# SOUTHWEST ALLEN PARISH WATER DISTRICT NO. 2 A COMPONENT UNIT OF THE ALLEN PARISH POLICE JURY

Kinder, Louisiana
ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

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#### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Commissioners Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2 Kinder, Louisiana

# Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of the business-type activities of the Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2, component unit of the Allen Parish Police Jury, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023 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 business-type activities of Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2, component unit of the Allen Parish Police Jury, as of December 31, 2023, 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 (GAAS) and the standards applicable to 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 Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2, component unit of the Allen Parish Police Jury, 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 opinion.

#### 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.

To the Board of Commissioners Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2 Kinder, Louisiana

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 Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2's, component unit of the Allen Parish Police Jury, 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.

# Auditor's Responsibility 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 auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted with GAAS 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, internal 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 judgement 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 judgement 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 accounts 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 Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2's, component unit of the Allen Parish Police Jury, 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 Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2's, component unit of the Allen Parish Police Jury, ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

To the Board of Commissioners Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2 Kinder, Louisiana

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

Management has omitted 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.

# Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2's, component unit of the Allen Parish Police Jury, basic financial statements. The accompanying Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements. Such information 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 of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements as a whole.

To the Board of Commissioners Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2 Kinder, Louisiana

# Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated April 16, 2024 on our consideration of Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2's, component unit of the Allen Parish Police Jury, 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 solely 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 Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2's, component unit of the Allen Parish Police Jury, 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 Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2's, component unit of the Allen Parish Police Jury, internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Steven M DeRouen & Associates LLC

Lake Charles, Louisiana April 16, 2024 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

# SOUTHWEST ALLEN PARISH WATER DISTRICT NO. 2 A COMPONENT UNIT OF THE ALLEN PARISH POLICE JURY STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

December 31, 2023

ASSETS			
Current assets:			
Cash		\$	1,788,082
Cash - restricted			644,179
Investments			128,708
Receivables - net			203,395
Prepaid assets			12,273
Total current assets			2,776,637
Non-current assets:			
Capital assets - net of accumulated deprecia	ion		5,995,966
Total non-current assets			5,995,966
	TOTAL ASSETS		8,772,603
LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION			
Current liabilities:			
Accounts payable			42,625
Accrued liabilities			22,263
Payable from restricted assets:			
Customer deposits			32,000
Total current liabilities			96,888
Non-current liabilities			
Long-term portion of bonds payable			3,122,500
	TOTAL LIABILITIES		3,219,388
Net Position:			
Net investment in capital assets			2,873,466
Restricted:			2,072,100
Debt service			597,651
Construction			846
Unrestricted			2,081,252
	TOTAL NET POSITION		5,553,215
	TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION	\$	8,772,603
		-	-,,-,-

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

# SOUTHWEST ALLEN PARISH WATER DISTRICT NO. 2 A COMPONENT UNIT OF THE ALLEN PARISH POLICE JURY STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND CHANGES IN FUND NET POSITION For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

OPERATING REVENUES:		
Charges for services		\$ 1,562,458
Miscellaneous		29,956
	TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	1,592,414
OPERATING EXPENSES:		
Advertising		3,616
Computer service		4,804
Contract labor		1,200
Depreciation		266,365
Dues		475
Fees		31,591
Insurance - general		48,153
Insurance - health		93,356
Interest		84,228
Miscellaneous		19,724
Office		47,673
Per diem		3,700
Professional fees		21,450
Repairs and maintenance Retirement		72,467 31,460
Salaries		31,460
Supplies		175,491
Taxes and licenses		25,012
Transportation		21,384
Utilities		157,893
Water administration fees		1,165
	TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	1,422,743
	OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	169,671
	()	 
NON-OPERATING REVENUES (EXPENSE	ES):	
Bond interest reimbursement		7,491
Dividend revenue		6,368
Gain on sale of fixed assets		54,000
Interest income		20,245
	TOTAL NON-OPERATING INCOME (EXPENSES)	 88,104
CHANGE IN NET POSITION		257,775
NET POSITION- BEGINNING		5,295,440
NET POSITION - ENDING		\$ 5,553,215
		 -,,

# SOUTHWEST ALLEN PARISH WATER DISTRICT NO. 2 A COMPONENT UNIT OF THE ALLEN PARISH POLICE JURY STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Cash Flows from Operating Activities:	
Received from customers and users	\$ 1,544,381
Other operating receipts	29,956
Payments for supplies and services	(771,792)
Payments to employees, benefits and payroll taxes	 (352,783)
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	 449,762
Cash Flows from Capital and Related Financing Activities:	
Purchases of capital assets	(202,694)
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets	54,000
Bond interest reimbursement	7,491
Bond payments	(196,000)
Other	 (725)
Net Cash Provided (Used) from (for) Capital and Related Financing Activities	 (337,928)
Cash Flows from Investing Activities:	
(Increase) Decrease in investments	(6,322)
Interest received	20,245
Dividends received	 6,368
Net Cash Provided (Used) from (for) Investing Activities	 20,291
Net Increase (Decrease) in Cash and Equivalents	132,125
Cash and Cash Equivalents at Beginning of Year	 2,300,136
Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Year	\$ 2,432,261
Reconciliation of Operating Income to Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities:	
Operating income (loss)	\$ 169,671
Depreciation	266,365
Provisions for bad debts	(2,112)
(Increase) decrease in:	, i
Receivables - trade	(17,595)
Prepaid expenses	(938)
Increase (decrease) in:	
Accounts payable	17,496
Accrued liabilities	15,225
Rent deposits	 1,650
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities	\$ 449,762
Reconciliation of Total Cash:	
Current assets-cash	\$ 1,788,082
Restricted assets-cash	644,179
Total Cash	\$ 2,432,261

Supplemental Disclosure:

Cash paid for interest - \$84,228

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2 is a political subdivision of the State of Louisiana. It was created under the provisions of Louisiana Revised Statute 33:3811, for the purpose of providing water to the rural area of Southwest Allen Parish. The District is governed by a board of commissioners composed of five compensated members appointed by the Allen Parish Police Jury. The District primarily provides water to residential customers but does provide water to the Town of Kinder, the Casino area and a State prison.

