

EAST COLUMBIA FIRE DISTRICT
Columbia, Louisiana

Annual Financial Statements

As of and for the Year Ended
December 31, 2020

EAST COLUMBIA FIRE DISTRICT
Columbia, Louisiana

Annual Financial Statements

As of and for the Year Ended December 31, 2020

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Columbia, Louisiana
Annual Financial Statements
As of and for the Year Ended December 31, 2020

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CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

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Accountant's Compilation Report

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
EAST COLUMBIA FIRE DISTRICT
Columbia, Louisiana

Management is responsible for the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and major fund information of East Columbia Fire District (the "District"), a component unit of Caldwell Parish Police Jury, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. I have performed a compilation engagement in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. I did not audit or review the financial statements nor was I required to perform any procedures to verify the accuracy or completeness of the information provided by management. Accordingly, I do not express an opinion, a conclusion, nor provide any form of assurance on these financial statements.

Supplementary Information

The accompanying schedule of compensation, benefits, and other payments to agency head and board of commissioners and the schedule of prior year findings are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. The information is the representation of management. The information was subject to my compilation engagement, but I have not audited or reviewed the supplementary information, and, accordingly, do not express an opinion, a conclusion, nor provide any assurance on such information.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the budgetary comparison schedule on page 18 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is presented for the purpose of additional analysis and, although not a required 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. This information is the representation of management. I have not performed an audit, review, or compilation on the required supplementary information, and, accordingly, I do not express an opinion, a conclusion, nor provide any assurance on such information.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
EAST COLUMBIA FIRE DISTRICT
Columbia, Louisiana

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.

I am not independent with respect to East Columbia Fire District for the year ended December 31, 2020.



Calhoun, Louisiana
March 17, 2021

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

EAST COLUMBIA FIRE DISTRICT
Columbia, Louisiana

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
December 31, 2020

	<u>GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES</u>
ASSETS	
Cash	\$21,984
Investments	74,140
Receivables:	
Sales tax	669
Charges for services	1,173
Capital assets, net	<u>147,939</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>245,905</u>
LIABILITIES	
Accounts and payroll taxes payable	<u>764</u>
NET POSITION	
Net investment in capital assets	147,939
Unrestricted	<u>97,202</u>
TOTAL NET POSITION	<u><u>\$245,141</u></u>

See accompanying notes and accountant's compilation report.

EAST COLUMBIA FIRE DISTRICT
Columbia, Louisiana

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

	GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES
Expenses:	
Public safety - fire protection	\$48,034
Program revenues:	
Charges for services	13,446
Net program revenue (expense)	(34,588)
General revenues:	
Sales tax	5,252
State fire insurance rebate	3,955
Interest earnings	1,030
Other - donations	29,350
Total general revenues	39,587
Change in net position	4,999
Net position - beginning	240,142
Net position - ending	\$245,141

See accompanying notes and accountant's compilation report.

EAST COLUMBIA FIRE DISTRICT
Columbia, Louisiana

BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUND
December 31, 2020

	GENERAL FUND
ASSETS	
Cash	\$21,984
Investments	74,140
Receivables:	
Sales tax	669
Charges for services	1,173
TOTAL ASSETS	\$97,966
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	
Liabilities - accounts and payroll taxes payable	764
Fund balance - unassigned	97,202
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCES	\$97,966
Reconciliation of the Balance Sheet of Governmental Fund To the Statement of Net Position:	
Fund balance - unassigned - General Fund	\$97,202
Amount reported for net position of governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position (Statement A) is different because:	
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the fund	147,939
Net position of governmental activities (Statement A)	\$245,141

See accompanying notes and accountant's compilation report.

