

**TOWN OF LAKE ARTHUR, LOUISIANA**  
**ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT**  
**JULY 31, 2021**

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TOWN OF LAKE ARTHUR, LOUISIANA

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT  
Year Ended July 31, 2021

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TOWN OF LAKE ARTHUR, LOUISIANA

July 31, 2021

MAYOR

The Honorable Sherry Crochet

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

Mr. David Hanks  
Mr. Sampson LeJeune  
Mr. Ricky Monceaux

Ms. Roberta Palermo  
Mr. Auldon Robinson

LEGAL COUNSEL

Mr. Richard Arceneaux

TOWN CLERK

Mrs. Mindy Marcantel

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Honorable Mayor and Board of Aldermen  
Town of Lake Arthur  
Lake Arthur, Louisiana

**Report on the Financial Statements**

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Lake Arthur, Louisiana, as of and for the year ended July 31, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

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

Management 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 financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

**Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express opinions 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. 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, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Lake Arthur, Louisiana as of July 31, 2021, and the respective changes in financial position, and, where applicable, cash flows thereof and the respective budgetary comparison for the General Fund and the Street and Alley Fund 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 Schedule of Employer's Proportionate Share of Net Pension Liability and the Schedule of Employer's Pension Contributions on pages 56-57 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 required supplementary information 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.

Management has omitted the management's discussion and analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing 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. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

#### *Other Information*

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Town of Lake Arthur's basic financial statements. The introductory section and combining nonmajor fund financial statements, Justice system funding schedule, and the Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and other Payments to Mayor are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The combining nonmajor fund financial statements, Justice system funding schedule, and the Schedule of Compensation, Benefits, and Other Payments to Mayor are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic 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 combining nonmajor fund financial statements, Justice system funding schedule, and the Schedule of Compensation, Benefits, and Other Payments to Mayor are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

The introductory section has not been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, accordingly, we do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on them.

#### **Other Reporting Required by Governmental Auditing Standards**

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated February 22, 2022, on our consideration of the Town of Lake Arthur, Louisiana's internal control over financial reporting and our test 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 testing of

internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the 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 Town of Lake Arthur, Louisiana's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the Legislative Auditor as a public document.

*Mr. Elroy Quirk - Bush*

Lake Charles, Louisiana  
February 22, 2022

**GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

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TOWN OF LAKE ARTHUR, LOUISIANA

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
July 31, 2021

	Governmental Activities	Business- Type Activities	Total
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash	\$ 1,411,560	\$ 1,588,126	\$ 2,999,686
Investments	1,069,848	381,820	1,451,668
Receivables	116,653	81,320	197,973
Prepays	-	3,736	3,736
Due from other funds	14,063	(14,063)	-
Restricted cash	-	87,067	87,067
Capital assets not being depreciated	911,358	9,604	920,962
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	<u>4,062,872</u>	<u>1,331,798</u>	<u>5,394,670</u>
Total assets	<u>7,586,354</u>	<u>3,469,408</u>	<u>11,055,762</u>
<b>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>			
Deferred outflows related to pensions	<u>9,811</u>	<u>2,153</u>	<u>11,964</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Accounts payable	32,376	12	32,388
Customer meter deposits	-	87,067	87,067
Other payables	40,580	-	40,580
Long-term liabilities:			
Due within one year	70,854	16,262	87,116
Due after one year	217,643	16,740	234,383
Net pension liability	<u>154,866</u>	<u>33,996</u>	<u>188,862</u>
Total liabilities	<u>516,319</u>	<u>154,077</u>	<u>670,396</u>
<b>DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES</b>			
Deferred inflows related to pensions	<u>94,637</u>	<u>19,568</u>	<u>114,205</u>
<b>NET POSITION</b>			
Net investment in capital assets	4,685,733	1,308,400	5,994,133
Restricted for:			
Debt service	142,085	-	142,085
Streets and drainage	359,724	-	359,724
Unrestricted	<u>1,797,667</u>	<u>1,989,516</u>	<u>3,787,183</u>
Total net position	<u>\$ 6,985,209</u>	<u>\$ 3,297,916</u>	<u>\$ 10,283,125</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

TOWN OF LAKE ARTHUR, LOUISIANA

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
Year Ended July 31, 2021

<u>Activities</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Program Revenues</u>	
		<u>Fees, Fines and Charges for Services</u>	<u>Operating Grants and Contributions</u>
Governmental activities:			
General government	\$ 332,949	\$ 107,518	\$ -
Highways and streets	264,857	-	-
Public safety	730,283	42,467	68,350
Health and recreation	577,498	265,689	-
Economic development	2,759	740	-
Community center	32,496	-	-
Total governmental activities	<u>1,940,842</u>	<u>416,414</u>	<u>68,350</u>
Business-type activities:			
Water and sewer	<u>540,983</u>	<u>619,810</u>	<u>-</u>
Total activities	<u>\$ 2,481,825</u>	<u>\$ 1,036,224</u>	<u>\$ 68,350</u>

General revenues:

Taxes:

    Property taxes

    Sales and use taxes

    Franchise taxes

Intergovernmental

Interest and investment earnings

Miscellaneous

Transfers

    Total general revenues

Change in net position

Net position, beginning of year

Net position, end of year

See accompanying notes to financial statements

(Expense) Revenues  
and Changes in Net Position

Capital Grants	Governmental Activities	Business- Type Activities	Total
\$ -	\$ (225,431)	\$ -	\$ (225,431)
	(264,857)	-	(264,857)
24,150	(595,316)	-	(595,316)
-	(311,809)	-	(311,809)
-	(2,019)	-	(2,019)
-	(32,496)	-	(32,496)
<u>24,150</u>	<u>(1,431,928)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,431,928)</u>
<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>78,827</u>	<u>78,827</u>
<u>\$ 24,150</u>	<u>\$ (1,431,928)</u>	<u>\$ 78,827</u>	<u>\$ (1,353,101)</u>

\$ 262,162	\$ -	\$ 262,162
912,135	66,551	978,686
123,367	-	123,367
223,562	-	223,562
21,275	5,738	27,013
74,093	39,466	113,559
683	(683)	-
<u>1,617,277</u>	<u>111,072</u>	<u>1,728,349</u>
185,349	189,899	375,248
<u>6,799,860</u>	<u>3,108,017</u>	<u>9,907,877</u>
<u>\$ 6,985,209</u>	<u>\$ 3,297,916</u>	<u>\$ 10,283,125</u>

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**FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

TOWN OF LAKE ARTHUR, LOUISIANA  
BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
July 31, 2021

ASSETS	<u>General</u>	<u>Street &amp; Alley</u>
ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 993,623	\$ 283,298
Investments	978,040	-
Receivables	83,372	32,078
Due from other funds	<u>55,280</u>	<u>-</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 2,110,315</u>	<u>\$ 315,376</u>
 LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE		
Liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 32,259	\$ -
Other payables	40,697	-
Due to other funds	<u>-</u>	<u>1,749</u>
Total liabilities	<u>72,956</u>	<u>1,749</u>
 Fund balances:		
Restricted for:		
Street and alley maintenance	-	313,627
Drainage maintenance	-	-
Sidewalk maintenance	-	-
Debt service	-	-
Unassigned	<u>2,037,359</u>	<u>-</u>
Total fund balances	<u>2,037,359</u>	<u>313,627</u>
Total liabilities and fund balances	<u>\$ 2,110,315</u>	<u>\$ 315,376</u>

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net assets are different because:

- Total fund balance - total governmental funds
- Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds
- Amounts related to pension recognition are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds
- Long-term liabilities, including bonds and capital lease payable, are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the funds

Total net assets - governmental activities

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
\$ 134,639	\$ 1,411,560
91,808	1,069,848
1,203	116,653
-	55,280
\$ 227,650	\$ 2,653,341

\$ -	\$ 32,259
-	40,697
39,468	41,217
39,468	114,173

-	313,627
-	-
56,389	56,389
142,085	142,085
(10,292)	2,027,067
188,182	2,539,168
\$ 227,650	\$ 2,653,341

\$ 2,539,168

4,974,230

(239,692)

(288,497)

\$ 6,985,209

TOWN OF LAKE ARTHUR, LOUISIANA

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN  
 FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
 Year Ended July 31, 2021