# **REPORTING ENTITY**

This report includes all funds and account groups which are controlled by or dependent on the Commissioners. Control by or dependence on the District was determined on the basis of budget adoption, taxing authority, authority to issue debt, election or appointment of governing body, and other general oversight responsibility.

Based on the foregoing criteria, the Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2 has no other fiscal or significant managerial responsibility over any other governmental unit that is not included in the financial statements of the Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2. The District is a component unit of the Allen Parish Policy Jury.

# NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

#### A. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying financial statements of the Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2 (the District) have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. GAAP includes all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements. The accounting and reporting framework and the more significant accounting policies are discussed in subsequent subsections of these notes.

Such accounting and reporting procedures also conform to the requirements of Louisiana Revised Statutes 24:513 and to the guidance set forth in the industry audit guide, <u>Audits of State and Local Governments</u>, issued by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide.

The financial statements of the District are prepared on the accrual basis of accounting, whereby revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when incurred. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources resulting from exchange and exchange-like transactions are recognized when the exchange takes place.

## NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

# **Fund Accounting**

The accounts of the District are organized on the basis of a proprietary fund, which is considered a separate accounting entity or enterprise fund. 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 that periodic determination of revenues earned, expenses incurred, and/or net income is appropriate for capital maintenance, public policy, management control, accountability, or other purposes.

# Basis of Accounting

The District has implemented GASB Statement No. 34, Basic Financial Statements- and Management's Discussion and Analysis-For State and Local Governments.

Proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from non-operating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with a proprietary fund's principal ongoing operations. The principal operating revenues of the District come from metered sales to residential and commercial customers as well as service connection charges and penalties from late payment of bills. Operating expenses for enterprise funds include the cost of sales and services, administrative expenses, and depreciation on capital assets. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as non-operating revenues and expenses.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the District's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

#### **B.** Deposits and Investments

The District's cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, demand deposits, and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition. State law and the Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2's investment policy allow the District to invest in collateralized certificates of deposits, government backed securities, commercial paper, the state sponsored investment pool, and mutual funds consisting solely of government backed securities.

## NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

# C. Prepaid Items

The District records as prepaid expenses amounts paid in the current year that benefit future periods.

#### D. Accounts Receivable

An allowance for doubtful accounts is computed under the allowance method, based upon historical data and management's estimates of uncollectible accounts. The provision for doubtful accounts at December 31, 2023, was \$1,438.

Receivables at December 31, 2022 consist of the following:

There appears to be concentration of credit risk with regard to general accounts receivable and more specifically accounts receivable for water user fees. The District's ability to collect the amounts due from the users of the District water system and others (as reflected on the financial statements) may be affected by significant economic fluctuations, natural disaster or other calamity in this one concentrated geographic location.

## E. Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property, plant, equipment, and infrastructure assets (e.g., roads, bridges, sidewalks, and similar items), are reported in the applicable governmental or business-type activities column in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are capitalized at historical cost or estimated cost if historical cost is not available. As of December 31, 2023, all assets are capitalized at historical cost. Donated assets are recorded as capital assets at their estimated fair market value at the date of donation. The Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2 maintains a threshold level of \$5,000 or more for capitalizing capital assets.

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

# NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed.

Depreciation of each class of depreciable property is computed using the straight-line method. Estimated useful lives are as follows:

Building	27 years
Distribution system	10-50 years
Furniture & fixtures	5-7 years
Equipment	5-10 years

#### F. Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require 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 the estimates.

#### **G.** Compensated Absences

The District's leave policy does not provide for the accumulation and vesting of leave.

#### H. Statement of Cash Flows

For purposes of the statement of cash flows, the District considers all highly liquid debt instruments purchased with a maturity of three months or less when purchased to be cash equivalents.

# NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

#### I. Net Position

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

- a. Net investment in capital assets Consists of capital assets including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.
- b. Restricted net position Consists of net position with constraints 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 All other net position that do not meet the definition of "restricted" or "net investment in capital assets".

## NOTE 2 - CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

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

In accordance with a fiscal agency agreement that is approved by the Board of Commissioners, the District maintains demand and time deposits through local depository banks that are members of the Federal Reserve System.

Interest rate risk. The District 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.

Concentration of credit risk. The District places no limit on the amount the District may invest in any one issuer.

At December 31, 2023, the District has cash and cash equivalents (book balances) totaling as follows:

Interest-bearing demand deposits	\$	2,233,991
Non-Interest-bearing demand deposits		197,870
Other	_	400
Total	\$	2,432,261

# **NOTE 2 - CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS (Continued)**

These deposits are stated at cost, which approximates market. Under state law, these deposits (or the resulting bank balances) must be secured by federal deposit insurance or the pledge of securities. 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 bank. These securities are held by the pledging financial institution's trust department or agent, in the District's name. At December 31, 2023, the District has \$2,436,394 in deposits (collected bank balances). These deposits are secured from risk by \$500,000 of federal deposit insurance and \$2,840,292 of pledged securities held by the pledging financial institution's trust department or agent, in the District's name.