EAST COLUMBIA FIRE DISTRICT
Columbia, Louisiana

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - GOVERNMENTAL FUND
For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

	<u>GENERAL FUND</u>
REVENUES	
Sales tax	\$5,252
Intergovernmental revenues:	
State - fire insurance rebate	3,955
Charges for services	13,446
Interest earnings	1,030
Other - donations	<u>29,350</u>
Total revenues	<u>53,033</u>
EXPENDITURES	
Public safety - fire protection:	
Current:	
Personal services and related benefits	3,669
Operating services	20,164
Materials and supplies	2,372
Capital outlay	<u>29,130</u>
Total expenditures	<u>55,335</u>
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	(2,302)
FUND BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>99,504</u>
FUND BALANCE AT END OF YEAR	<u><u>\$97,202</u></u>

(Continued)

See accompanying notes and accountant's compilation report.

EAST COLUMBIA FIRE DISTRICT
Columbia, Louisiana

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - GOVERNMENTAL FUND (Contd.)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

	<u>GENERAL FUND</u>
Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance of Governmental Fund to the Statement of Activities:	
Net change in fund balance - General Fund	(\$2,302)
Amount reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities (Statement B) are different because:	
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital outlay expenditures exceeded depreciation expense in the current period.	<u>7,301</u>
Change in net position of governmental activities (Statement B)	<u><u>\$4,999</u></u>

(Concluded)

See accompanying notes and accountant's compilation report.

EAST COLUMBIA FIRE DISTRICT
Columbia, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements
As of and for the Year Ended December 31, 2020

INTRODUCTION

The East Columbia Fire District was created by the Caldwell Parish Police Jury, as authorized by Louisiana Revised Statute 40:1492. The District is governed by a five member board appointed by the police jury. Board members are paid \$10 for each board meeting they attend. The District is responsible for providing fire protection within the boundaries of the District. The District has one part-time employee.

GASB Statement No. 14, *The Reporting Entity* and No. 39, *Determining Whether Certain Organizations Are Component Units - an amendment of GASB Statement No. 14*, established criteria for determining the governmental reporting entity and component units that should be included within the reporting entity. Under provisions of these Statements, the East Columbia Fire District is considered a component unit of the Caldwell Parish Police Jury. As a component unit, the accompanying financial statements may be included within the reporting of the primary government, either blended into those financial statements or separately reported as a discrete component unit.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net position and the statement of activities) report information on all of the activities of the East Columbia Fire District.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program revenues include 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment and 2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Taxes and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported as general revenues.

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds and proprietary funds. All individual governmental funds and individual enterprise funds are reported as separate columns in the fund financial statements. The East Columbia Fire District has only one governmental fund.

See accountant's compilation report.

**B. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and
Financial Statement Presentation**

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, revenues are considered to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting.

Sales taxes, charges for services, and intergovernmental revenue associated with the current fiscal period are considered to be susceptible to accrual and so have been recognized as revenues of the current fiscal period. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the District.

The East Columbia Fire District reports the following governmental fund:

General Fund

The General fund is the general operating fund of the District and accounts for all financial resources.

C. Deposits and Investments

Cash includes amounts in a noninterest-bearing demand deposit. State law limits the District's credit risk by restricting the District's investments to collateralized certificates of deposits, government-backed securities, commercial paper, the state sponsored investment pool, and mutual funds consisting solely of government-backed securities. If the original maturities of investments exceed 90 days, they are classified as investments; however, if the original maturities are 90 days or less, they are classified as cash equivalents. At December 31, 2020, the District's investments consist of nonnegotiable certificates of deposits with original maturities that exceed 90 days that are

See accountant's compilation report.

EAST COLUMBIA FIRE DISTRICT
Notes to the Financial Statements

reported in the accompanying financial statements at cost. The District's interest rate risk is limited by the investment of funds for no longer than one year.

D. Receivables

The District receives a pro-rata share of a one-fourth of one percent parishwide (excluding the Town of Columbia) sales tax approved by the voters in Caldwell Parish on October 19, 1985 for fire protection in the parish. The sales tax is collected by the police jury and remitted to the District net of its pro-rata share of the cost of collection.

On November 5, 1996, the voters of the District approved a \$2 per meter service charge for fire protection on all water meters in the District. On April 2, 2018, the board of commissioners of the District approved a \$1 increase in the meter service charge. The service charge is collected by the East Columbia Water District and remitted to the District.