	<u>General</u>	<u>Street &amp; Alley</u>
Revenue:		
Taxes	\$ 819,919	\$ 368,716
Licenses and permits	107,518	-
Intergovernmental	316,062	-
Charges for services	266,429	-
Fines	42,467	-
Interest	19,348	208
Other	74,093	-
Total revenues	<u>1,645,836</u>	<u>368,924</u>
Expenditures:		
Current:		
General and administrative	312,810	-
Highways and streets	-	164,865
Public safety	759,706	-
Health and recreation	402,924	-
Economic development	2,759	-
Community center	33,844	-
Other	3,100	-
Debt service:		
Principal	17,217	-
Interest	3,981	-
Total expenditures	<u>1,536,341</u>	<u>164,865</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	109,495	204,059
Other financing sources (uses):		
Operating transfers in (out)	<u>683</u>	<u>-</u>
Net changes in fund balance	110,178	204,059
Fund balance, beginning	<u>1,927,181</u>	<u>109,568</u>
Fund balance, ending	<u>\$ 2,037,359</u>	<u>\$ 313,627</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

Nonmajor Governmental Funds	Total Governmental Funds
\$ 109,029	\$ 1,297,664
-	107,518
-	316,062
-	266,429
-	42,467
1,718	21,274
-	74,093
<u>110,747</u>	<u>2,125,507</u>
-	312,810
73,672	238,537
-	759,706
-	402,924
-	2,759
-	33,844
-	3,100
30,000	47,217
7,304	11,285
<u>110,976</u>	<u>1,812,182</u>
(229)	313,325
-	<u>683</u>
(229)	314,008
<u>188,411</u>	<u>2,225,160</u>
<u>\$ 188,182</u>	<u>\$ 2,539,168</u>

TOWN OF LAKE ARTHUR, LOUISIANA

RECONCILIATION OF STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND  
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO  
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES  
Year Ended July 31, 2021

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the  
statement of activities different because:

Net change in fund balance - total governmental funds	\$ 314,008
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital outlays exceeded depreciation in the current period.	(269,297)
The issuance of long-term debt provides current financial resources to governmental funds, while the repayment of the principal of long-term debt consumes the current financial resources of governmental funds. Neither transaction, however, has any effect on net assets. This amount is the net effect of these differences in the treatment of long-term debt and related items.	69,714
Net effect of pension liability recognition	<u>70,924</u>
	<u>\$ 185,349</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

TOWN OF LAKE ARTHUR, LOUISIANA  
 PROPRIETARY FUND - UTILITY FUND  
 STATEMENT OF NET POSITION  
 July 31, 2021

<u>ASSETS</u>	<u>Business-Type Activities Enterprise Fund</u>
Current assets:	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,588,126
Investments	381,820
Receivables	81,320
Prepaid expenses	3,736
Total current assets	<u>2,055,002</u>
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	87,067
Capital assets not being depreciated	9,604
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	<u>1,331,798</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 3,483,471</u>
<u>DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES</u>	
Deferred outflow related to pensions	<u>\$ 2,153</u>
<u>LIABILITIES</u>	
Current liabilities:	
Accounts payable	12
Due to other funds	14,063
Customer meter deposits	87,067
Total current liabilities	<u>101,142</u>
Noncurrent liabilities:	
Due within one year	15,783
Due after one year	17,219
Net pension liability	33,996
Total noncurrent liabilities	<u>66,998</u>
Total liabilities	<u>168,140</u>
<u>DEFERRED INFLOW OF RESOURCES</u>	
Deferred inflows related to pensions	<u>19,568</u>
<u>NET POSITION</u>	
Net investment in capital assets	1,308,400
Unrestricted	<u>1,989,516</u>
Total net position	<u>\$ 3,297,916</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

TOWN OF LAKE ARTHUR, LOUISIANA

PROPRIETARY FUND - UTILITY FUND  
 STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION  
 Year Ended July 31, 2021

	Business-Type Activities Enterprise Fund
Operating revenues:	
Charges for services	\$ <u>619,810</u>
Operating expenses:	
Personal services	50,667
Other services and charges	117,171
Materials and supplies	86,888
Heat, light and power	52,200
Depreciation	<u>232,954</u>
Total operating expenses	<u>539,880</u>
Operating income	<u>79,930</u>
Nonoperating revenues (expenses):	
Interest income	5,738
Interest fiscal charges	(1,103)
Sales tax	66,551
Miscellaneous	<u>39,446</u>
Total nonoperating revenues (expenses)	<u>110,652</u>
Income before operating transfers	190,582
Operating transfers in (out)	<u>(683)</u>
Change in net position	189,899
Net position, beginning of year	<u>3,108,017</u>
Net position, end of year	<u>\$ 3,297,916</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.



TOWN OF LAKE ARTHUR, LOUISIANA

PROPRIETARY FUND - UTILITY FUND

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

Year Ended July 31, 2021

CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
Cash received from customers	\$ 618,845
Cash payments to suppliers for goods and services	(256,246)
Cash payments to employees for services	(58,064)
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>304,535</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM NONCAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES	
Operating transfers in (out)	(683)
Miscellaneous	39,465
Sales tax	66,551
Increase in customer deposits	2,234
Advances from (to) other funds	(11,531)
Net cash provided by noncapital financing activities	<u>96,036</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES	
Principal payments on bonds	(15,783)
Purchase of property and equipment	(26,567)
Interest paid on bonds	(1,103)
Net cash (used in) capital and related activities	<u>(43,453)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	
Interest on investments	5,738
(Interest) in investments	(4,942)
Net cash provided by investing activities	<u>796</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	357,914
Cash and cash equivalents:	
Beginning of year	<u>1,317,279</u>
End of year	<u>\$ 1,675,193</u>
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,588,126
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	<u>87,067</u>
	<u>\$ 1,675,193</u>

(continued on next page)

TOWN OF LAKE ARTHUR, LOUISIANA

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS - PROPRIETARY FUND  
Year Ended July 31, 2021  
(Continued)

RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING (LOSS) TO NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	
Operating income	\$ 79,930
Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net cash provided by operating activities:	
Depreciation	232,954
Changes in assets and liabilities:	
(Increase) in receivables	(965)
Increase in payables	13
(Decrease) in net pension liability	(34,023)
Changes in deferred inflows and outflows of resources	<u>26,626</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>\$ 304,535</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

TOWN OF LAKE ARTHUR, LOUISIANA  
GENERAL FUND

BUDGETARY COMPARISON STATEMENT  
Year Ended July 31, 2021

		Budget		Variance with Final Budget
	Original	Final	Actual	
<b>REVENUES</b>				
Taxes	\$ 667,000	\$ 767,000	\$ 819,919	\$ 52,919
Licenses and permits	64,100	64,100	107,518	43,418
Intergovernmental	225,000	325,000	316,062	(8,938)
Charges for services	242,950	242,950	266,429	23,479
Fines	26,500	26,500	42,467	15,967
Interest	8,000	8,000	19,348	11,348
Other	43,110	43,110	74,093	30,983
Total revenues	<u>1,276,660</u>	<u>1,476,660</u>	<u>1,645,836</u>	<u>169,176</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
Current:				
General and administrative	313,325	313,325	312,810	515
Public safety	636,050	736,050	759,706	(23,656)
Health and recreation	307,580	407,580	402,924	4,656
Economic development	5,500	5,500	2,759	2,741
Community center	36,600	36,600	33,844	2,756
Other	2,300	2,300	3,100	(800)
Debt service:				
Principal retirement	30,000	30,000	17,217	12,783
Interest	3,800	3,800	3,981	(181)
Total expenditures	<u>1,335,155</u>	<u>1,535,155</u>	<u>1,536,341</u>	<u>(1,186)</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(58,495)	(58,495)	109,495	167,990
Other financing sources (uses):				
Operating transfers in	16,900	16,900	683	(16,217)
Net changes in fund balance	(41,595)	(41,595)	110,178	151,773
Fund balance, beginning of year	<u>1,927,181</u>	<u>1,927,181</u>	<u>1,927,181</u>	<u>-</u>
Fund balance, end of year	<u>\$ 1,885,586</u>	<u>\$ 1,885,586</u>	<u>\$ 2,037,359</u>	<u>\$ 151,773</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

TOWN OF LAKE ARTHUR, LOUISIANA  
STREET AND ALLEY FUND

BUDGETARY COMPARISON STATEMENT  
Year Ended July 31, 2021

	Budget		Actual	Variance with Final Budget
	Original	Final		
REVENUES				
Taxes	\$ 252,000	\$ 252,000	\$ 368,716	\$ 116,716
Interest	150	150	208	58
Total revenues	252,150	252,150	368,924	116,774
EXPENDITURES				
Current:				
Highways and streets	301,250	301,250	164,865	136,385
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenditures	(49,100)	(49,100)	204,059	253,159
Fund balance, beginning of year	109,568	109,568	109,568	-
Fund balance, end of year	\$ 60,468	\$ 60,468	\$ 313,627	\$ 253,159

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

TOWN OF LAKE ARTHUR, LOUISIANA

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
July 31, 2021

1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The Town of Lake Arthur, Louisiana was incorporated in 1904, under the provisions of the Lawrason Act. The Town operates under a Mayor-Town Council form of government.