#### **NOTE 3 - INVESTMENTS**

Investments held by the District at December 31, 2023, consist of \$128,708 in the Louisiana Asset Management Pool, Inc. (LAMP), a local government investment pool (see Summary of Significant Accounting Policies). In accordance with GASB Codification Section 150.126, the investment in LAMP is not categorized in the three risk categories provided by GASB Codification Section 150.125 because the investment is in the pool of funds (LAMP is a 2a7-like investment pool) and therefore not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book entry form. Also, pooled investments are excluded from the concentration of credit risk 5 percent disclosure requirement and foreign currency risk is not applicable to 2a7-like pools.

LAMP is administered by LAMP, Inc., a non-profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana. Only local government entities having contracted to participate in LAMP have an investment interest in its pool of assets. The primary objective of LAMP is to provide a safe environment for the placement of public funds in short-term, high quality investments. The LAMP portfolio includes only securities and other obligations in which local governments in Louisiana are authorized to invest in accordance with LA – R.S. 33:2955. GASB Statement No. 40 Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosure, requires disclosure of credit risk, custodial credit risk, concentration of credit risk interest rate risk, and foreign currency risk for all public entity investments. LAMP is an investment pool that, to the extent practical, invest in a manner consistent with GASB Statement No. 79. The following facts are relevant for investment pools:

- Credit risk: LAMP is rated AAAm by Standard & Poor's.
- <u>Custodial credit risk</u>: LAMP participants' investments in the pool are evidenced by shares of the pool. Investments in pools should be disclosed, but not categorized because they are not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book-entry form. The public entity's investment is with the pool, not the securities that make up the pool; therefore, no disclosure is required.

# **NOTE 3 - INVESTMENTS (Continued)**

- <u>Concentration of credit risk</u>: Pooled investments are excluded from the 5 percent disclosure requirement.
- <u>Interest rate risk</u>: LAMP is designed to be highly liquid to give its participants immediate access to their account balances. LAMP prepares its own interest rate risk disclosure using the weighted average maturity (WAM) method. The WAM of LAMP assets is restricted to not more than 90 days, and consists of no securities with a maturity in excess of 397 days or 762 days for U.S. Government floating/variable rate investments. The WAM for LAMP's total investments is 45 days as of December 31, 2023.
- <u>Foreign currency risk</u>: Not applicable.

The investments in LAMP are stated at fair value. The fair value is determined on a weekly basis by LAMP and the value of the position in the external investment pool is the same as the net asset value of the pool shares.

LAMP, Inc. is subject to the regulatory oversight of the state treasurer and the board of directors. LAMP is not registered with the SEC as an investment company.

# NOTE 4 - FIXED ASSETS

A summary of fixed assets at December 31, 2023 follows:

	Begin	ning of Year	A	Capital equisitions		Capital spositions	En	d of Year
Capital assets, not being depreciated		_						
Land	\$	56,243	\$	-	\$	-	\$	56,243
Construction in progress				-				
Total capital assets, not being depreciated	_	56,243		-				56,243
Capital assets being depreciated								
Building		132,751		6,550		-		139,301
Distribution system		9,271,791		30,940		-		9,302,731
Furniture, fixtures, & equipment		458,824		165,929		(80,082)		544,671
Total capital assets being depreciated		9,863,366		203,419		(80,082)		9,986,703
Accumulated depreciation		(3,860,697)		(266,365)	)	80,082		(4,046,980)
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	\$	5,527,579	\$	(62,946)	\$	-	\$	5,995,966

Depreciation expense was \$266,365 for the year ended December 31, 2023.

## NOTE 5 - COMPONENTS OF RESTRICTED ASSETS

The customer deposit account had a balance of \$30,857 as of December 31, 2023. The account is restricted to refunding the deposits as needed. The balance owed from this account was \$29,652 as of December 31, 2022.

The District was required by the bond covenants of the Water Revenue Bonds, Series 2010B and Water Revenue Bonds, Series 2018 to establish accounts for the bond principle and interest payments, construction, and any future maintenance on the new water well (Series 2010B) and water system improvements (Series 2018). The Revenue Bond Debt Service Fund had a balance of \$197,870 as of December 31, 2023. The account is restricted for the use of bond payments. The Revenue Bond Debt Service Reserve Fund had a balance of \$205,720 as of December 31, 2022. The account is restricted for the use of bond payments, if ever necessary. The Depreciation and Contingency Fund had a balance of \$278,914 as of December 31, 2023. The account is restricted for extensions, additions, improvements, renewals and replacements to the System or for the payment of principal or interest on the Bonds if there is not sufficient money in the Debt Service or Reserve Fund.

# NOTE 6 - DEFINED CONTRIBUTION PENSION PLAN

The District sponsors a Simplified Employee Pension (SEP) Plan which is considered a defined contribution plan. In a defined contribution plan, benefits depend solely on amounts contributed to the plan, plus investment earnings. The SEP's are under the custody of New York Life Trust Company. Employer contributions under this Plan shall be at the employer's discretion and based upon the total compensation of each participant. The District contributes 10% of each participating employee's monthly gross salary. Eligibility requires the employee to have attained the age of eighteen (18) and are eligible immediately upon hire. Employer contributions were \$31,460 in 2023. Employee contributions were \$2,600 in 2023.

# 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. The District maintains commercial insurance coverage covering each of those risks of loss. Management believes such coverage is sufficient to preclude any significant uninsured losses to the District. Settled claims have not exceeded this commercial coverage in any of the past three fiscal years. The District did not reduce insurance coverage during 2023.

## NOTE 8 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATION

The following is a summary of the long-term obligation transactions for the year ended December 31, 2023.

