

**ST. TAMMANY PARISH
COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. 1
AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

For The Year Ended December 31, 2024

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. 1

TABLE OF CONTENTS

December 31, 2024

| | PAGE |
|---|-------------|
| INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT..... | 1 - 3 |
| MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS..... | 4 - 7 |
| FINANCIAL STATEMENTS | |
| Statement of Net Position..... | 8 |
| Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position..... | 9 |
| Statement of Cash Flows..... | 10 |
| Notes to Financial Statements..... | 11-28 |
| REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION | |
| Schedule of Employer's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension (Asset) Liability..... | 29 |
| Schedule of Employer's Pension Contributions and Notes to Required Supplementary Information..... | 30 |
| OTHER SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION | |
| Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to Agency Head..... | 31 |
| 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..... | 32-33 |
| Schedule of Findings..... | 34 |
| Summary Schedule of Prior Year Findings..... | 35 |
| Management's Corrective Action Plan..... | 36 |

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Commissioners of the
St. Tammany Parish Communications District No. I

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the St. Tammany Parish Communications District No. I (the District), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the Table of Contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly in all material respects, the respective financial position of the District as of December 31, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position, and cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to the financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management 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, and for 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.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit 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 District's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and net pension liability information on pages 4 through 7 and 29 through 30, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, 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.

Supplementary 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 accompanying Schedule of Compensation, Benefits, and Other Payments to Agency Head is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements. The schedule is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The 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 schedule is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic 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 April 16, 2025 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 the effectiveness of the District's 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.

Sincerely,

Kushner LaGraize, L.L.C.

Metairie, Louisiana
April 16, 2025

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. 1

Management's Discussion and Analysis

As of and for the Year Ended December 31, 2024

The management's discussion and analysis of the St. Tammany Parish Communications District No. 1's (the "District") financial performance provides an overview of the financial activities as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024. It should be read in conjunction with the basic financial statements and the accompanying notes to the financial statements.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- The District's assets and deferred outflows exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflows at December 31, 2024, by \$13,056,897. The District's net position increased by \$494,284 or 3.93% from the prior year.
- The District's operating revenues decreased by \$164,475 or 3.28%, while operating expenses decreased by \$135,364 or 2.87% for the year ended December 31, 2024. The decrease in operating revenues was due to a decrease in revenue from fees charged for services. The decrease in operating expenses was due to an decrease in the District's retirement expense resulting from a net change in the District's net pension asset and deferred inflows and outflows related to pension. All other operating costs were consistent with prior year.
- The District's non-operating revenues over expenses increased by \$50,838 for the year ended December 31, 2024. The increase was due to an increase in interest income earned on the District's money market account.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This financial report consists of three parts: management's discussion and analysis (this section), the basic financial statements, and the notes to the financial statements.

The financial statements provide both long-term and short-term information about the District's overall financial status. The financial statements also include notes that explain some of the information in the financial statements and provide more detailed data.

The District's financial statements are prepared on an accrual basis in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. Under this basis of accounting, revenues are recognized in the period in which they are earned, expenses are recognized in the period in which they are incurred, and depreciation of assets is recognized in the Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position. All assets and liabilities associated with the operations of the District are included in the Statement of Net Position.

The Statement of Net Position reports the District's net position, which is the difference between its assets and liabilities. Net Position is one way to measure the District's financial health or position.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. 1

Management's Discussion and Analysis - Continued

As of and for the Year Ended December 31, 2024

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE DISTRICT

The following is a summary of the statements of net position:

Statements of Net Position As of December 31, 2024 and 2023

| | 2024 | 2023 | Change |
|--|----------------------|----------------------|------------------|
| Current Assets | \$ 8,921,533 | \$ 8,493,562 | \$ 427,971 |
| Capital assets - net | 8,391,948 | 8,633,948 | (242,000) |
| Other assets | <u>333,040</u> | <u>323,040</u> | <u>10,000</u> |
| Total Assets | 17,646,521 | 17,450,550 | 195,971 |
| Deferred outflows of resources | <u>176,187</u> | <u>338,309</u> | <u>(162,122)</u> |
| Total Assets and Deferred Outflows of Resources | <u>\$ 17,822,708</u> | <u>\$ 17,788,859</u> | <u>\$ 33,849</u> |
| Current liabilities | \$ 693,994 | \$ 649,036 | \$ 44,958 |
| Non-current liabilities | <u>4,046,713</u> | <u>4,549,667</u> | <u>(502,954)</u> |
| Total Liabilities | 4,740,707 | 5,198,703 | (457,996) |
| Deferred inflows of resources | 25,104 | 27,543 | (2,439) |
| Net Position | | | |
| Net investment in capital assets | 4,091,948 | 4,033,948 | 58,000 |
| Unrestricted | <u>8,964,949</u> | <u>8,528,665</u> | <u>436,284</u> |
| Total Net Position | <u>13,056,897</u> | <u>12,562,613</u> | <u>494,284</u> |
| Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows and Net Position | <u>\$ 17,822,708</u> | <u>\$ 17,788,859</u> | <u>\$ 33,849</u> |

Current assets increased by \$427,971 from the prior year. The increase in current assets was primarily a result of an increase in cash due to an increase in revenues from fees charged for service over costs and interest income earned on the money market account. In addition, the District's net pension liability of \$249,667 decreased by \$192,954 to a net pension liability of \$56,713.

Capital assets decreased by \$242,000 from the prior year. The decrease in capital assets was primarily attributable to depreciation expense for the current year which was offset by capital additions.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. 1

Management's Discussion and Analysis - Continued

As of and for the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Total liabilities decreased by \$457,996 from the prior year. The decrease in liabilities was attributable to the bond principal payment made in the current year offset by the increase in accounts payable and net decrease in pension liability.