The accounting and reporting policies of the Town of Lake Arthur, Louisiana conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applicable to governments. Such accounting and reporting procedures also conform to the requirements of Louisiana Revised Statutes 24:517 and to the guidance set forth in the *Louisiana Municipal Audit and Accounting Guide*, and to the industry audit guide, *Audits of State and Local Governmental Units*.

A. Financial Reporting Entity

The accompanying financial statements include the various departments, activities, and organizational units that are controlled by, or dependent on the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Lake Arthur, Louisiana. Control by or dependence on the Town was determined on the basis of budget adoption, taxing authority, authority to issue debt, election or appointment of governing body and other general oversight authority.

Based on the foregoing criteria, the Town of Lake Arthur has no other fiscal or significant managerial responsibility over any other governmental unit that is not included in the financial statements of the Town of Lake Arthur.

B. Basis of Presentation

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (GWFS)

The Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities display information about the reporting government as a whole. They include all funds of the reporting entity. The statements distinguish between governmental and business-type activities. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other non-exchange revenues. Business-type activities are financed in whole or in

part by fees charged to external parties for goods or services. The Statement of Activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for the business-type activities of the Town and for each function of the Town's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function and, therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include (a) fees, fines, and charges paid by the recipients of goods or services offered by the programs, 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.

#### FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Town segregates transactions related to certain functions or activities in separate funds in order to aid financial management and to demonstrate legal compliance. Separate statements are presented for governmental and proprietary activities. These statements present each major fund as a separate column on the fund financial statements; all non-major funds are aggregated and presented in a single column.

Governmental funds are those funds through which most governmental functions typically are financed. The measurement focus of governmental funds is on the sources, uses and balance of current financial resources. The various funds are grouped, in the financial statements in this report, into two broad fund categories as follows:

#### GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

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

Special Revenue Funds - Special Revenue Funds are used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources that are restricted or committed to expenditure for specified purposes other than debt service or capital projects. The term "proceeds of specified sources" established that one or more specific restricted or committed revenues shall be the foundation for a special revenue fund.

Capital Projects Funds - These funds account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned for capital acquisition or construction of capital facilities and other capital assets.

Debt Service Funds - Debt Service Funds are used to account for and report financial resources that are restricted, committed, or assigned to expenditure for principal and interest. Debt service funds should be used to report resources if legally mandated. Financial resources that are being accumulated for principal and interest maturing in future years also should be reported in debt service funds.

#### PROPRIETARY FUNDS

Enterprise Funds - Enterprise Funds are used to account for operations (a) that are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises - where the intent of the governing body is that the costs (expenses, including depreciation) of providing goods or services to the general public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges; or (b) where the governing body has decided periodic determination of revenues earned, expenses incurred, and/or net income is appropriate for capital maintenance, public policy, management control, accountability, or other purposes.

#### C. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

Measurement focus refers to which transactions are recorded within various financial statements. Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures (or expenses) are recognized in the accounts and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurement made, regardless of the measurement focus applied.

The government-wide statements are prepared using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Therefore, governmental fund financial statements include reconciliations with brief explanations to better identify the relationship between the government-wide statements and the statements for government funds. The primary effect of internal activity (between or within funds) has been eliminated from the government-wide financial statements.

In the fund financial statements, governmental funds are accounted for using a financial resources measurement focus whereby only current assets and current liabilities generally are included on the balance sheet and increases or decreases in net current assets are presented in the operating statements. These funds utilize the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized when they become both measurable and available to finance expenditures of the current period. Certain revenues such as sales tax, property tax, and charges for services are assessed and collected in

such a manner that they can be accrued appropriately. Expenditures are recognized in the accounting period in which the liability is incurred, if measurable, except for principal and interest on general long-term debt which are recognized when due. Also, expenditures for accrued compensated absences are not recognized until they are payable from current available financial resources.

The proprietary funds, also in the fund financial statements, are accounted for and reported using a flow of economic resources measurement focus. This means that all assets and liabilities associated with the operation of these funds are included on the balance sheet. The operating statements for the proprietary fund present increases or decreases in net total assets.

D. Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources

In some instances, the GASB requires a government to delay recognition of decreases in net position as expenditures until a future period. In other instances, governments are required to delay recognition of increases in net position as revenues until a future period. In these circumstances, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources result from the delayed recognition of expenditures or revenues, respectively.

E. Use of 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 and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

F. Net Position Flow Assumption

Sometimes the government will fund outlays for a particular purpose from both restricted (e.g., restricted bond or grant proceeds) and unrestricted resources. In order to calculate the amounts to report as restricted - net position and unrestricted - net position in the government-wide and proprietary fund financial statements, a flow assumption must be made about the order in which the resources are considered to be applied.



Fund balances:

In the fund financial statements, governmental funds report reservations of fund balance for amounts that are not available for appropriation or are legally restricted by outside parties for use for a specific purpose. Designations of fund balance represent tentative management plans that are subject to change.

Net position:

Net position is 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 and deferred inflows of resources that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.
- b. Restricted net position - Consists of restricted assets reduced by liabilities and deferred inflows of resources related to those assets. Constraints may be placed on the use, either by (1) external groups, such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (2) law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- c. Unrestricted net position - Net amount of the assets, deferred outflows or resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources that are not included in either of the other two categories of net position.

G. Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

The Town follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the financial statements:

1. Prior to July 31, the Town Clerk submits to the Mayor and Council a proposed operating budget for the fiscal year commencing the following August 1. The operating budget includes proposed expenditures and the means of financing them.
2. A public hearing is conducted to obtain taxpayer comment.

3. Prior to July 31, the budget is legally enacted through passage of an ordinance.
4. Any revisions that alter total expenditures of any fund must be approved by the Council. Expenditures cannot legally exceed appropriations on a fund level.
5. Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device during the year for the General Fund and Special Revenue Funds.
6. Budgets for the General and Special Revenue Funds are adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Budgeted amounts are as originally adopted, or as amended by the Town Council.
7. All budgetary appropriations except for Capital Projects lapse at the end of each fiscal year.
8. Budgets are amended by resolution approved by the Town Council.

Encumbrance accounting is not used.

#### H. Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments

Cash and cash equivalents include amounts in demand deposits and U.S. Government Agencies securities with maturities of three months or less.

Louisiana state statutes, as stipulated in R.S. 39:1271, authorize the Town to invest in United States bonds, treasury notes, or certificates, or time certificates of deposit of state banks organized under the laws of Louisiana and national banks having the principal office in the State of Louisiana. The state statutes also authorize the Town to invest in any other federally insured investment, or in mutual or trust fund institutions, which are registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Security Act of 1933 and the Investment Act of 1940, and which have underlying investments consisting solely of and limited to securities of the United States government or its agencies. Investing is performed in accordance with investment policies complying with State Statutes and those adopted by the Town Council.

Investments are stated at cost.

I. Inventory

Purchase of various operating supplies are regarded as expenditures at the time purchased, and inventories of such supplies (if any) are not recorded as assets at the close of the fiscal year.

J. Bad Debts

Uncollectible amounts due for ad valorem taxes and customers' utility receivables are recognized as bad debts through the establishment of an allowance account at the time information becomes available which would indicate the uncollectibility of the receivable.