	Bonded Debt
Long-term obligations at Beginning of Year	\$ 3,318,500
Additions	-
Deductions	(196,000)
Long-term obligations at End of Year	\$ 3,122,500

The following is a summary of current (due in one year or less) and the long-term (due in more than one year) portions of long-term obligations as of December 31, 2023.

	Bonded Debt
Current portion	\$ -
Long-term portion	3,122,500
Total	\$ 3,122,500

The bonds outstanding as of December 31, 2023, includes a Utility Drinking Water Revolving Loan bond maturing in 2030 with an interest rate of 2.95%. Interest expense for 2023 was \$10,091. The original issue price of the bonds is \$696,500. In the event of a default, the District agrees to pay the Purchaser, on demand, interest on any and all amounts due and owning by the District under this Agreement.

The bonds outstanding at December 31, 2023, also includes a Utility Drinking Water Revolving Loan bond maturing in 2039 with an interest rate of 1.95%. Interest expense for 2023 was \$71,136. The original issue price of the bonds is \$4,000,000. In the event of a default, the District agrees to pay the Purchaser, on demand, interest on any and all amounts due and owning by the District under this Agreement.

# **NOTE 8 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATION (Continued)**

The following schedules reflect the original bond amounts.

Bond	Or	iginal Issue	Interest Rate	Final Payment Due	Interest to Maturity	(	Principal Dutstanding	Funding Source
Water Revenue Bonds, Series 2010B	\$	696,500	2.95%	January 1, 2030	\$ 41,245	\$	253,500	Water Revenue
Water Revenue Bonds, Series 2018	\$	4,000,000	1.95%	January 1, 2039	\$ 646,903	\$	2,869,000	Water Revenue

The proceeds were used to pay costs of constructing and acquiring extensions and improvements to the water works system of the District, secured by and payable solely from the income and revenues derived or to be derived by the District from the operations of its waterworks system.

Year Ending	Principal	Interest	
December 31,	Payments	Payments	Total
2024	-	38,379	38,379
2025	204,000	74,169	278,169
2026	206,000	68,925	274,925
2027	211,000	63,549	274,549
2028	215,000	58,058	273,058
2029-2033	1,017,500	210,711	1,228,211
2034-2038	1,045,000	90,000	1,135,000
2039	224,000	2,671	226,671
Total	\$ 3,122,500	\$ 606,462	\$ 3,728,962

The Water Revenue Bonds, Series 2010B issue qualifies for a federal subsidy of 35% of the interest paid on bond proceeds received on or before December 31, 2010.

The District is charged a service fee of .5% of the bond principal due with each bond payment.

## NOTE 9 - BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' FEES

Members of the Board of Commissioners are paid a per diem allowance for attending board meetings. The total expenses for meetings attended during 2023 are as follows:

Katrena Rosas	\$	280
April Aguillard		320
Dylan Riley		180
Gary Savant		360
Logan Hamilton		720
Reginald Bertrand		520
Total	\$ 2	2,380

# NOTE 10 - <u>SUBSEQUENT EVENT REVIEW</u>

The District's management has evaluated subsequent events through the date of the audit report, the date which the financial statements were available to be issued. The District is not aware of any subsequent events which would require recognition or disclosure in the financial statements.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

# STEVEN M DEROUEN & ASSOCIATES LLC

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

Board of Commissioners Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2 Kinder, 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 business-type activities of Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2 as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectivity comprise Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated April 16, 2024.

#### Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2'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 opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2's internal control.

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct, misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected, on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Board of Commissioners Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2 Kinder, Louisiana

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. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. We identified certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs as items 2023-1 and 2023-2 that we consider to be significant deficiencies.

# Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2'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 no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

# Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2's Response to Findings

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2's response to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs. Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2'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 of 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.

Steven M DeRouen & Associates, LLC

Lake Charles, Louisiana April 16, 2024

# SOUTHEST ALLEN PARISH WATER DISTRICT NO. 2

A Component Unit of the Allen Parish Police Jury

Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer

For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

# **Agency Head Name:**

# Logan Hamilton

Purpose	Amount
Salary	\$ -
Benefits-insurance	-
Benefits-retirement	-
Benefits-other	-
Car allowance	-
Vehicle provided by government	-
Per diem	720
Reimbursements	-
Travel	-
Registration fees	-
Conference travel	-
Continuing professional education fees	-
Housing	-
Unvouchered expenses	-
Special meals	-

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

#### SOUTHWEST ALLEN PARISH WATER DISTRICT NO. 2

# Kinder, Louisiana

Schedule of Findings and Responses Year Ended December 31, 2023

# 2023-1 Segregation of Duties

Condition: There is an inadequate segregation of duties at the District to provide effective

internal control. This is a repeat finding.

Cause: The District employs a small number of people involved in day-to-day operations.

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: None

Response: Management has considered this weakness and determined that it would not be cost

effective to employ sufficient personnel to obtain adequate segregation of duties.

# 2023-2 Controls over Financial Reporting

Condition: The District maintains its books and records on the modified cash basis of

accounting. The District relies on the auditing firm to assist in adjusting the modified cash basis books to accrual basis and to assist in the preparation of external financial statements and related disclosures. Under United States Generally Accepted Auditing Standards, the auditing firm cannot be considered

part of the District's internal control structure. This is a repeat finding.

Cause: Management has determined that it would not be cost effective to employ or

contract the appropriate personnel to assist in adjusting the books and prepare

external financial statements and related disclosures.

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: Misstatements in financial statements could go undetected.

Recommendation: None

Response: Management has considered this weakness and determined that it would not be cost

effective at this time to employ or contract the appropriate personnel to remove this

deficiency.