The District's net position increased \$494,284 from the prior year. The increase in the net position was primarily attributable to an increase in operating revenues as previously noted.

Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position For the Years Ended December 31, 2024 and 2023

| | <u>2024</u> | <u>2023</u> | <u>Favorable (Unfavorable)</u> |
|---|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------------------|
| Operating Revenues: | | | |
| Fees charged for services | \$ 4,847,699 | \$ 4,974,127 | \$ (126,428) |
| Miscellaneous revenue | <u>3,318</u> | <u>41,365</u> | <u>(38,047)</u> |
| Total Operating Revenues | 4,851,017 | 5,015,492 | (164,475) |
| Operating Expenses: | | | |
| Public safety | 4,283,004 | 4,339,374 | 56,370 |
| Depreciation | <u>298,992</u> | <u>377,986</u> | <u>78,994</u> |
| Total Operating Expenses | 4,581,996 | 4,717,360 | 135,364 |
| Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses): | | | |
| Interest income | 341,363 | 298,625 | 42,738 |
| Interest on long-term debt | <u>(116,100)</u> | <u>(124,200)</u> | <u>8,100</u> |
| Total Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses): | <u>225,263</u> | <u>174,425</u> | <u>50,838</u> |
| Changes in net position | 494,284 | 472,557 | 21,727 |
| Total Net Position, Beginning of Year | <u>12,562,613</u> | <u>12,090,056</u> | <u>472,557</u> |
| Total Net Position, End of Year | <u>\$ 13,056,897</u> | <u>\$ 12,562,613</u> | <u>\$ 494,284</u> |

The District's net position increased by \$494,284 or 3.93% from the previous year. See explanation above.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. 1

Management's Discussion and Analysis - Continued

As of and for the Year Ended December 31, 2024

CAPITAL ASSETS

The capital assets of the District consist of land, buildings and improvements, furniture and fixtures, 911 equipment, vehicles, and computer hardware. At December 31, 2024, the District had investments in capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation) totaling \$8,391,948, which was a decrease of \$242,000 from the prior year. The decrease was primarily due to current year depreciation expense offset by additions to capital assets.

DEBT

As of December 31, 2024, the District has \$4,300,000 in certificates of indebtedness, a decrease of \$300,000 from the prior year's balance of \$4,600,000. The decrease is attributable to payments on the certificates of indebtedness during the current year of \$300,000.

CONTACTING THE DISTRICT

The financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the District's finances and to show accountability for the financial resources received. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional information should be addressed to Rodney Hart, Executive Director, 28911 Krentel Rd, Lacombe, LA 70445.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. I

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

December 31, 2024

ASSETS

OPERATING ASSETS

| | |
|---------------------------|----------------|
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 8,175,658 |
| Receivables | <u>745,875</u> |

TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS 8,921,533

NONCURRENT ASSETS

| | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| Capital assets - net | 8,391,948 |
| Intangible asset | 19,500 |
| Other assets | <u>313,540</u> |

TOTAL NONCURRENT ASSETS 8,724,988

TOTAL ASSETS 17,646,521

DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Deferred outflows of resources related to pension | <u>176,187</u> |
|---|----------------|

LIABILITIES

CURRENT LIABILITIES

| | |
|--|----------------|
| Accounts payable | 353,170 |
| Payroll liabilities | 30,824 |
| Certificates of indebtedness - current | <u>310,000</u> |

TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES 693,994

NONCURRENT LIABILITIES

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Certificates of indebtedness, net of current portion | 3,990,000 |
| Net pension liability | <u>56,713</u> |

TOTAL NONCURRENT LIABILITIES 4,046,713

TOTAL LIABILITIES 4,740,707

DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES

| | |
|--|---------------|
| Deferred inflows of resources related to pension | <u>25,104</u> |
|--|---------------|

NET POSITION

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Net investment in capital assets | 4,091,948 |
| Unrestricted | <u>8,964,949</u> |

TOTAL NET POSITION \$ 13,056,897

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. 1

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES

AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION

For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

| | |
|---|----------------------|
| OPERATING REVENUES | |
| Fees charged for services | \$ 4,847,699 |
| Miscellaneous revenue | <u>3,318</u> |
| TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES | 4,851,017 |
| OPERATING EXPENSES | |
| Public safety | 4,283,004 |
| Depreciation | <u>298,992</u> |
| TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES | <u>4,581,996</u> |
| OPERATING INCOME | 269,021 |
| NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES) | |
| Interest income | 341,363 |
| Interest expense | <u>(116,100)</u> |
| TOTAL NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSES) | <u>225,263</u> |
| CHANGES IN NET POSITION | 494,284 |
| NET POSITION | |
| TOTAL NET POSITION - BEGINNING OF YEAR | <u>12,562,613</u> |
| TOTAL NET POSITION - END OF YEAR | <u>\$ 13,056,897</u> |