K. Interfund Activity

Interfund activity is reported as either loans, reimbursements or transfers. Loans are reported as interfund receivables and payables as appropriate and are subject to elimination upon consolidation. Reimbursements are when one fund incurs a cost, charges the appropriate benefiting fund and reduces its related cost as a reimbursement. All other interfund transactions are treated as transfers. Transfers between governmental or proprietary funds are netted as part of the reconciliation to the government-wide financial statements.

L. Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property, plant, equipment, and infrastructure assets, are reported in the applicable governmental or business-type activities columns in the government-wide or financial statements. Capital assets are capitalized at historical cost or estimated cost if historical is not available. Donated assets are recorded as capital assets at their estimated fair market value at the date of donation. The Town maintains a minimum threshold level for capitalizing capital assets of \$1,500.

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets lives are not capitalized. Prior to the adoption of GASB 34, it was the Town's policy not to record infrastructure; therefore, the Town did not have a complete listing of infrastructure. The Town has opted not to do a detailed analysis of existing infrastructure, and will begin accumulating infrastructure information prospectively.

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

Water and sewer lines	30 years
Machinery and equipment	3-10 years
Autos and trucks	3-5 years
Infrastructure	10-40 years

In the fund financial statements, capital assets used in governmental fund operations are accounted for as capital outlay expenditures of the governmental fund upon acquisition. Capital assets used in proprietary fund operations are accounted for the same as in the government-wide statements.

M. Restricted Assets

Restricted assets include cash and interest-bearing deposits of the governmental funds and proprietary funds that are legally restricted as to their use. The restricted assets are related to debt service interest sinking and reserve accounts and utility meter deposits. When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the government's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

N. Compensated Absences

The Town's policy on annual leave is that if the time is not taken during the year earned it will be forfeited; that is, no carryover of time or compensation in lieu of time off will be allowed.

The Town's policy on sick leave is 10 days per year. Unused sick leave can be accumulated up to 30 days to be used for prolonged illness, but the town will not pay for unused sick leave upon termination.

2) Cash, Cash Equivalents and Investments

Custodial credit risk - deposits. Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the government's deposits may not be returned to it.

In accordance with a fiscal agency agreement which is approved by the Town Council, the Town of Lake Arthur maintains demand and time deposits through local depository banks which are members of the Federal Reserve System.

Deposits in excess of federally insured amounts are required by Louisiana state statute to be protected by collateral of equal market value. Authorized collateral includes general obligations of the U.S. government, obligations issued or guaranteed by an agency established by the U.S. government, general obligation bonds of any state of the U.S., or of any Louisiana parish, municipality, or school district. The Town's bank demand and time deposits at year end were fully collateralized.

The deposits at July 31, 2021 are as follows:

	<u>Demand Deposits</u>	<u>Time Deposits</u>
Carrying amount	\$ 3,085,656	\$ 1,451,668
Bank balances:		
a. Federally insured	\$ 250,000	\$ 62,396
b. Collateralized by securities Held by the pledging financial institution	2,895,468	1,389,272
c. Uncollateralized and uninsured	-	-
Total bank balances	\$ 3,145,468	\$ 1,451,668

As of July 31, 2021, the Town had the following investments and maturities:

<u>Investment Type</u>	<u>Fair Value</u>	<u>Investment Maturities (in Years)</u>			
		<u>Less Than 1</u>	<u>1-5</u>	<u>6-,10</u>	<u>More Than 10</u>
Certificates of deposit	\$ 1,451,668	\$ 1,451,668	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Interest rate risk. The Town does not have a formal investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates.

Credit risk. State law limits investments to United States bonds, treasury notes, or certificates, or time certificates of deposit of state banks organized under the laws of Louisiana and national banks having a principal office in the State of Louisiana. Local governments in Louisiana are authorized to invest in LAMP. The Town has no investment policy that would further limit its investment choices.

Concentration of credit risk. The Town places no limit on the amount the Town may invest in any one issuer. All of the Town's investments are in certificates of deposit.

3) Ad Valorem Taxes

The Town levies taxes on real and business personal property located within its boundaries. Property taxes are levied by the Town on property values assessed by the Jeff Davis Parish Tax Assessor and approved by the State of Louisiana Tax Commission.

For the year ended July 31, 2021 taxes of 26.09 mills were levied on property with assessed valuations totaling \$10,240,732 and were dedicated as follows:

General corporate purposes	8.21 mills
Drainage maintenance	5.64 mills
Street and alley maintenance	5.64 mills
Debt service	3.70 mills
Recreation	2.90 mills

The Town property taxes are levied on November 1 and are due December 31, and are delinquent by January 1st. Delinquent property taxes attach as enforceable liens on property as of April 30.

4) Changes in Capital Assets

Capital asset activity for the year ended July 31, 2021, was as follows:

	Beginning of Year	Additions	Deletions	End of Year
Governmental activities:				
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land	\$ 911,358	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 911,358
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Infrastructure	5,068,751	32,296	-	5,101,047
Buildings	1,308,426	-	-	1,308,426
Furniture and equipment	572,530	38,878	-	611,408
Vehicles	1,609,109	24,494	-	1,633,603
Total capital assets being depreciated	8,558,816	96,468	-	8,654,484
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Infrastructure	1,748,240	203,023	-	1,951,263
Buildings	699,781	35,859	-	735,640
Furniture and equipment	494,888	26,784	-	521,672
Vehicles	1,283,738	99,299	-	1,383,037
Total accumulated depreciation	4,226,647	364,965	-	4,591,612
Capital assets being depreciated, net	4,332,169	(269,297)	-	4,062,872
Government activities capital assets, net	\$ 5,242,527	\$ (269,297)	\$ -	\$ 4,974,230
Business-type activities:				
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land	\$ 9,604	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,604
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Sewer system	4,260,734	17,574	-	4,278,308
Water system	1,804,662	-	-	1,804,662
Vehicles	53,510	-	-	53,510
Furniture and equipment	204,367	8,992	-	213,359
Total capital assets being depreciated	6,323,273	26,566	-	6,349,839
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Sewer system	3,454,924	178,480	-	3,633,404
Water system	1,101,873	48,595	-	1,150,468
Vehicles	53,510	-	-	53,510
Furniture and equipment	174,781	5,878	-	180,659
Total accumulated depreciation	4,785,088	232,953	-	5,018,041
Capital assets being depreciated, net	1,538,185	(206,387)	-	1,331,798
Business-type activities capital assets, net	\$ 1,547,789	\$ (206,387)	\$ -	\$ 1,341,402

Depreciation expense was charged to governmental activities as follows:

General and administrative	\$ 31,532
Public safety	61,117
Highway and streets	27,780
Health and recreation	<u>244,536</u>
 Total depreciation	 <u>\$ 364,965</u>

5) Long-Term Debt

Long-term debt is comprised of the following at July 31, 2021:

Direct Placement:

\$500,000 General Obligation Bonds, Series 2007, interest payable ranging from 1.75% to 3.75%, principal and interest payable through the year 2027	\$ 205,000
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Direct Borrowing:

\$305,000 Certificate of Indebtedness, Series 2012, interest ranging from 0.35% to 3.50%, principal and interest payable through the year 2022	\$ 69,000
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Long-term liability activity for the year ended July 31, 2021, was as follows:

	Beginning Balance	Additions	Reductions	Ending Balance	Amounts Due Within One Year
Governmental activities:					
General obligation	\$ 235,000	\$ -	\$ 30,000	\$ 205,000	\$ 30,000
Certificate of indebtedness	53,215	-	17,217	35,998	17,738
Capital lease payable	69,995	-	22,496	47,499	23,116
Net pension liabilities	<u>309,862</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>154,996</u>	<u>154,866</u>	<u>-</u>
Total governmental	<u>\$ 668,072</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 224,709</u>	<u>\$ 443,363</u>	<u>\$ 70,854</u>
Business-type activities:					
Certificate of indebtedness	\$ 48,785	\$ -	\$ 15,783	\$ 33,002	\$ 16,262
Net pension liabilities	<u>68,019</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>34,023</u>	<u>33,996</u>	<u>-</u>
Total business-type	<u>\$ 116,804</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 49,806</u>	<u>\$ 66,998</u>	<u>\$ 16,262</u>



Debt service requirements at July 31, 2021 were as follows:

GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES:

<u>Year Ended July 31,</u>	<u>DIRECT PLACEMENT</u>		<u>DIRECT BORROWING</u>	
	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>
2022	\$ 30,000	\$ 6,725	\$ 17,738	\$ 905
2023	30,000	5,975	18,260	320
2024	35,000	5,105	-	-
2025	35,000	3,985	-	-
2026	35,000	2,778	-	-
2027	40,000	1,500	-	-
	<u>\$ 205,000</u>	<u>\$ 26,068</u>	<u>\$ 35,998</u>	<u>\$ 1,225</u>

BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES:

<u>Year Ended July 31,</u>	<u>DIRECT BORROWING</u>	
	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>
2022	\$ 16,262	\$ 830
2023	16,740	293
	<u>\$ 33,002</u>	<u>\$ 1,123</u>

Interest charged to expense during the year ended July 31, 2021 totaled \$12,388, of which \$11,285 was for governmental activities and \$1,103 was for business-type activities.