## SOUTHWEST ALLEN PARISH WATER DISTRICT NO. 2

# Kinder, Louisiana Summary Schedule of Prior Year Findings For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

# 2022-1 (Ongoing finding) Segregation of duties:

**Corrective action taken** – Due to lack of sufficient financial resources, this finding cannot be resolved. See 2023-1.

# 2022-2 (Ongoing finding) Controls Over Financial Reporting:

**Corrective action taken** – Due to lack of sufficient financial resources, this finding cannot be resolved. See 2023-2.

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# INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

To the Board of Commissioners of Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2 and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor:

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on the control and compliance (C/C) areas identified in the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's (LLA's) Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures (SAUPs) for the fiscal period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2's management is responsible for those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs.

Commissioners of Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2 has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of the engagement, which is to perform specified procedures on the C/C areas identified in LLA's SAUPs for the fiscal period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. Additionally, LLA has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate for its purposes. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of this report and may not meet the needs of all users of this report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes.

The procedures and associated findings are as follows:

# 1) Written Policies and Procedures

- A. Obtain and inspect the entity's written policies and procedures and observe whether they address each of the following categories and subcategories if applicable to public funds and the entity's operations:
  - i. **Budgeting**, including preparing, adopting, monitoring, and amending the budget.
  - ii. **Purchasing,** including (1) how purchases are initiated; (2) how vendors are added to the vendor list; (3) the preparation and approval process of purchase requisitions and purchase orders; (4) controls to ensure compliance with the Public Bid Law; and (5) documentation required to be maintained for all bids and price quotes.

- iii. **Disbursements**, including processing, reviewing, and approving.
- iv. **Receipts/Collections**, including receiving, recording, and preparing deposits. Also, policies and procedures should include management's actions to determine the completeness of all collections for each type of revenue or agency fund additions (e.g., periodic confirmation with outside parties, reconciliation to utility billing after cutoff procedures, reconciliation of traffic ticket number sequences, agency fund forfeiture monies confirmation).
- v. **Payroll/Personnel**, including (1) payroll processing, (2) reviewing and approving time and attendance records, including leave and overtime worked, and (3) approval process for employee rates of pay or approval and maintenance of pay rate schedules.
- vi. *Contracting*, including (1) types of services requiring written contracts, (2) standard terms and conditions, (3) legal review, (4) approval process, and (5) monitoring process.
- vii. *Travel and Expense Reimbursement*, including (1) allowable expenses, (2) dollar thresholds by category of expense, (3) documentation requirements, and (4) required approvers.
- viii. *Credit Cards (and debit cards, fuel cards, purchase cards, if applicable)*, including (1) how cards are to be controlled, (2) allowable business uses, (3) documentation requirements, (4) required approvers of statements, and (5) monitoring card usage (e.g., determining the reasonableness of fuel card purchases).
- ix. *Ethics*, including (1) the prohibitions as defined in Louisiana Revised Statute (R.S.) 42:1111-1121, (2) actions to be taken if an ethics violation takes place, (3) system to monitor possible ethics violations, and (4) a requirement that documentation is maintained to demonstrate that all employees and officials were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy.
- x. **Debt Service**, including (1) debt issuance approval, (2) continuing disclosure/EMMA reporting requirements, (3) debt reserve requirements, and (4) debt service requirements.
- xi. Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity, including (1) identification of critical data and frequency of data backups, (2) storage of backups in a separate physical location isolated from the network, (3) periodic testing/verification that backups can be restored, (4) use of antivirus software on all systems, (5) timely application of all available system and software patches/updates, and (6) identification of personnel, processes, and tools needed to recover operations after a critical event. Prevention of Sexual Harassment, including R.S. 42:342-344 requirements for (1) agency responsibilities and prohibitions, (2) annual employee training, and (3) annual reporting.
- xii. **Prevention of Sexual Harassment**, including R.S. 42:342-344 requirements for (1) agency responsibilities and prohibitions, (2) annual employee training, and (3) annual reporting.

Were any exceptions found? – Yes

We performed the Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity procedure (1Axi) and discussed the results with management.

Exception (1Aii): The Purchasing policy does not include item - (2) how vendors are added to the vendor list.

*Exception (1Aix): The District does not have a written Ethics policy.* 

Exception (1Ax): The District does not have a written Debt Service policy

Exception (1Axii): The District does not have language in written policy that stipulates the required items - (2) annual employee training and (3) annual reporting.

#### 2) Board or Finance Committee

- A. Obtain and inspect the board/finance committee minutes for the fiscal period, as well as the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or equivalent document in effect during the fiscal period, and:
  - i. Observe that the board/finance committee met with a quorum at least monthly, or on a frequency in accordance with the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or other equivalent document.
  - ii. For those entities reporting on the governmental accounting model, observe whether the minutes referenced or included monthly budget-to-actual comparisons on the general fund, quarterly budget-to-actual, at a minimum, on proprietary funds, and semi-annual budget- to-actual, at a minimum, on all special revenue funds. Alternately, for those entities reporting on the nonprofit accounting model, observe that the minutes referenced or included financial activity relating to public funds if those public funds comprised more than 10% of the entity's collections during the fiscal period.
  - iii. For governmental entities, obtain the prior year audit report and observe the unassigned fund balance in the general fund. If the general fund had a negative ending unassigned fund balance in the prior year audit report, observe that the minutes for at least one meeting during the fiscal period referenced or included a formal plan to eliminate the negative unassigned fund balance in the general fund.
  - iv. Observe whether the board/finance committee received written updates of the progress of resolving audit finding(s), according to management's corrective action plan at each meeting until the findings are considered fully resolved.