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. 1
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
Year Ended December 31, 2024

| | |
|---|----------------------------|
| CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES | |
| Cash received for services | \$ 4,880,011 |
| Cash paid for goods and services | (3,626,472) |
| Payments to employees and related benefits | <u>(664,845)</u> |
| NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES | 588,694 |
| CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES | |
| Payments on certificates of indebtedness | (300,000) |
| Interest paid | (116,100) |
| Purchase of capital assets | <u>(56,992)</u> |
| NET CASH USED IN CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES | (473,092) |
| NET CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES | |
| Interest received | <u>341,363</u> |
| NET CASH PROVIDED BY INVESTING ACTIVITIES | <u>341,363</u> |
| NET INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS | 456,965 |
| CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR | <u>7,718,693</u> |
| CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF YEAR | <u><u>\$ 8,175,658</u></u> |
| RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING INCOME TO NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES | |
| Operating income | \$ 269,021 |
| Adjustments to reconcile income from operations to net cash provided by operating activities: | |
| Depreciation | 298,992 |
| Changes in assets, deferred outflows, liabilities, and deferred inflows: | |
| Accounts receivable | 28,994 |
| Other assets | (10,000) |
| Deferred outflows of resources | 162,122 |
| Accounts payable | 5,494 |
| Payroll liabilities | 29,464 |
| Pension liability | (192,954) |
| Deferred inflows of resources | <u>(2,439)</u> |
| NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES | <u><u>\$ 588,694</u></u> |

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. 1

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2024

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The mission of St. Tammany Parish Communications District No. 1 (the District) is to shorten the time required for a citizen to request and receive emergency aid. The District is mandated to take whatever actions are necessary to accomplish this task. The accounting and reporting policies of the District conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America applicable to governmental entities. The following is a summary of significant accounting policies:

Reporting Entity

The District was created in 1986 by Ordinance 687 of the St. Tammany Parish Council. Effective September 1, 2013, the St. Tammany Parish Council passed Ordinance 13-2982 which amended Ordinance 687 relative to the composition of members on the Board of Commissioners. The District is governed by a Board of Commissioners composed of seven members. Three members are appointed by the St. Tammany Parish Council representing the Parish Governing Authority who may be Parish Council members, one member is appointed by the Parish President, and the remaining three are appointed by the St. Tammany Parish Council through the following nominations: one member nominated by the St. Tammany Parish Sheriff, one member nominated by the Municipal Police Chiefs, and one member nominated by the District Fire Chiefs. The Executive Director is a non-voting ex-officio member of the Board. The Board members shall serve 4-year terms concurrently with the Parish President and Council. A chairman is elected by the Board Members for a period of one year.

The District is not considered a component unit of the St. Tammany Parish Council. The Parish Council appoints a majority of the Board Members but does not have the ability to impose its will on the District. Based on the criteria set forth in Section 2100 of GASB's *Codification of Governmental Accounting and Financial Reporting Standards*, the District has no component units.

Basis of Presentation

The accompanying basic financial statements of the St. Tammany Parish Communications District No. 1 have been prepared in conformity with governmental accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The accompanying basic financial statements have been prepared in conformity with GASB Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis - for State and Local Governments*.

The District's operations are accounted for in a proprietary fund type - the enterprise fund. The proprietary fund type is accounted for using the flow of economic resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus all assets, deferred outflows, liabilities and deferred inflows associated with the operations are included on the statement of net position. Fund equity is segregated into contributed capital and net position. The operating statement presents increases (revenues) and decreases (expenses) in total net position.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. 1

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

December 31, 2024

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - CONTINUED

The District's operations are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises. The intent of the governing body is that the costs (expenses, including depreciation) of providing services on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges. The measurement focus emphasizes the determination of operating income. The District follows the accrual basis of accounting for its proprietary fund. Under this method, revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred.

Pursuant to LRS 33:9106 and Act 1029 of the 1999 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature, the District is authorized to collect the following service charges per subscriber per device per month within the District:

| | |
|---------------|--------|
| Residential | \$1.00 |
| Voice Over IP | \$1.25 |
| Commercial | \$2.00 |
| Wireless | \$1.25 |

Pursuant to LRS 33:9109.1, the District also collects a fee of 4% on prepaid wireless retail transactions.

Service charges are collected by the District on a monthly basis and are considered measurable at the month of collection. Accordingly, service charges incurred in December 2024 and remitted in 2025 have been reported as a receivable.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash includes amounts in interest-bearing demand deposits. Cash equivalents include amounts in time deposits and those investments with original maturities of 90 days or less. Under state law, the District may deposit funds in demand deposits, interest-bearing demand deposits, money market accounts, or time deposits with state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having their principal offices in Louisiana. Cash and cash equivalents that are required to be used for a specific purpose by creditors are classified as restricted.

Under state law, the District may invest in United States bonds, treasury notes, or certificates. These are classified as investments if their original maturities exceed 90 days; however, if the original maturities are 90 days or less, they are classified as cash equivalents.

Accounts Receivable

Accounts receivable at December 31, 2024, consist of service charges due from telephone companies. These receivables are considered to be fully collectible.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. 1

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

December 31, 2024

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - CONTINUED

Capital Assets

All capital assets of the District are recorded at historical cost and are reported in the Statement of Net Position. Depreciation of all exhaustible capital assets is charged as an expense against their operations.

The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add value to the asset or materially extend its useful life are not capitalized. Improvements are capitalized and depreciated over the remaining useful lives of the related capital assets, as applicable. The District capitalizes assets in excess of \$1,000.

The following estimated useful lives and methods are used to compute depreciation:

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------|---------------|
| Buildings | 30 years | Straight-Line |
| Leasehold improvements | 15 years | Straight-Line |
| Furniture, fixtures, and equipment | 5 - 7 years | Straight-Line |
| Computers | 3 - 7 years | Straight-Line |
| Vehicles | 5 years | Straight-Line |

Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

In addition to assets, the Statement of Net Position reports a separate section for deferred outflows of resources that represents a consumption of net position that applies to future period(s) and will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense) until then. The District has one item that qualifies for reporting in this category which is deferred amounts related to pensions.

In addition to liabilities, the Statement of Net Position reports a separate section for deferred inflows of resources that represents an acquisition of net position that applies to future period(s) and will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. The District has five items that qualify for reporting in this category which is deferred amounts related to pensions.