6) Capital Leases

The Town has financing leases for equipment that qualify as capital leases. The assets and liabilities under capital leases are recorded at the lower of the present value of the minimum lease payments or the fair value of the assets. The assets are amortized over the lower of their related lease terms or their estimated productive lives. Amortization of the assets under capital lease is included in depreciation expense for the year ended July 31, 2021. The financing arrangement of the capital lease meets the definition of a direct borrowing.

The following is a summary of property held under capital lease at July 31, 2021:

Vehicles	\$ 117,176
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(55,659)</u>
	<u>\$ 61,517</u>

The following is a summary of long-term liability under capital lease at July 31, 2021:

Long-term lease payable to Patterson State Bank at 3.658% of \$113,344, payable in annual installments of \$24,964 each, due June 15, 2023. Lease is secured by equipment under the lease.	\$ 47,499
Less current liability under capital lease	<u>23,116</u>
	<u>\$ 24,383</u>

The following is a schedule of the future minimum lease payments under the capital leases, together with the present value of the net minimum lease payments as of July 31, 2021:

<u>Year ending July 31,</u>	
2022	\$ 24,964
2023	24,964
Amount representing interest	<u>(2,429)</u>
Present value of net minimum lease payments of which \$23,116 is included in current liabilities	<u>\$ 47,499</u>

7) Interfund Transactions

Individual fund interfund receivable and payable balances which are not expected to be repaid within a year at July 31, 2021 were:

	<u>Due From</u>	<u>Due To</u>
General fund	\$ 55,280	\$ -
Street and alley maintenance	-	1,749
Utilities system fund	-	14,063
Non-major funds	<u>-</u>	<u>39,468</u>
	<u>\$ 55,280</u>	<u>\$ 55,280</u>

	<u>Transfer In</u>	<u>Transfer Out</u>
General fund	\$ 683	\$ -
Utilities system fund	<u>-</u>	<u>683</u>
	<u>\$ 683</u>	<u>\$ 683</u>

8) Restricted Assets - Proprietary Fund Type

Restricted assets were applicable to the following at July 31, 2021:

Customers deposits	<u>\$ 87,067</u>
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9) Fund Balance

In accordance with Government Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 54, Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions, the Town classifies governmental fund balances as follows:

Non-spendable -

includes fund balance amounts that cannot be spent either because it is not in spendable form or because of legal or contractual constraints.

Restricted -

includes fund balance amounts that are constrained for specific purposes which are externally imposed by providers, such as creditors or amounts constrained or due to constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Committed -

includes fund balance amounts that are constrained for specific purposes that are internally imposed by the government through formal action of the highest level of decision making authority (Board of Aldermen) and does not lapse at year end. Formal action by the same authority is required to rescind such a commitment.

Assigned -

includes fund balance amounts that are intended to be used for specific purposes that are neither considered restricted or committed. Fund balance may be assigned by the Mayor.

Unassigned -

includes positive fund balance within the General Fund which has not been classified within the above mentioned categories and negative fund balances in other governmental funds.

The Town uses restricted/committed amounts to be spent first when both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available unless there are legal documents/contracts that prohibit doing this, such as a grant agreement requiring dollar for dollar spending. Additionally, the government would first use committed, then assigned, and lastly unassigned amounts of unrestricted fund balance when expenditures are made.

The Town does not have a formal minimum fund balance policy.

The purpose of each major special revenue fund and revenue source is listed below:

Major special revenue fund	Revenue source
Streets and Alley Fund	32% of 2½% sales tax described in Note 10

10) Dedication of Proceeds and Flow of Funds - 2 ½% Sales and Use Tax

Proceeds of a 2 ½% sales and use tax levied by the Town of Lake Arthur, Louisiana (2021 collections \$978,686) are dedicated to the following purposes:

General Fund	60%
Streets	32%
Water	6.8%
Sidewalks	.8%
Drainage	.4%

11) Pension Plan

**Plan Descriptions**

Substantially all employees of the Town of Lake Arthur are members of the following statewide retirement system: Municipal Employees Retirement System of Louisiana (MERS). This system is cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plans administered by separate boards of trustees. Article 10, Section 29 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974 assigns the authority to establish and amend benefit provisions to the state legislature. The system issue annual, publicly-available financial reports that include financial statements and required supplementary information for the system. The reports for MERS may be obtained at [www.mersla.com](http://www.mersla.com).

Plan Description- MERS

MERS was originally established by Act 356 of the 1954 regular session of the Legislature of the State of Louisiana and is composed of two distinct plans, Plan A and Plan B, with separate assets and benefit provisions. All employees of the Town of Lake Arthur are members of Plan B. All permanent employees working at least 35 hours per week who are not covered by another pension plan and are paid wholly or in part from municipal funds and all elected municipal officials are eligible to participate in MERS.

**Benefits Provided**

Retirement Benefits- MERS

Any member of Plan B hired before January 1, 2013 may retire at any age with 30 years of creditable service or at age 60 with at least 10 years of creditable service. Any member of Plan B hired on or after January 1, 2013 may retire at age 67 with at least 7 years of creditable service, at age 62 with at least 10 years of creditable service, or at age 55 with at least 30 years of creditable service. Members hired on or after January 1, 2013 are also eligible to retire at any age with at least 25 years of creditable service, but their benefit will be actuarially reduced from the earliest age of which the member would be entitled to a vested deferred benefit under any of the previously-mentioned provisions if the member had continued in service to that age. Members are entitled to a retirement benefit, payable monthly for life, equal to 2% of the member's final compensation (defined below) multiplied by the member's years of creditable service. However, under certain conditions as outlined in the statutes, the benefits are limited to specified amounts. Employees who terminate with at least the amount of creditable service stated above, and do not withdraw their employee contributions, may retire at the ages specified above and receive the benefit accrued to their date of termination.

Final compensation is the employee's average salary over the 36 consecutive or joined months that produce the highest average for a member whose first employment made him or her eligible for membership in the system on or before June 30, 2006. Final compensation is the employee's average salary over the 60 consecutive or joined months that produce the highest average for a member whose first employment made him or her eligible for membership in the system after June 30, 2006. Employees who terminate with at least the amount of creditable service stated above, and do not withdraw their employee contributions, may retire at the ages specified above and receive the benefit accrued to their date of termination.

### Deferred Retirement Options

In lieu of terminating employment and accepting a service retirement allowance, any member of MERS who is eligible to retire may elect to participate in the deferred retirement option plan (DROP) for up to three years and defer the receipt of benefits. A MERS member may participate in DROP only once. During participation in the plan, employer contributions are payable but employee contributions cease. The monthly retirement benefits that would be payable, had the person elected to cease employment, are credited to the MERS member's individual DROP account. Interest is earned when the member has completed DROP participation. Upon termination of employment prior to or at the end of the participation period, the member may receive a lump sum from the account or a true annuity based on the account balance. If employment is not terminated at the end of the three year DROP participation period, payments into the DROP account cease and the person resumes active contributing membership in MERS.