Exception (2Aii): The District's, a proprietary fund, minutes did not include budget-to-actual comparison.

Exception (2Aiv): The District is unable to resolve the audit findings due to a lack of sufficient financial resources.

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# 3) Bank Reconciliations

- A. Obtain a listing of entity bank accounts for the fiscal period from management and management's representation that the listing is complete. Ask management to identify the entity's main operating account. Select the entity's main operating account and randomly select 4 additional accounts (or all accounts if less than 5). Randomly select one month from the fiscal period, obtain and inspect the corresponding bank statement and reconciliation for each selected account, and observe that:
  - i. Bank reconciliations include evidence that they were prepared within 2 months of the related statement closing date (e.g., initialed and dated or electronically logged);
  - ii. Bank reconciliations include evidence that a member of management or a board member who does not handle cash, post ledgers, or issue checks has reviewed each bank reconciliation (e.g., initialed and dated, electronically logged); and
  - iii. Management has documentation reflecting it has researched reconciling items that have been outstanding for more than 12 months from the statement closing date, if applicable.

Were any exceptions found? - No

# 4) Collections (excluding electronic funds transfers)

- A. Obtain a listing of deposit sites for the fiscal period where deposits for cash/checks/money orders (cash) are prepared and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 deposit sites (or all deposit sites if less than 5).
- B. For each deposit site selected, obtain a listing of collection locations and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select one collection location for each deposit site (e.g., 5 collection locations for 5 deposit sites), obtain and inspect written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if there are no written policies or procedures, then inquire of employees about their job duties) at each collection location, and observe that job duties are properly segregated at each collection location such that:
  - i. Employees responsible for cash collections do not share cash drawers/registers;
  - ii. Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not responsible for preparing/making bank deposits, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling collection documentation (e.g., pre-numbered receipts) to the deposit;

- iii. Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not also responsible for posting collection entries to the general ledger or subsidiary ledgers, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling ledger postings to each other and to the deposit; and
- iv. The employee(s) responsible for reconciling cash collections to the general ledger and/or subsidiary ledgers, by revenue source and/or agency fund additions, is (are) not also responsible for collecting cash, unless another employee/official verifies the reconciliation.
- C. Obtain from management a copy of the bond or insurance policy for theft covering all employees who have access to cash. Observe that the bond or insurance policy for theft was in force during the fiscal period.
- D. Randomly select two deposit dates for each of the 5 bank accounts selected for Bank Reconciliations procedure #3A (select the next deposit date chronologically if no deposits were made on the dates randomly selected and randomly select a deposit if multiple deposits are made on the same day). Alternately, the practitioner may use a source document other than bank statements when selecting the deposit dates for testing, such as a cash collection log, daily revenue report, receipt book, etc. Obtain supporting documentation for each of the 10 deposits and:
  - i. Observe that receipts are sequentially pre-numbered.
  - ii. Trace sequentially pre-numbered receipts, system reports, and other related collection documentation to the deposit slip.
  - iii. Trace the deposit slip total to the actual deposit per the bank statement.
  - iv. Observe that the deposit was made within one business day of receipt at the collection location (within one week if the depository is more than 10 miles from the collection location or the deposit is less than \$100 and the cash is stored securely in a locked safe or drawer).
  - v. Trace the actual deposit per the bank statement to the general ledger.

Were any exceptions found? – Yes

Exception (4Bi): The District maintains only one cash drawer which is used by the three office personnel employees utilize to accept and process customer payments.

Exception (4Bii): Due to limited office personnel (3 office employees), occasionally the Office Manager prepares or makes bank deposits and reconciles collection documentation.

Exception (4Biii): Due to limited small office personnel (3 office employees), the Office Manager who occasionally collects cash also posts to the general ledger and reconciles daily receipt collections.

Exception (4Biv): Due to limited small office personnel (3 office employees), the Office Manager who occasionally collects cash also posts/reconciles to the general ledger and reconciles daily receipt collections.

# 5) Non-Payroll Disbursements (excluding card purchases, travel reimbursements, and petty cash purchases)

- A. Obtain a listing of locations that process payments for the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 locations (or all locations if less than 5).
- B. For each location selected under procedure #5A above, obtain a listing of those employees involved with non-payroll purchasing and payment functions. Obtain written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if the agency has no written policies and procedures, then inquire of employees about their job duties), and observe that job duties are properly segregated such that:
  - i. At least two employees are involved in initiating a purchase request, approving a purchase, and placing an order or making the purchase;
  - ii. At least two employees are involved in processing and approving payments to vendors;
  - iii. The employee responsible for processing payments is prohibited from adding/modifying vendor files, unless another employee is responsible for periodically reviewing changes to vendor files;
  - iv. Either the employee/official responsible for signing checks mails the payment or gives the signed checks to an employee to mail who is not responsible for processing payments; and
  - v. Only employees/officials authorized to sign checks approve the electronic disbursement (release) of funds, whether through automated clearinghouse (ACH), electronic funds transfer (EFT), wire transfer, or some other electronic means.

[Note: Findings related to controls that constrain the legal authority of certain public officials (e.g., mayor of a Lawrason Act municipality) should not be reported.]

