\$1,043,994	\$1,385,077	\$1,382,968	\$ (2,111)

See notes to financial statements and independent auditor's report.

Bienville Parish Fire Protection District, Ward 7  
Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to  
Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer  
For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

Agency Head Name: Dennie Boyt, Fire Chief

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Salary	\$38,400
Benefits- Social Security & Medicare	2,938
Travel	<u>200</u>
Total	<u>\$41,538</u>

See independent auditor's report.

## OTHER REPORTS/SCHEDULES

**T | C | B | T**  
**THOMAS, CUNNINGHAM, BROADWAY & TODTENBIER**  
*Certified Public Accountants*

Eddie G. Johnson, CPA - A Professional Corporation (1927-1996)

Mark D. Thomas, CPA - A Professional Corporation  
Roger M. Cunningham, CPA - A Professional Corporation  
Jessica H. Broadway, CPA - A Professional Corporation  
Ryan E. Todtenbier, CPA - A Professional Corporation

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER  
FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS  
BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE  
WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

Bienville Parish Fire  
Protection District, Ward 7  
Bienville Parish, Louisiana

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide*, the financial statements of the business-type activities and major fund as of and for the year ended December 31, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Bienville Parish Fire Protection District, Ward 7's (District) basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated June 23, 2021.

**Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the 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 District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control.

*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 a 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.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.



## **Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed an instance of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which are described in the accompanying schedule of audit findings as item 2020-001.

## **Bienville Parish Fire Protection District, Ward 7's Response to Findings**

The District's response to the findings identified in our audit are described in the accompanying schedule of audit findings. The District's responses were not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

## **Purpose of this Report**

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 25:513, this report is distributed by the Louisiana Legislative Auditor as a public document.

*Thomas, Cunningham, Broadway & Todtenbier, CPA's*

Thomas, Cunningham, Broadway & Todtenbier CPA's  
Natchitoches, Louisiana

June 23, 2021

Bienville Parish Fire Protection District, Ward 7  
Schedule of Audit Findings  
Year Ended December 31, 2020

I. SUMMARY OF AUDIT RESULTS

The following summarize the audit results:

1. An unmodified opinion was issued on the financial statements of the Bienville Parish Fire Protection District, Ward 7, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2020.
2. The audit did not disclose any material weaknesses in internal control.
3. The audit disclosed one instance of noncompliance that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards (2020-001)*.

II. FINDINGS IN ACCORDANCE WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

Noncompliance-

*2020-001 Cash Balance Unsecured*

*Criteria* – Louisiana state law requires that all funds held by banks for an entity must be secured by federal deposit insurance or the pledge of securities owned by the bank. The market value of the pledged securities plus the FDIC insurance must at all times equal or exceed the amount on deposit with the bank.

*Condition* – The cash balance in the bank was not fully secured by FDIC or pledged securities at December 31, 2020.

*Cause* – The District did not monitor the bank balances to ensure the balances were not in excess of FDIC insurance and pledged securities.

*Effect* – If the bank were to fail, then the District's funds in excess of FDIC insurance and pledged securities could be lost.

*Recommendation* – The District should notify the bank when bank balances exceed the FDIC insurance and pledged securities.

*Management's Response* – We will monitor cash balances and notify the bank when any balances are over the FDIC insurance coverage pledged securities coverage.

III. PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS

*None Identified.*