### Disability Benefits

A member of MERS Plan B is eligible to retire and receive a disability benefit if he or she has at least 10 years of creditable service, is not eligible for normal retirement and has been officially certified as disabled by the State Medical Disability Board. The monthly maximum retirement benefit under Plan B of MERS is the lesser of an amount equal to two percent of member's final compensation multiplied by years of service (not less than 30% of member's final compensation) or an amount equal to what the member's normal retirement benefit would be based on final compensation at time of disability, but assuming continuous service until member's earliest normal retirement age.

### Survivor's Benefit

The surviving spouse (defined as someone married to the deceased member for at least 12 months immediately preceding the member's death) of a MERS Plan B member (not eligible for retirement at the time of death) will receive a survivor benefit, provided that the member had 5 or more years of creditable service. The surviving spouse will be paid either a monthly benefit equal to 30% of member's final compensation, payable when surviving spouse attains the age of 60 or becomes disabled, or a monthly benefit equal to actuarial equivalent of the benefit described previously (not less than 15% of member's final compensation), payable upon the death of the member. A MERS Plan B member who is eligible for normal retirement at the time of death will be deemed to have retired and selected Option 2 benefits on behalf of the surviving spouse upon the date of death. Benefits will begin only upon proper application and are paid in lieu of any other survivor benefits.

Cost of Living Increases

MERS is authorized under state law to grant an annual cost of living adjustment to members who have been retired for at least one year. The adjustment cannot exceed 2% of the retiree's original benefit and may only be granted if sufficient funds are available. The cost of living increase must be paid from investment income in excess of normal requirements.

**Contributions**

The MERS employer contribution rate is established annually under La R.S 11:101-11:104 by the Public Retirement Systems' Actuarial Committee (PRSAC), taking into consideration the recommendation of the system's actuary. Each plan pays a separate actuarially-determined employer contribution rate. For the year ending July 31, 2021 the employer contribution rate for MERS Plan B was 15.50%. Employer contributions to MERS were \$39,332 for the year ended July 31, 2021. Employees participating in MERS are required to contribute 5.00%.

Contributions received by a pension plan from non-employer contributing entities that are not in a special funding situation are recorded as revenue by the respective pension plan. MERS receives ad valorem taxes and state revenue sharing funds. The Town of Lake Arthur recognizes revenue in an amount equal to its proportionate share of the total contributions to the pension plan from these non-employer contributing entities. During the year ended July 31, 2021, the Town of Lake Arthur recognized revenue as a result of support received from non-employer contributing entities of \$8,150 for its participation in MERS.

**Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions**

At July 31, 2021, the Town of Lake Arthur reported a liability for MERS of \$188,862 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liabilities were measured as of June 30, 2021 and the total pension liabilities used to calculate the net pension liability were determined by actuarial valuations as of that date. The Town of Lake Arthur's proportion of the net pension liability for the retirement system was based on a projection of the Town of Lake Arthur's long-term share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating employers, actuarially determined. At June 30, 2021, the Town of Lake Arthur's proportion for MERS was 0.326013%. This reflects a decrease for MERS of 0.090970% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2020.

For the year ended July 31, 2021, the Town of Lake Arthur recognized pension expense, for which there were no forfeitures, as follows:

	<u>Pension Expense</u>
MERS	\$ 6,381
MPERS*	<u>(37,220)</u>
Total	<u>\$ (30,839)</u>

At July 31, 2021, the Town of Lake Arthur reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources			Deferred Inflows of Resources		
	MERS	MPERS*	Total	MERS	MPERS*	Total
Differences between expected and actual						
Changes in assumptions	7,643	-	7,643	-	-	-
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	-	-	-	7,795	-	7,795
Changes in proportion and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-
Employer contributions subsequent to measurement date	4,321	-	4,321	51,037	-	51,037
Total	<u>\$ 11,964</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 11,964</u>	<u>\$ 108,712</u>	<u>\$ 5,493</u>	<u>\$ 114,205</u>

During the year ended July 31, 2021, employer contributions totaling \$4,321 were made subsequent to the measurement date for MERS. These contributions are reported as deferred outflows of resources and will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended July 31, 2022. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year Ended June 30:	<u>MERS</u>	<u>MPERS*</u>
2022	\$ (34,763)	\$ (5,493)
2023	(35,133)	-
2024	(13,237)	-
2025	<u>(17,936)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>\$ (101,069)</u>	<u>\$ (5,493)</u>



\*The Town no longer participates in MPERS. Remaining items relate to the amortization of prior year deferred inflows.

**Actuarial Assumptions**

The net pension liability was measured as the portion of the present value of projected benefit payments to be provided through the pension plan to current active and inactive employees that is attributed to those employees' past periods of service, less the amount of the pension plan's fiduciary net position. The components of the net pension liability of MERS employers as of June 30, 2021 are as follows:

	<u>MERS Plan B</u>
Total pension liability	\$ 277,663,255
Plan fiduciary net position	<u>219,732,397</u>
Total net pension liability	<u>\$ 57,930,858</u>

The Town of Lake Arthur's allocation is 0.326013% of the Total Net Pension Liability for MERS.

The total pension liabilities for MERS in the June 30, 2021 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions:

	MERS
Actuarial cost method	Entry Age Normal Cost
Expected remaining service lives	3 years for Plan B
Investment rate of return	6.85%, net of investment expense
Inflation rate	2.50%
Projected salary increases	7.4% for 1-4 years of service, 4.9% more than 4 years of service
Cost of living adjustments	None
Mortality	<p style="text-align: center;">MERS</p> <p>PubG-2010(B) Employee Table for active members (equal to 120% for males and females, each adjusted using respective MP2018 scales):</p> <p>PubG-2010(B) Healthy Retiree Table for annuitants (equal to 120% for males and females, each adjusted using respective MP2018 scales):</p> <p>PubNS-2010(B) Disabled Retiree Table for disabled annuitants (equal to 120% for males and females with the full generational MP2018 scale).</p>

The MERS actuarial assumptions used were based on the results of an experience study for the period July 1, 2013 through June 30, 2018.

The forecasted long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimates ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation and an adjustment for the effect of rebalancing/diversification. The resulting expected long-term rate of return for MERS is 6.95% for the year ended June 30, 2021.

Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in the target asset allocation for MERS and MPERS as of June 30, 2021 are summarized in the following table:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Allocations</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u>
	<u>MERS</u>	<u>MERS</u>
Equity	53%	2.31%
Fixed income	38%	1.65%
Alternatives	<u>9%</u>	<u>0.39%</u>
Subtotal	<u>100%</u>	4.35%
Inflation adjustment		<u>2.60%</u>
Total		<u>6.95%</u>

#### Discount Rates

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability for MERS was 6.85%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from plan members will be made at the current contribution rates and that contributions from participating employers will be made at the actuarially determined rates approved by PERSAC taking into consideration the recommendation of the actuary. Based on those assumptions, the net position of MERS was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

**Sensitivity of the Employer's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rates**

The following table presents the Town of Lake Arthur's proportionate share of the net pension liability using the discount rate of 6.85% for MERS, as well as what the Town's proportionate share of the net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage-point lower (5.85% for MERS) or one percentage-point higher (7.85% for MERS) than the current rate:

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Discount</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
MERS	\$ 289,754	\$ 188,862	\$ 103,527

**Payables to the Pension Plans**

At July 31, 2021, payable to MERS was \$5,714 for July 2021 employee and employer legally-required contributions.

12) Litigation

The Town is involved in several lawsuits. The Town Attorney estimates that the potential claims against the Town that are not covered by insurance resulting from such litigation would not materially affect the financial statements of the Town.

13) Landfill Joint Venture

The Town is a participant in a joint venture referred to as the Jefferson Davis Parish Sanitary Landfill Commission. This entity was chartered on February 17, 1984. The Commission's purpose is the establishment of a long-term plan for the disposal of solid wastes in Jefferson Davis Parish. According to the charter, each participant in the Commission is responsible for a pro rata share of any operating deficits. Likewise, any distributions of surpluses are also shared on a pro rata basis. Each participant's pro rata share is based on the number of households within each participant's unit to the total number of households within all participating units. These proportions were determined using the 1980 U.S. Census as follows:

<u>Locality</u>	<u>Number of Households</u>	<u>Percentages</u>
Jennings	4,161	.421196
Welsh	1,167	.118129
Lake Arthur	1,212	.122684
Parish (excluding Jennings, Welsh, Lake Arthur and Elton)	<u>3,339</u>	<u>.337991</u>
Totals	<u>9,879</u>	<u>1.000000</u>

The Commission consists of six commissioners as follows: two residents of Jennings, one resident of Welsh, one resident of Lake Arthur, and two residents of Jefferson Davis Parish living outside the city limits of Jennings, Welsh, Lake Arthur and Elton. The Commission members are to be appointed by the governing body of their place of residence.