- C. For each location selected under procedure #5A above, obtain the entity's non-payroll disbursement transaction population (excluding cards and travel reimbursements) and obtain management's representation that the population is complete. Randomly select 5 disbursements for each location, obtain supporting documentation for each transaction, and:
  - i. Observe whether the disbursement, whether by paper or electronic means, matched the related original itemized invoice and supporting documentation indicates that deliverables included on the invoice were received by the entity; and

- ii. Observe whether the disbursement documentation included evidence (e.g., initial/date, electronic logging) of segregation of duties tested under procedure #5B above, as applicable.
- D. Using the entity's main operating account and the month selected in Bank Reconciliations procedure #3A, randomly select 5 non-payroll-related electronic disbursements (or all electronic disbursements if less than 5) and observe that each electronic disbursement was (a) approved by only those persons authorized to disburse funds (e.g., sign checks) per the entity's policy, and (b) approved by the required number of authorized signers per the entity's policy. Note: If no electronic payments were made from the main operating account during the month selected the practitioner should select an alternative month and/or account for testing that does include electronic disbursements

Were any exceptions found? - Yes

Exception (5Bi): Noted some purchases do not require a second pre-purchase approval.

Exception (5Biii): The employee responsible for processing payments also adds/modifies vendor files. Currently, there is no periodic review of changes to vendor files.

Exception (5Biv): Occasionally the Office Manager who processes payments also mails checks.

# 6) Credit Cards/Debit Cards/Fuel Cards/Purchase Cards (Cards)

- A. Obtain from management a listing of all active credit cards, bank debit cards, fuel cards, and purchase cards (cards) for the fiscal period, including the card numbers and the names of the persons who maintained possession of the cards. Obtain management's representation that the listing is complete.
- B. Using the listing prepared by management, randomly select 5 cards (or all cards if less than 5) that were used during the fiscal period. Randomly select one monthly statement or combined statement for each card (for a debit card, randomly select one monthly bank statement), obtain supporting documentation, and
  - i. Observe whether there is evidence that the monthly statement or combined statement and supporting documentation (e.g., original receipts for credit/debit card purchases, exception reports for excessive fuel card usage) were reviewed and approved, in writing (or electronically approved), by someone other than the authorized card holder (those instances requiring such approval that may constrain the legal authority of certain public officials, such as the mayor of a Lawrason Act municipality, should not be reported); and
  - ii. Observe that finance charges and late fees were not assessed on the selected statements.
- C. Using the monthly statements or combined statements selected under procedure #6B above, excluding fuel cards, randomly select 10 transactions (or all transactions if less than 10) from each statement, and obtain supporting documentation for the transactions (e.g.,

each card should have 10 transactions subject to inspection)<sup>1</sup>. For each transaction, observe that it is supported by (1) an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased, (2) written documentation of the business/public purpose, and (3) documentation of the individuals participating in meals (for meal charges only). For missing receipts, the practitioner should describe the nature of the transaction and observe whether management had a compensating control to address missing receipts, such as a "missing receipt statement" that is subject to increased scrutiny.

*No exceptions were found through the performance of these procedures.* 

# 7) Travel and Travel-Related Expense Reimbursements (excluding card transactions)

- A. Obtain from management a listing of all travel and travel-related expense reimbursements during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing or general ledger is complete. Randomly select 5 reimbursement and obtain the related expense reimbursement forms/prepaid expense documentation of each selected reimbursement, as well as the supporting documentation. For each of the 5 reimbursements selected:
  - i. If reimbursed using a per diem, observe that the approved reimbursement rate is no more than those rates established either by the State of Louisiana or the U.S. General Services Administration (www.gsa.gov);
  - ii. If reimbursed using actual costs, observe that the reimbursement is supported by an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased;
  - iii. Observe that each reimbursement is supported by documentation of the business/public purpose (for meal charges, observe that the documentation includes the names of those individuals participating) and other documentation required by Written Policies and Procedures procedure #1A(vii); and
  - iv. Observe each reimbursement was reviewed and approved, in writing, by someone other than the person receiving reimbursement.

*No exceptions were found through the performance of these procedures.* 

#### 8) Contracts

A. Obtain from management a listing of all agreements/contracts for professional services, materials and supplies, leases, and construction activities that were initiated or renewed during the fiscal period. *Alternately, the practitioner may use an equivalent selection source, such as an active vendor list.* Obtain management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 contracts (or all contracts if less than 5) from the listing, excluding the practitioner's contract, and:

- i. Observe whether the contract was bid in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law (e.g., solicited quotes or bids, advertised), if required by law;
- ii. Observe whether the contract was approved by the governing body/board, if required by policy or law (e.g., Lawrason Act, Home Rule Charter);
- iii. If the contract was amended (e.g., change order), observe that the original contract terms provided for such an amendment and that amendments were made in compliance with the contract terms (e.g., if approval is required for any amendment, the document approval); and
- iv. Randomly select one payment from the fiscal period for each of the 5 contracts, obtain the supporting invoice, agree the invoice to the contract terms, and observe the invoice and related payment agreed to the terms and conditions of the contract.

No exceptions were found through the performance of these procedures.

# 9) Payroll and Personnel

- A. Obtain a listing of employees and officials employed during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 employees or officials, obtain related paid salaries and personnel files, and agree paid salaries to authorized salaries/pay rates in the personnel files.
- B. Randomly select one pay period during the fiscal period. For the 5 employees or officials selected under #9A above, obtain attendance records and leave documentation for the pay period, and
  - i. Observe that all selected employees or officials documented their daily attendance and leave (e.g., vacation, sick, compensatory);
  - ii. Observe whether supervisors approved the attendance and leave of the selected employees or officials;
  - iii. Observe that any leave accrued or taken during the pay period is reflected in the entity's cumulative leave records; and
  - iv. Observe the rate paid to the employees or officials agree to the authorized salary/pay rate found within the personnel file.
- C. Obtain a listing of those employees or officials that received termination payments during the fiscal period and management's representation that the list is complete. Randomly select two employees or officials and obtain related documentation of the hours and pay rates used in management's termination payment calculations and the entity's policy on termination payments. Agree the hours to the employee or officials' cumulative leave records, agree the pay rates to the employee or officials' authorized pay rates in the employee or officials' personnel files, and agree the termination payment to entity policy.
- D. Obtain management's representation that employer and employee portions of third-party payroll related amounts (e.g., payroll taxes, retirement contributions, health insurance premiums, garnishments, workers' compensation premiums, etc.) have been paid, and any associated forms have been filed, by required deadlines.