Long-Term Obligations

In proprietary fund types in the fund financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the Statement of Net Position. Certificates of Indebtedness, premiums and discounts are deferred and amortized over the life of the certificates using the straight-line method. Certificates of Indebtedness payable is reported net of the applicable premium or discount, if any.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. 1

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

December 31, 2024

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - CONTINUED

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

Net Position Classifications

Net position is classified and displayed in three components:

- Net investment in capital assets - consist of capital assets including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, and reduced by the outstanding balances of bonds or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets. If there are any significant unspent related debt proceeds, the portion of the debt attributable to the unspent amount is excluded from the calculation of net investment in capital assets.
- Restricted net position - consists of assets that have constraints that are externally imposed by creditors.
- Unrestricted net position - consist of all other net assets that do not meet the definition of "net investment in capital assets" or "restricted".

The District has formally set aside amounts to fund future capital projects in the amount of \$1,280,000. This amount is included in the unrestricted net position as of December 31, 2024.

When an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net positions are available, the District's policy is to apply restricted net position first.

Stabilization Arrangements

The District has formally set aside amounts for use in emergency situations or to offset anticipated revenue shortfalls should they occur. A stabilization arrangement, to offset anticipated revenue shortfalls should they occur, was authorized through formal resolution of the Board and was set at 42% of total revenue, which resulted in a balance of \$2,200,879 for the year ended December 31, 2024. The Board, through formal resolution, also established a stabilization arrangement in the amount of \$2,000,000 to fund expenses in the event of a catastrophic occurrence related to costs to obtain temporary facilities and equipment. The stabilization balances in total as of December 31, 2024, are \$4,200,879 and are included in the unrestricted net position.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. 1

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

December 31, 2024

NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - CONTINUED

New Pronouncements

During the year ended December 31, 2024, the District adopted GASB Statement No. 100, "Accounting Changes and Error Corrections," which establishes guidance for reporting accounting changes and error corrections. The District also adopted GASB Statement No. 101, "Compensated Absences," which updates the recognition and measurement criteria for compensated absences. The implementation of these GASBs did not have an impact on the District's financial statements.

NOTE 2 - CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

The District had cash and cash equivalents (carrying value) at December 31, 2024 totaling \$8,175,658. These deposits are stated at cost, which approximates market value. Under state law, deposits (or the resulting bank balance) 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 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 bank that is mutually acceptable to both parties.

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of a bank failure, the District's deposits may not be returned to it. The District does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk. As of December 31, 2024, the District's bank balances were \$8,210,424 of which \$250,000 was secured by federal deposit insurance coverage. The remaining deposits were collateralized by the pledge of securities held in joint custody with the bank. Accordingly, the District was not exposed to custodial credit risk.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. 1**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**

December 31, 2024

NOTE 3 - CAPITAL ASSETS

| | December 31, 2023 | Additions | Deletions | December 31, 2024 |
|--|----------------------|--------------|-----------|----------------------|
| Capital Assets not being depreciated: | | | | |
| Land | \$ 282,638 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 282,638 |
| Construction in progress | - | 50,590 | - | 50,590 |
| Total Capital Assets not being depreciated | 282,638 | 50,590 | - | 333,228 |
| Capital assets being depreciated: | | | | |
| Equipment and 911 system | 428,256 | 6,402 | (1,461) | 433,197 |
| Buildings | 9,825,041 | - | - | 9,825,041 |
| Vehicles | 99,788 | - | - | 99,788 |
| Furniture and fixtures | 441,174 | - | - | 441,174 |
| Total capital assets being depreciated | 10,794,259 | 6,402 | (1,461) | 10,799,200 |
| Less accumulated depreciation: | | | | |
| Equipment and 911 system | (286,271) | (30,492) | 1,461 | (315,302) |
| Buildings | (1,696,167) | (237,492) | - | (1,933,659) |
| Vehicles | (33,991) | (16,354) | - | (50,345) |
| Furniture and fixtures | (426,520) | (14,654) | - | (441,174) |
| Total accumulated depreciation | (2,442,949) | (298,992) | 1,461 | (2,740,480) |
| Total capital assets being depreciated, net | 8,351,310 | (292,590) | - | 8,058,720 |
| Total capital assets, net | \$ 8,633,948 | \$ (242,000) | \$ - | \$ 8,391,948 |

Depreciation expense was incurred in the amount of \$298,992 during the year ended December 31, 2024.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. 1

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

December 31, 2024

NOTE 4 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN

Plan Description

Employees of the District are provided with pensions through a cost-sharing multiple- employer defined benefit plan administered by the Parochial Employees' Retirement System (PERS). PERS was established and provided for by R.S.11:1901 of the Louisiana Revised Statute (LRS) to provide provides retirement benefits to employees of taxing districts of a parish or any branch or section of a parish within the state which does not have its own retirement system and which elects to become a member of PERS. The plan issues a stand- alone financial report. The District participates in Plan A of PERS.

Benefits

Retirement Benefits

Any member of Plan A can retire providing he/she meets one of the following criteria: For employees hired prior to January 1, 2007:

1. Any age with thirty (30) or more years of creditable service.
2. Age 55 with twenty-five (25) years of creditable service.
3. Age 60 with a minimum of ten (10) years of creditable service.
4. Age 65 with a minimum of seven (7) years of creditable service.

For employees hired after January 1, 2007:

1. Age 55 with thirty (30) years of service.
2. Age 62 with ten (10) years of service.
3. Age 67 with seven (7) years of service.

Generally, the monthly amount of the retirement allowance of any member of Plan A shall consist of an amount equal to 3% of the member's final average compensation multiplied by his/her years of creditable service. However, under certain conditions, as outlined in the statutes, the benefits are limited to specified amounts.