The Commission has the power and authority to employ personnel, adopt its own budget and enter into agreements necessary for the operation of the Landfill. In certain instances, some agreements must be consented to by all six members of the Commission.

Condensed financial information for the Jefferson Davis Parish Sanitary Landfill as of December 31, 2020 (the latest available audited financial statements which is available in a separately issued financial report) was as follows:

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Lake Arthur (12.2684%)</u>
Total assets and deferred outflows	\$ 5,954,800	\$ 730,559
Total liabilities and deferred inflows	70,292	8,624
Total net position	5,884,508	721,935
Total revenues	2,629,054	322,543
Total expenditures	2,441,078	299,481
Increase in net position	187,976	23,062

As of December 31, 2020, the Commission had no long-term debt outstanding.

The Landfill Commission as owner of a sanitary landfill is subject to recent Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations that require monitoring the landfill site for 30 years following closure of the site in addition to other closure requirements. These regulations also mandate that landfill owners provide financial assurances that they will have the resources available to satisfy the post closure standards. These guarantees can be third-party trusts, surety bonds, letters of credit, insurance, or state sponsored plans. According

to the Commission's contract with the site operator, "...the contractor shall be responsible for closure in accordance with the permit..". Additionally, "...the contractor's post closure care, maintenance and monitoring responsibility shall be three (3) years, or as required by law...". In the event the operator is for whatever reason unwilling or unable to fulfill this requirement, the responsibility for closure and post closure monitoring will revert back to the Commission.

Additionally, because of the industry the Commission participates in, certain potential liabilities are always present. These include, but are not limited to, environmental cleanup costs and EPA penalties for violation of its regulations. The EPA is empowered by law (through the Superfund legislation) to seek recovery from anyone who ever owned or operated a particular contaminated site, or anyone who ever generated or transported hazardous materials to a site (these parties are commonly referred to as potentially responsible parties, or PRPs). Potentially, the liability can extend to subsequent owners or to the parent company of a PRP. While there are no asserted or unasserted potential costs or penalties at the date of this report that the Commission is aware of, the potential is present.

During the year ended December 31, 2020, the Commission voted to make a distribution to the four local government bodies that participate in the Landfill Commission and funded its construction and early operations. The distributions were made in the same proportions as the original investments by the governments. For the Town of Lake Arthur, the distribution amounted to \$201,994 which is recorded as "landfill revenues" in the General Fund in the fiscal year ended July 31, 2021.

14) Amounts Paid Members of Governing Board

Ms. Sherry Crochet	\$ 16,200
Mr. David Hanks	5,200
Mr. Sampson LeJeune	5,400
Mr. Ricky Monceaux	5,200
Ms. Roberta Palermo	5,000
Mr. Auldon Robinson	5,600
	<u>5,600</u>
	<u>\$ 42,600</u>

15) Subsequent Events

Management has evaluated subsequent events through the date of the financial statements were available to be issued February 22, 2022.

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## **REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

Schedule of Employer's Proportionate  
Share of the Net Pension Liability

Schedule of Employer's Pension  
Contributions

TOWN OF LAKE ARTHUR, LOUISIANA

SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER'S PROPORTIONATE SHARE  
OF NET PENSION LIABILITY  
Year Ended July 31, 2021\*

Plan Year	Employer Proportionate of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	Employer Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)	Employer's Covered Employee Payroll	Employer's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) as a Percentage of It's Covered Employee Payroll	Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability
MERS:					
2021	0.326013%	\$ 188,862	\$ 250,755	75.3%	79.14%
2020	0.416983%	377,881	323,155	116.9%	66.26%
2019	0.423489%	370,474	325,502	113.8%	66.14%
2018	0.402881%	340,770	299,586	113.7%	65.60%
2017	0.424578%	367,360	314,976	116.6%	62.49%
2016	0.428656%	355,317	317,823	111.8%	63.34%
2015	0.425868%	289,440	295,501	97.9%	68.71%
2014	0.424662%	199,377	279,856	71.2%	76.94%

\* The amounts presented have a measurement date of the plan year end.

\* This schedule will contain ten years of historical information once such information becomes available



TOWN OF LAKE ARTHUR, LOUISIANA

SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER'S PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS  
Year Ended July 31, 2021

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Contractually Required Contribution</u>	<u>Contributions in Relation to Contractual Required Contribution</u>	<u>Contribution Deficiency (Excess)</u>	<u>Employer's Covered Employee Payroll</u>	<u>Contributions as a Percent of Covered Employee Payroll</u>
MERS:					
2021	\$ 39,332	\$ 39,332	\$ -	\$ 255,557	15.39%
2020	44,733	44,733	-	319,524	14.00%
2019	45,979	45,979	-	328,851	13.98%
2018	39,703	39,703	-	299,586	13.25%
2017	35,147	35,147	-	309,411	11.36%
2016	30,340	30,340	-	318,795	9.52%
2015	28,697	28,697	-	302,072	9.50%
2014	24,725	24,725	-	280,589	8.81%
2013	22,317	22,317	-	276,856	8.00%
2012	21,162	21,162	-	264,524	8.00%

TOWN OF LAKE ARTHUR, LOUISIANA

NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION  
Year ended July 31, 2021

Changes to benefit terms:

There were no changes in benefit term for MERS for the measurement period ending June 30, 2021.

Changes in Assumptions:

- Discount rate for MERS changed from 7.00% to 6.95%

**OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

TOWN OF LAKE ARTHUR, LOUISIANA

COMBINING BALANCE SHEET - NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
July 31, 2021

	<u>Sidewalk Maintenance</u>	<u>Drainage Maintenance</u>	<u>Combined Bond Fund</u>	<u>Total Governmental Funds</u>
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 55,587	\$ 26,873	\$ 52,179	\$ 134,639
Investments	-	-	91,808	91,808
Accounts receivable	<u>802</u>	<u>401</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,203</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 56,389</u>	<u>\$ 27,274</u>	<u>\$ 143,987</u>	<u>\$ 227,650</u>
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE				
LIABILITIES				
Due to other funds	\$ -	\$ 37,566	\$ 1,902	\$ 39,468
FUND BALANCE				
Restricted	<u>56,389</u>	<u>(10,292)</u>	<u>142,085</u>	<u>188,182</u>
Total liabilities and fund balance	<u>\$ 56,389</u>	<u>\$ 27,274</u>	<u>\$ 143,987</u>	<u>\$ 227,650</u>

TOWN OF LAKE ARTHUR, LOUISIANA

COMBINING STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN  
 FUND BALANCES - NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
 Year Ended July 31, 2021

	Sidewalk Maintenance	Drainage Maintenance	Combined Bond Fund	Total Governmental Funds
Revenues:				
Taxes	\$ 7,829	\$ 59,451	\$ 41,749	\$ 109,029
Interest	-	220	1,498	1,718
Total revenues	<u>7,829</u>	<u>59,671</u>	<u>43,247</u>	<u>110,747</u>
Expenditures:				
Highways and streets	-	73,672	-	73,672
Debt service:				
Principal retirement	-	-	30,000	30,000
Interest	-	-	7,304	7,304
Total expenditures	<u>-</u>	<u>73,672</u>	<u>37,304</u>	<u>110,976</u>
Net changes in fund balance	7,829	(14,001)	5,943	(229)
Fund balance, beginning	<u>48,560</u>	<u>3,709</u>	<u>136,142</u>	<u>188,411</u>
Fund balance, ending	<u>\$ 56,389</u>	<u>\$ (10,292)</u>	<u>\$ 142,085</u>	<u>\$ 188,182</u>