*No exceptions were found through the performance of these procedures.* 

#### 10) Ethics

- A. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #9A obtain ethics documentation from management, and
  - i. Observe whether the documentation demonstrates each employee/official completed one hour of ethics training during the calendar year as required by R.S. 42:1170; and
  - ii. Observe whether the entity maintains documentation which demonstrates each employee and official were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy during the fiscal period, as applicable.
- B. Inquire and/or observe whether the agency has appointed an ethics designee as required by R.S. 42:1170.

No exceptions were found through the performance of these procedures.

## 11) Debt Service

- A. Obtain a listing of bonds/notes and other debt instruments issued during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Select all debt instruments on the listing, obtain supporting documentation, and observe that State Bond Commission approval was obtained for each debt instrument issued as required by Article VII, Section 8 of the Louisiana Constitution.
- B. Obtain a listing of bonds/notes outstanding at the end of the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select one bond/note, inspect debt covenants, obtain supporting documentation for the reserve balance and payments, and agree actual reserve balances and payments to those required by debt covenants (including contingency funds, short-lived asset funds, or other funds required by the debt covenants).

No exceptions were found through the performance of these procedures.

#### 12) Fraud Notice

A. Obtain a listing of misappropriations of public funds and assets during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Select all misappropriations on the listing, obtain supporting documentation, and observe that the entity reported the misappropriation(s) to the legislative auditor and the district attorney of the parish in which the entity is domiciled as required by R.S. 24:523.

B. Observe the entity has posted, on its premises and website, the notice required by R.S. 24:523.1 concerning the reporting of misappropriation, fraud, waste, or abuse of public funds.

No exceptions were found through the performance of these procedures.

# 13) Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity

- A. Perform the following procedures, verbally discuss the results with management, and report "We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management."
  - i. Obtain and inspect the entity's most recent documentation that it has backed up its critical data (if there is no written documentation, then inquire of personnel responsible for backing up critical data) and observe evidence that such backup (a) occurred within the past week, (b) was not stored on the government's local server or network, and (c) was encrypted.
  - ii. Obtain and inspect the entity's most recent documentation that it has tested/verified that its backups can be restored (if there is no written documentation, then inquire of personnel responsible for testing/verifying backup restoration) and observe evidence that the test/verification was successfully performed within the past 3 months.
  - iii. Obtain a listing of the entity's computers currently in use and their related locations, and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 computers and observe while management demonstrates that the selected computers have current and active antivirus software and that the operating system and accounting system software in use are currently supported by the vendor.
- B. Randomly select 5 terminated employees (or all terminated employees if less than 5) using the list of terminated employees obtained in procedure #9C. Observe evidence that the selected terminated employees have been removed or disabled from the network.

We performed the Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity procedures and discussed the results with management.

## 14) Prevention of Sexual Harassment

- A. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #9A, obtain sexual harassment training documentation from management, and observe that the documentation demonstrates each employee/official completed at least one hour of sexual harassment training during the calendar year as required by R.S. 42:343.
- B. Observe the entity has posted its sexual harassment policy and complaint procedure on its website (or in a conspicuous location on the entity's premises if the entity does not have a website).

- C. Obtain the entity's annual sexual harassment report for the current fiscal period, observe that the report was dated on or before February 1, and observe that the report includes the applicable requirements of R.S. 42:344:
  - i. Number and percentage of public servants in the agency who have completed the training requirements;
  - ii. Number of sexual harassment complaints received by the agency;
  - iii. Number of complaints which resulted in a finding that sexual harassment occurred;
  - iv. Number of complaints in which the finding of sexual harassment resulted in discipline or corrective action; and
  - v. Amount of time it took to resolve each complaint.

*No exceptions noted as a result of these procedures.* 

# **Management's Responses**

1Aii - The District will update their purchasing policy to include (2) how vendors are added to the vendor list.

1Aix – The District will compose and implement a written ethics policy.

1Ax - The District will compose and implement a written debt service policy.

2Aii – The District will prepare and review budget-to-actual comparisons at their monthly board minutes.

2Aiv – The District is unable to resolve the audit findings due to a lack of sufficient financial resources.

4Bi – Due to limited office personnel, the District believes it is not cost beneficial to maintain additional cash drawers for each employee who accepts customer payments.

4Bii, 4Biii and 4Biv – Due to limited office personnel, the District believes it is not cost beneficial to hire additional employees to completely separate these functions.

4Div – The District will begin depositing collections on a daily basis.

5Bi – Due to limited office personnel, the District believes it is not cost beneficial to require a second pre-purchase approval for applicable items.

5Biii – The District will request the Plant Superintendent to periodically review changes to vender files.

5Biv - Due to limited office personnel, the District believes it is not cost beneficial to hire additional employees to completely separate this function.

We were engaged by Commissioners of Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2 to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted our engagement in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and applicable standards of *Government Auditing Standards*. We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination or review engagement, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

We are required to be independent of Commissioners of Southwest Allen Parish Water District No. 2 and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to our agreed-upon procedures engagement.

This report is intended solely to describe the scope of testing performed on those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs, and the result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on control or compliance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the LLA as a public document.

Steven M. DeRouen & Associates, LLC

Lake Charles, Louisiana April 16, 2024