Survivor Benefits

Upon the death of any member of Plan A with five (5) or more years of creditable service who is not eligible for retirement, the plan provides benefits for the surviving spouse and minor children, as outlined in the statutes.

Any member of Plan A who is eligible for normal retirement at time of death, the surviving spouse shall receive an automatic Option 2 benefit, as outlined in the statutes.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. 1

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

December 31, 2024

NOTE 4 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN - CONTINUED

Benefits (Continued)

Deferred Retirement Option Plan:

Act 338 of 1990 established the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) for the retirement system. DROP is an option for any member who is eligible for normal retirement.

In lieu of terminating employment and accepting a service retirement, any member of Plan A who is eligible to retire may elect to participate in the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) in which they are enrolled for three years and defer the receipt of benefits. 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 and receive a service retirement allowance, are paid into the DROP Fund.

Upon termination of employment prior to or at the end of the specified period of participation, a participant in the DROP may receive, at his option, a lump sum from the account equal to the payments into the account, a true annuity based upon his account balance in that fund, or roll over the fund to an Individual Retirement Account.

Interest is accrued on the DROP benefits for the period between the end of DROP participation and the member's retirement date.

For individuals who become eligible to participate in the Deferred Retirement Option Plan on or after January 1, 2004, all amounts which remain credited to the individual's subaccount after termination in the plan will be placed in liquid asset money market investments at the discretion of the Board of Trustees. These subaccounts may be credited with interest based on money market rates of return or, at the option of the System, the funds may be credited to self-directed subaccounts. The participant in the self-directed portion of this plan must agree that the benefits payable to the participant are not the obligations of the state or the System, and that any returns and other rights of the plan are the sole liability and responsibility of the participant and the designated provider to which contributions have been made.

Disability Benefits

For Plan A, a member shall be eligible to retire and receive a disability benefit if he was hired prior to January 1, 2007 and has at least five years of creditable service, or if hired after January 1, 2007, has seven years of creditable service, and is not eligible for normal retirement and has been officially certified as disabled by the State Medical Disability Board.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. 1

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

December 31, 2024

NOTE 4 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN - CONTINUED

Benefits (Continued)

Disability Benefits (Continued)

Upon retirement caused by disability, a member of Plan A shall be paid a disability benefit equal to the lesser of an amount equal to 3% of the member's final average compensation multiplied by his years of service, not to be less than 15, or 3% multiplied by years of service assuming continued service to age 60 for members who are enrolled prior to January 1, 2007 and to age 62 for those members who are enrolled January 1, 2007 and later.

Cost-of Living Increases

The pension plan is authorized to provide a cost-of-living allowance for members who retired prior to July 1973. The adjustment cannot exceed 2% of the retiree's original benefit for each full calendar year since retirement and may only be granted if sufficient funds are available from investment income in excess of normal requirements.

In addition, the pension plan may provide an additional cost of living increase to all retirees and beneficiaries who are over age 65 equal to 2% of the member's benefit paid on October 1, 1977 (or the member's retirement date, if later). Also, the pension plan may provide a cost-of- living increase up to 2.5% for retirees 62 and older. Lastly, the pension plan provides for further reduced actuarial payments to provide an annual 2.5% cost-of-living adjustment commencing at age 55.

Contributions

Members are required by state statute to contribute 9.5% of their annual covered payroll and the District is required to make employer contributions based on an actuarially determined rate. The employer contribution rate for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2024 was 11.50% of annual covered payroll. The District's contribution to the PERS for the year ended December 31, 2024 was \$53,450 which was recorded as a deferred outflow related to pensions.

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

As of December 31, 2024, the District reported a liability of \$56,713 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability. The net pension liability was measured as of December 31, 2023 and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. 1

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

December 31, 2024

NOTE 4 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN - CONTINUED

Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions (Continued)

The District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on a projection of the District's long-term share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating employers, actuarially determined. For the measurement period December 31, 2023, the District's proportion was 0.06%.

For the year ended December 31, 2024, the District recognized pension expense of \$20,179. At December 31, 2024, the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

| | <u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u> | <u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u> |
|---|---|--|
| Differences between expected and actual experience | \$ 26,855 | \$ 15,223 |
| Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments | 91,401 | - |
| Changes of assumptions | - | 9,881 |
| Changes in proportion and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share | 4,481 | - |
| Employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date | <u>53,450</u> | <u>-</u> |
| Total | <u>\$ 176,187</u> | <u>\$ 25,104</u> |

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. 1

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

December 31, 2024

NOTE 4 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN - CONTINUED

Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions (Continued)

Deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date of \$53,450 will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension asset during the year ended December 31, 2023. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions of \$97,633 will be recognized as pension expense as follows:

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|--------------|-------------------------|
| 2025 | \$ 11,100 |
| 2026 | 46,679 |
| 2027 | 77,007 |
| 2028 | (37,153) |
| TOTAL | <u><u>\$ 97,633</u></u> |

Actuarial Assumptions

The total pension asset in the December 31, 2023 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Inflation: 2.30%

Salary Increases: 4.75%, including inflation

Mortality Rates: Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Mortality Tables for employees
Pub-2010 Mortality Table for Healthy Retirees for annuitants and beneficiaries
Pub-2010 Mortality Table for General Disabled Retirees for disabled annuitants
All multiplied by 130% for males and 125% for females

Investment Rate of Return: 6.40%, net of investment expense, including inflation

Cost-of-Living Adjustments: The present value of future retirement benefits is based on benefits currently being paid by the pension plan and includes previously granted cost of living increases. The present values do not include provisions for potential future increase not yet authorized by the pension plan.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. 1

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

December 31, 2024

NOTE 4 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN - CONTINUED

Actuarial Assumptions (Continued)

The mortality rate assumption used was set based upon an experience study performed on plan data for the period January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2022. The data was assigned credibility weighting and combined with a standard table to produce current levels of mortality. This mortality was then projected forward to a period equivalent to the estimated duration of the System's liabilities. The Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Mortality Table for General Employees, multiplied by 130% for males and 125% for females, each with full generational projection using the MP2021 scale. Mortality for annuitants and beneficiaries was set equal to the Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Mortality Table for Healthy Retirees multiplied by 130% for males and 125% for females, each with full generational projection using the MP2021 scale. For disabled annuitants, mortality was set equal to the Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Mortality Table for General Disabled Retirees multiplied by 130% for males and 125% for females, each with full generational projection using the MP2021 scale.