TOWN OF LAKE ARTHUR, LOUISIANA

SCHEDULE OF COMPENSATION, BENEFITS AND OTHER PAYMENTS TO MAYOR  
Year Ended July 31, 2021

Mayor Sherry Crochet

Purpose	Amount
Salary	\$ 16,200
Dental insurance	<u>258</u>
	<u>\$ 16,458</u>

# Justice System Funding Schedule - Collecting/Disbursing Entity

As Required by Act 87 of the 2020 Regular Legislative Session

Identifying Information		
Entity Name	Town of Lake Arthur	
LLA Entity ID # (This is the ID number assigned to the entity by the Legislative Auditor for identification purposes.)	2278	
Date that reporting period ended (mm/dd/yyyy)	7/31/2021	
	First Six Month Period Ended 01/31/21	Second Six Month Period Ended 07/31/21
Cash Basis Presentation		
Beginning Balance of Amounts Collected (i.e. cash on hand)	-	-
<b>Add: Collections</b>		
Civil Fees (including refundable amounts such as garnishments or advance deposits)	-	-
Bond Fees	-	-
Asset Forfeiture/Sale	-	-
Pre-Trial Diversion Program Fees	-	-
Criminal Court Costs/Fees	3,007	3,633
Criminal Fines - Contempt	-	-
Criminal Fines - Other	15,992	19,835
Restitution	-	-
Probation/Parole/Supervision Fees	-	-
Service/Collection Fees (e.g. credit card fees, report fees, 3rd party service fees)	-	-
Interest Earnings on Collected Balances	-	-
Other (do not include collections that fit into more specific categories above)	-	-
<b>Subtotal Collections</b>	<b>18,999</b>	<b>23,468</b>
<b>Less: Disbursements To Governments &amp; Nonprofits:</b> (Must include one agency name and one collection type on each line and may require multiple lines for the same agency if more than one collection type is applicable. Additional rows may be added as necessary.)		
Louisiana Department of Treasury, Criminal Court Costs Fees	264	312
Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement, Criminal Costs Fees	2,743	3,321
Agency name collection type	-	-
Agency name collection type	-	-
Agency name collection type	-	-
Agency name collection type	-	-
<b>Less: Amounts Retained by Collecting Agency</b>		
Collection Fee for Collecting/Disbursing to Others Based on Percentage of Collection	-	-
Collection Fee for Collecting/Disbursing to Others Based on Fixed Amount	15,992	19,835
Amounts "Self-Disbursed" to Collecting Agency (must include a separate line for each collection type, as applicable) - Example: Criminal Fines - Other (Additional rows may be added as necessary)	-	-
<b>Less: Disbursements to Individuals/3rd Party Collection or Processing Agencies</b>		
Civil Fee Refunds	-	-
Bond Fee Refunds	-	-
Restitution Payments to Individuals (additional detail is not required)	-	-
Other Disbursements to Individuals (additional detail is not required)	-	-
Payments to 3rd Party Collection/Processing Agencies	-	-
<b>Subtotal Disbursements/Retainage</b>	<b>18,999</b>	<b>23,468</b>
<b>Total: Ending Balance of Amounts Collected but not Disbursed/Retained (i.e. cash on hand)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
Ending Balance of "Partial Payments" Collected but not Disbursed (only applies if collecting agency does not disburse partial payments until fully collected) - This balance is included in the Ending Balance of Amounts Collected but not Disbursed Retained above.	-	-
<b>Other Information:</b>		
Ending Balance of Total Amounts Assessed but not yet Collected (i.e. receivable balance)	-	-
Total Waivers During the Fiscal Period (i.e. non-cash reduction of receivable balances, such as time served or community service)	-	-

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REPORT OF INDEPENDENT AUDITORS ON  
INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' 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

Honorable Mayor and Board of Aldermen  
Town of Lake Arthur  
Lake Arthur, 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, the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Town of Lake Arthur, Louisiana, as of and for the year ended July 31, 2021, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Town of Lake Arthur, Louisiana's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated February 22, 2022.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Town of Lake Arthur, Louisiana'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 opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town of Lake Arthur, Louisiana's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Town of Lake Arthur, Louisiana'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 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 and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We identified certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses as items 2021-001 and 2021-002, that we consider to be material weaknesses.

#### Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Town of Lake Arthur, Louisiana'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 one instance of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*, and which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses as item 2021-003.

#### The Town of Lake Arthur, Louisiana's Response to Findings

The Town of Lake Arthur, Louisiana's response to the findings identified in our audit is described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses. The Town of Lake Arthur, Louisiana's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

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 on 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. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the Legislative Auditor as a public document.

*Mr. Eray Quik + Beach*

Lake Charles, Louisiana

February 22, 2022

TOWN OF LAKE ARTHUR, LOUISIANA  
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES  
Year Ended July 31, 2021

**2021-001 Segregation of Duties**

Condition: Because of the entity's size and the limited number of accounting personnel, it is not feasible to maintain a complete segregation of duties to achieve effective internal control.

Criteria: Effective internal control requires adequate segregation of duties among client personnel.

Effect: Without proper segregation of duties, errors within the financial records or fraud could go undetected.

Recommendation: To the extent cost effective, duties should be segregated and management should attempt to mitigate this weakness by supervision and review procedures.

Response: We concur with this recommendation. Management has implemented supervision and review procedures to the extent possible.

**2021-002 Financial Reporting**

Condition: In our judgment, the Town's accounting personnel and those charged with governance, in the course of their assigned duties, lack the capable resources to prepare the financial statements and related footnotes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and to detect and correct a material misstatement, if present.

Criteria: The Auditing Standards Board issued guidance to auditors related to entity's internal controls over financial reporting. Many small organizations rely on their auditor to generate the annual financial statements including footnotes. Auditing standards emphasize that the auditor cannot be part of your system of internal control over financial reporting.

Effect: Material misstatement in financial statements could go undetected.

TOWN OF LAKE ARTHUR, LOUISIANA  
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES  
Year Ended July 31, 2021

Recommendation: In our judgment, due to the lack of resources available to management to correct this material weakness in financial reporting, we recommend management mitigate this weakness by having a heightened awareness of all transactions being reported.

Response: We concur with this recommendation. Management has implemented supervision and review procedures to the extent possible.

**2021-003 Late Filing of Audited Financial Statements**

Condition: The July 31, 2021, audited financial statements were not filed with the Legislative Auditor's office within six months after the fiscal year ended as required by LSA-RS 24:514.

Criteria: Louisiana State Audit Law requires audited financial statements to be filed within six months after the fiscal year end of government entities.

Effect: The Town is not in compliance with LSA-RS 24:514.

Recommendation: In the future, the Town should file audited financial statements in a timely manner, if possible.

Response: The Town will make its best effort to file its audits in a timely manner in the future, but it's success will be dependent on the availability of certain external reports needed to calculate the Town's pension liability.

TOWN OF LAKE ARTHUR, LOUISIANA

SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS BASED  
ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS  
Year Ended July 31, 2021

2020-001 Segregation of Duties

Condition: Because of the entity's size and the limited number of accounting personnel, it is not feasible to maintain a complete segregation of duties to achieve effective internal control.

Recommendation: To the extent cost effective, duties should be segregated and management should attempt to mitigate this weakness by supervision and review procedures.

Current status: This condition still exists; however, the Town has implemented supervision and review procedures where possible with the resources available. See Finding 2021-001.

2020-002 Financial Reporting

Condition: In our judgment, the Town's accounting personnel and those charged with governance, in the course of their assigned duties, lack the capable resources to prepare the financial statements and related footnotes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and to detect and correct a material misstatement, if present.

Recommendation: In our judgement, due to the lack of resources available to management to correct this material weakness in financial reporting, we recommend management mitigate this weakness by having a heightened awareness of all transactions being reported.

Current status: This condition still exists; however, the Town has implemented recommended procedures where possible with the resources available. See Finding 2021-002.



TOWN OF LAKE ARTHUR, LOUISIANA

SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR AUDIT FINDINGS BASED  
ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS  
Year Ended July 31, 2021  
(Continued)

2020-003 Failure to Report Misappropriation of Assets to the LLA

Condition: The Town was made aware of possible misappropriation of assets by Town employees in February 2020 and failed to report the information to the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's Office.

Recommendation: We recommend that the Town promptly notify the Legislative Auditor of any allegations of misappropriations of assets.

Current status: There were no instances of fraud that required notification during the current fiscal year.

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