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a triangulation method which integrated the CAPM pricing model (top-down), a treasury yield curve approach (bottom-up) and an equity building-block model (bottom-up). Risk return and correlations are projected on a forward-looking basis in equilibrium, in which best- estimates 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 rates 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 of 2.40% and an adjustment for the effect of rebalancing/diversification. The resulting expected long-term rate of return was 7.50% for the year ended December 31, 2023. Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in the pension plan's target asset allocation as of December 31, 2023 are summarized in the following table:

| <u>Asset Class</u> | <u>Target Asset Allocation</u> | <u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u> |
|------------------------------------|--|---|
| Fixed Income | 33 % | 1.12 % |
| 3.2 | 51 % | 3.20 % |
| Alternatives | 14 % | 0.67 % |
| Real Assets | 2 % | 0.11 % |
| | <u>100 %</u> | <u>5.10 %</u> |
| Inflation | | <u>2.40 %</u> |
| Expected Arithmetic Nominal Return | | <u>7.50 %</u> |

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. 1

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

December 31, 2024

NOTE 4 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN - CONTINUED

Actuarial Assumptions (Continued))

The discount rate used to measure the total pension asset was 6.40%. 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 and non-employer contributing entities will be made at the actuarially determined contribution rates, which are calculated in accordance with relevant statutes and approved by the pension plan. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position 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 the projected benefit payments to determine the total pension asset.

Sensitivity of the District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Asset to Changes in the Discount Rate:

The following presents the District's proportionate share of the net pension asset the discount rate of 6.40%, as well as what the employer's proportionate share of the net pension liability or net pension asset would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower, 5.40%, or one percentage-point higher, 7.40%, than the current rate:

| | 1.0% Decrease 5.40% | Current Discount Rate 6.40% | 1.0% Increase 7.40% |
|--|---------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| District's proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset) | \$ 404,655 | \$ 56,713 | \$ (235,351) |

Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position

Detailed information about the pension plan's fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued Parochial Employees' Retirement System Financial Report at or on the Office of the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's website at WWW.LLA.LA.GOV

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. 1

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

December 31, 2024

NOTE 4 - DEFINED BENEFIT PENSION PLAN - CONTINUED

Support of Non-Employer Contributing Entities

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. The District recognizes revenue in an amount equal to their proportionate share of the total contributions to the pension plan from these non-employer contributing entities. During the year ended December 31, 2024, the District recognized revenue as a result of support received from non-employer contributing entities of \$5,890 for its participation in PERS.

Payables to the Pension Plan

The District had \$48,724 of contributions due to the pension plan for the year ended December 31, 2024.

NOTE 5 - COMMITMENTS

In January 2024, the District entered into an inter-governmental agreement with the St. Tammany Parish Fire District No. 1 (Fire District 1), whereby the District would pay an annual sum of \$300,000 to assist with supplementing the cost of Fire District 1 and Fire District 12's consolidation of all fire service functions to respond to E-911 calls reporting a fire or the need for emergency medical assistance. In 2024, the District incurred an expense of \$300,000 related to this agreement. The term of the agreement was for five years. The future minimum payments required as a result of this agreement as of December 31, 2024 are as follows:

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|-------------|---------------|
| 2025 | \$ 200,000 |
| 2026 | 200,000 |
| 2027 | 200,000 |
| 2028 | 200,000 |

In January 2024, the District entered into an inter-governmental agreement with the St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office, whereby the District would pay an amount to help offset the St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office 911 call taker expense in addition to the 911 call taker expense for the City of Covington, and the City of Mandeville. The term of the agreement was for five years. In 2024, the District incurred an expense of \$796,404 related to this agreement. The future minimum payments required as a result of this agreement as of December 31, 2024 are as follows:

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. 1

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

December 31, 2024

NOTE 5 - COMMITMENTS - CONTINUED

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|-------------|---------------|
| 2025 | \$ 796,404 |
| 2026 | 796,404 |
| 2027 | 796,404 |
| 2028 | 796,404 |

In 2024, the District entered into an inter-governmental agreement with the City of Slidell, whereby the District would pay an amount to help offset the City of Slidell's 911 call taker expense in addition to the 911 call taker expense for the Pearl River Police Department. The term of the agreement is five years. In 2024, the District incurred an expense of \$131,957 related to this agreement. The future minimum payments required as a result of this agreement as of December 31, 2024 are as follows:

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|-------------|---------------|
| 2025 | \$ 131,957 |
| 2026 | 131,957 |
| 2027 | 131,957 |
| 2028 | 131,957 |

On September 15, 2015, the District entered into an agreement with a tower operator to install, operate, and maintain equipment on a tower located in Lacombe, Louisiana. The agreement calls for monthly payments of \$1,300 for the use of the space with a 3% annual increase on the basic payment on the anniversary date of the agreement. In addition, and concurrently with the basic payment, the District is to pay \$200 per month to reimburse licensor for all or a portion of such rent expense. The term of the lease is for a period of 10 years from the commencement date of the agreement with four renewal periods of five years each. In 2024, the District incurred an expense of \$22,310 related to this agreement.

The District does not intend to exercise the renewal terms at the end of the initial lease in 2025. Due to the small nature of this lease and minimal impact on the Statement of Net Position, the District has determined a reclassification under GASB 87 is not deemed necessary at this time. The future minimum payments required as of December 31, 2024 are as follows:

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|-------------|---------------|
| 2025 | \$ 17,066 |

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. 1

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

December 31, 2024

NOTE 5 - COMMITMENTS - CONTINUED

On May 31, 2017, the District entered into an inter-governmental agreement with the St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office, whereby the District will fund a portion of the new parish wide radio communication system. The original agreement called for twelve annual payments of \$750,000 to the St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office beginning on July 1, 2017. In 2024, this agreement was amended to increase the annual payment to \$1,500,000. In 2024, the District incurred expenses of \$1,500,000 related to this agreement. The future minimum payments required as of December 31, 2024 are as follows:

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|-------------|---------------|
| 2025 | \$ 1,500,000 |
| 2026 | 1,500,000 |
| 2027 | 1,500,000 |
| 2028 | 1,500,000 |

On September 9, 2019, the District entered into an agreement with a national carrier to provide hardware, software, licenses and maintenance on a new Viper911 system. The term of the agreement is for 5 years with an upfront payment of \$600,000 followed by monthly payments of \$17,934 beginning on October 1, 2019. In 2024, the district signed a 12 month extension, which increased the monthly payments to \$23,287. In 2024, the District incurred expenses of \$220,558 related to this agreement. The future minimum payments required as a result of this agreement as of December 31, 2024 are as follows:

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|-------------|---------------|
| 2025 | \$ 256,157 |

The District is party to various lease agreements for small office equipment. The terms of these agreements require monthly obligations ranging from \$32 to \$232 per month, and are set to expire within the next two to three years. Due to the small nature of these leases and minimal impact on the Statement of Net Position, the District has determined a reclassification under GASB 87 is not deemed necessary at this time. Total lease expense for the year ended December 31, 2024 was \$2,920.

NOTE 6 - LONG-TERM DEBT

During the year ended December 31, 2016, the District issued Certificates of Indebtedness, Series 2016 in the amount of \$6,500,000 for the purpose of building a facility for the operations of the District. Interest on the certificates bear an annual interest rate of 2.70% and mature over a period of 20 years with a final maturity date of January 1, 2036.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. 1

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

December 31, 2024

NOTE 6 - LONG-TERM DEBT - CONTINUED

The following is a summary of the long-term debt obligation transactions for the year ended December 31, 2024:

| | <u>Balance 2023</u> | <u>Additions</u> | <u>Deductions</u> | <u>Balance 2024</u> | <u>Within One Year</u> |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| Certificates of Indebtedness | <u>\$ 4,600,000</u> | <u>\$ -</u> | <u>\$ (300,000)</u> | <u>\$ 4,300,000</u> | <u>\$ 310,000</u> |

During the year ended December 31, 2024, the District incurred interest expense on the certificates in the amount of \$116,100

The annual debt service requirements of the certificates to maturity as of December 31, 2024 are as follows:

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Principal</u> | <u>Interest</u> | <u>Total</u> |
|-------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| 2025 | 310,000 | 111,915 | 421,915 |
| 2026-2030 | 1,670,000 | 428,357 | 2,098,357 |
| 2031-2035 | 1,905,000 | 187,583 | 2,092,583 |
| 2036 | 415,000 | 5,603 | 420,603 |
| Total | <u>\$ 4,300,000</u> | <u>\$ 733,458</u> | <u>\$ 5,033,458</u> |

NOTE 7 - RISK MANAGEMENT

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. During the year ended December 31, 2024, the District carried insurance through various commercial carriers to cover all risks of loss.

NOTE 8 - BOARD COMPENSATION

Members of the Board were not paid per diem for attending board meetings for the year ended December 31, 2024.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. 1

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED

December 31, 2024

NOTE 9 - SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The District has evaluated subsequent events through the date the financial statements were available to be issued, which corresponds with the date of the independent auditors' report. No material subsequent events have occurred since December 31, 2024, that require recognition or disclosure in the financial statements.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. 1

TEN YEAR SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER'S PROPORTIONATE

SHARE OF THE NET PENSION LIABILITY (ASSET)

As of December 31, 2024

| Fiscal Year | Employer's Proportion Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) | Employer's 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 % of its Covered Employee Payroll | Plan Fiduciary Net Pension as a % of the Total Pension Liability (Asset) |
|----------------|---|---|--|---|--|
| <u>PERS</u> | | | | | |
| 12/31/24 | 0.06 % | \$ 56,713 | \$ 464,080 | 12.22 % | 98.03 % |
| 12/31/23 | 0.06 % | 249,667 | 433,893 | 57.54 % | 1,110.00 % |
| 12/31/22 | 0.07 % | (325,477) | 411,225 | (79.15)% | 1,056.39 % |
| 12/31/21 | 0.06 % | (101,044) | 407,530 | (24.79)% | 2,601.21 % |
| 12/31/20 | 0.06 % | 2,717 | 386,721 | 0.70 % | 99.86 % |
| 12/31/19 | 0.05 % | 213,294 | 365,992 | 58.28 % | 88.86 % |
| 12/31/18 | 0.05 % | (36,273) | 307,786 | (11.79)% | 101.98 % |
| 12/31/17 | 0.05 % | 112,351 | 305,695 | 36.75 % | 94.15 % |
| 12/31/16 | 0.05 % | 143,518 | 323,526 | 44.36 % | 92.23 % |
| 12/31/15 | 0.06 % | 15,893 | 311,806 | 5.10 % | 99.00 % |

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. 1

TEN YEAR SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER'S PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS & NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

As of December 31, 2024

| Fiscal Year | Contractually Required Contribution | Contributions in Relation to Contractually Required Contribution | Contribution Deficiency (Excess) | Employer's Covered- Employee Payroll | Contribution as a Percentage of Covered- Employee Payroll |
|--------------|---|--|--|---|---|
| PERS: | | | | | |
| 12/31/24 | \$ 53,369 | \$ 53,450 | \$ (81) | \$ 464,080 | 11.52 % |
| 12/31/23 | 49,898 | 49,895 | 3 | 433,893 | 11.50 % |
| 12/31/22 | 47,291 | 46,930 | 361 | 411,225 | 11.41 % |
| 12/31/21 | 50,640 | 49,922 | 718 | 407,530 | 12.25 % |
| 12/31/20 | 47,373 | 47,097 | 276 | 386,721 | 12.18 % |
| 12/31/19 | 42,089 | 42,400 | (311) | 365,992 | 11.58 % |
| 12/31/18 | 35,531 | 35,748 | (217) | 307,786 | 11.61 % |
| 12/31/17 | 38,530 | 37,774 | 756 | 305,695 | 12.36 % |
| 12/31/16 | 41,634 | 42,058 | (424) | 323,526 | 13.00 % |
| 12/31/15 | 46,244 | 47,364 | (1,120) | 311,806 | 15.19 % |

NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

1. CHANGES OF BENEFIT TERMS:

There were no changes of benefit terms during any of the years presented.

2. CHANGES OF ASSUMPTIONS:

Inflation rate increased from 2.0% to 2.1% from December 31, 2020 to December 31, 2021.

Inflation rate increased from 2.1% to 2.3% from December 31, 2021 to December 31, 2022.

Inflation rate increased from 2.3% to 2.4% from December 31, 2022 to December 31, 2023.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. 1

OTHER SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
SCHEDULE OF COMPENSATION, BENEFITS AND
OTHER PAYMENTS TO AGENCY HEAD
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

Agency Head: Rodney Hart, Executive Director

| <u>Purpose</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Salary | \$ 126,693 |
| Benefits - insurance | 31,921 |
| Benefits - retirement | 12,450 |
| Benefits - cell phone | 495 |
| Benefits - car allowance | <u>729</u> |
| Total | <u><u>\$ 172,288</u></u> |

**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**

To the Board of Commissioners
St. Tammany Parish Communications District No. 1
Covington, 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 St. Tammany Parish Communications District No. 1 (the District), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated April 16, 2025.

Report on 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) as a basis for designing 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 District'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 or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

Report on 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 financial statements. 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 is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 2024-001.

St. Tammany Parish Communications District No. 1's Response to Findings

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the District's response to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings. The District's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

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

Kushner LaGraize, L.L.C.

Metairie, Louisiana

April 16, 2025

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. 1

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS

For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

I. SUMMARY OF AUDITORS' RESULTS

The type of report issued on the basic financial statements: Unmodified.

1. Significant deficiencies in internal control were disclosed by the audit of the financial statements: None reported.
2. Material weaknesses: No.
3. Noncompliance which is material to the financial statements: No.

2. FINDINGS RELATED TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

2024-001

Criteria:

Per R.S. 11:2014 (C) governmental entities are required to remit employee and employer contributions to the Parochial Employees' Retirement System (PERS) by the 15th day of the month following the quarter end. Timely remittances ensure compliance with pension funding requirements and prevent potential penalties or interest charges.

Condition:

During our audit, we noted that the District did not remit required contributions to PERS in a timely manner. The 3rd Quarter 2024 contributions were remitted subsequent to the due date established by PERS guidelines.

Cause:

The late remittance appears to be due to management oversight.

Effect:

Late remittances may result in penalties, interest charges, or other administrative consequences imposed by PERS. Additionally, delays in funding retirement contributions can impact the overall financial health of the retirement system. We did note, no penalties, interest charges or other administrative consequences occurred as a result of the late remittance.

Recommendation:

We recommend that the entity implement procedures to ensure all PERS contributions are remitted on or before the due date. This include designating an additional staff member to oversee pension remittances and/or implementing a monthly reconciliation process to confirm timely payments.

Management Response:

Management concurred with the recommendation. See management's corrective action plan.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH COMMUNICATIONS DISTRICT NO. I

SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS

For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

SECTION I – FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS

None.

SECTION II – MANAGEMENT LETTER COMMENTS

None.

St. Tammany Parish Communications District

**28911 Krentel Rd.
Lacombe, LA 70445
Phone (985) 898-4911
Fax (985) 898-4974**



April 16, 2025

Michael J. Waguespack
Louisiana Legislative Auditor
PO Box 94397
Baton Rouge LA 70804-9397

Re: Compliance Finding

Mr. Waguespack,

Please see our response to the following compliance finding, **2024-001**.

Condition:

During our audit, we noted that the District did not remit required contributions to PERS in a timely manner. The 3rd Quarter 2024 contributions were remitted subsequent to the due date established by PERS guidelines.

Recommendation:

We recommend that the entity implement procedures to ensure all PERS contributions are remitted on or before the due date. This includes designating an additional staff member to oversee pension remittances and/or implementing a monthly reconciliation process to confirm timely payments.

Management Response:

Management concurred with the recommendation and has already implemented the following procedure. First step, the quarterly PERS contributions payment has been added to the Directors manual Accounts Payable Schedule. This process will ensure the payment request has been approved and submitted for payment. The second step to this process is a sign off approval, verifying the payment has been processed.