Receivables are generally shown net of an allowance for uncollectible accounts. These statements contain no provision for uncollectible accounts. The District is of the opinion that such an allowance would be immaterial in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

E. Capital Assets

Capital assets, which consist of buildings, vehicles, and equipment are reported in the governmental activities column in the government-wide financial statements. All of the District's capital assets are capitalized at historical cost. The East Columbia Fire District maintains a threshold level of \$1,000 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 the asset's life are not capitalized.

All capital assets are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

	Estimated Lives
Vehicles	15 years
Buildings and Equipment	10 - 25 years

See accountant's compilation report.

F. Net Position/Fund Balance

For the government-wide statement of net position, net position is reported as restricted when constraints are placed on net asset use are either:

1. externally imposed by creditors (such as debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or
2. imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Fund balance for governmental funds is reported in classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which the government is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which funds can be spent. Fund balance should be reported as restricted when constraints on the use of the funds meet the same criteria as restricted net position in the government-wide statement of net position as noted in the previous paragraph. Amounts that can only be used for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the board of commissioners are reported as committed fund balance. Assigned fund balance are amounts that are constrained by the government's intent to be used for specific purposes, but are neither restricted nor committed. The board of commissioners is authorized to assign amounts to a specific purpose. Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification and represents fund balance that has not been restricted, committed, or assigned to a specific purpose.

At December 31, 2020, the District had only unassigned fund balance in the General Fund.

G. Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts of assets and liabilities, disclosures, and revenues, expenditures, and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**2. STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE, AND
ACCOUNTABILITY**

Budget Information

The East Columbia Fire District uses the following budget practices:

See accountant's compilation report.

EAST COLUMBIA FIRE DISTRICT
Notes to the Financial Statements

A proposed budget for the General Fund, prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting, is formally adopted by the board of commissioners at the December board meeting each year. The budget is established and controlled by the board at the object level of expenditure.

Appropriations lapse at year-end and must be reappropriated for the following year to be expended. Encumbrance accounting is not used by the District. All changes in the budget must be approved by the board of commissioners.

Budgeted amounts included in the accompanying financial statements are the original adopted budget amounts. There were no budget amendments.

The following individual fund's actual expenditures exceeded budgeted expenditures for the year ended December 31, 2020:

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Unfavorable Variance
General Fund	<u>\$15,643</u>	<u>\$15,643</u>	<u>\$55,335</u>	<u>\$39,692</u>

3. DEPOSITS IN FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

At December 31, 2020, the District has cash and investments as follows:

Demand deposit	\$21,984
Certificates of deposit	<u>74,140</u>
Total	<u>\$96,124</u>

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 owned by the fiscal agent bank. Cash and investments (bank balances) at December 31, 2020, are fully secured from risk by federal deposit insurance.

4. CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital assets and depreciation activity as of and for the year ended December 31, 2020, is as follows:

	Balance at January 1, 2020	Increases	Decreases	Balance at December 31, 2020
Governmental activities:				

See accountant's compilation report.

EAST COLUMBIA FIRE DISTRICT
Notes to the Financial Statements

	Balance at January 1, <u>2020</u>	<u>Increases</u>	<u>Decreases</u>	Balance at December 31, <u>2020</u>
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Vehicles	\$80,000			\$80,000
Buildings and equipment	<u>203,177</u>	<u>\$29,130</u>		<u>232,307</u>
Total capital assets being depreciated	<u>283,177</u>	<u>29,130</u>	NONE	<u>312,307</u>
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Vehicles	80,000			80,000
Buildings and equipment	<u>62,539</u>	<u>21,829</u>		<u>84,368</u>
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>142,539</u>	<u>21,829</u>	NONE	<u>164,368</u>
Total assets being depreciated, net	<u>\$140,638</u>	<u>\$7,301</u>	NONE	<u>\$147,939</u>

Depreciation expense of \$21,829 for the year ended December 31, 2020 was charged to the public safety - fire protection governmental function.

5. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Since March 2020, the spread of COVID-19 has severely impacted many local economies. Measures taken to contain the spread of the virus have triggered significant disruptions to businesses. There were no significant adverse effects from COVID-19 on the District's financial position during 2020. Although not expected, the District's future cash flows could be affected by an economic slowdown that results from measures taken to contain the spread of the virus. The District has determined that the potential impact of COVID-19 is a non-adjusting subsequent event. Accordingly, the financial position and results of operations as of and for the year ended December 31, 2020, have not been adjusted to reflect this potential impact. The duration and impact of the COVID-19 pandemic remains unclear at this time.

The District has evaluated subsequent events through March 17, 2021, the date which the financial statements were available to be issued.

See accountant's compilation report.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

See accountant's compilation report.

EAST COLUMBIA FIRE DISTRICT
Columbia, Louisiana

SCHEDULE OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL -
GENERAL FUND

For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

	BudgetedAmounts.....		Actual Amounts (Budgetary Basis - GAAP)	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
	Original	Final		
REVENUES				
Sales tax	\$4,500	\$4,500	\$5,252	\$752
Intergovernmental revenues:				
State - fire insurance rebate	3,900	3,900	3,955	55
Charges for services - fire fees	13,000	13,000	13,446	446
Interest earnings	1,000	1,000	1,030	30
Other - donations			29,350	29,350
Total revenues	<u>22,400</u>	<u>22,400</u>	<u>53,033</u>	<u>30,633</u>
EXPENDITURES				
Public safety - fire protection:				
Personal services and related benefits	4,018	4,018	3,669	349
Operating services	8,625	8,625	20,164	(11,539)
Materials and supplies	3,000	3,000	2,372	628
Capital outlay			29,130	(29,130)
Total expenditures	<u>15,643</u>	<u>15,643</u>	<u>55,335</u>	<u>(39,692)</u>
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	6,757	6,757	(2,302)	(9,059)
FUND BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>99,397</u>	<u>99,397</u>	<u>99,504</u>	<u>107</u>
FUND BALANCE AT END OF YEAR	<u>\$106,154</u>	<u>\$106,154</u>	<u>\$97,202</u>	<u>(\$8,952)</u>

There were no budget amendments during the year ended December 31, 2020.

See accountant's compilation report.

OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION SCHEDULES

See accountant's compilation report.

EAST COLUMBIA FIRE DISTRICT
Columbia, Louisiana

OTHER SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION SCHEDULES
As of and For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

**COMPENSATION, BENEFITS AND
OTHER PAYMENTS TO AGENCY HEAD AND
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

The Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to Agency Head and Board of Commissioners is presented in compliance with Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513 A (3) and House Concurrent Resolution No. 54 of the 1979 Session of the Louisiana Legislature. Compensation of the agency head and board of commissioners is included in operating services expenditures of the General Fund. The board members receive \$10 for each meeting they attend.

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS

The follow-up and corrective action taken on all prior year findings is presented in Schedule 3.

See accountant's compilation report.

EAST COLUMBIA FIRE DISTRICT
Columbia, Louisiana

SCHEDULE OF COMPENSATION, BENEFITS AND
OTHER PAYMENTS TO AGENCY HEAD
AND BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

BOARD COMPENSATION

Agency Head - Ricky Hart - President	\$70
Izora Cruse	110
Robert Pearson	40
Scott Gwin	<u>110</u>
Total	<u><u>\$330</u></u>

See accountant's compilation report.

EAST COLUMBIA FIRE DISTRICT
Columbia, LouisianaSCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS
For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

<u>Finding Number</u>	<u>Fiscal Year Finding Initially Occurred</u>	<u>Description of Finding</u>	<u>Status of Finding</u>
2019-001	2017	Noncompliance with Local Government Budget Act.	Unresolved. See 2020-001 in Current Year Findings and Corrective Action Plan.

EAST COLUMBIA FIRE DISTRICT
Columbia, Louisiana

CURRENT YEAR FINDINGS AND
CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN
For the Year Ended December 31, 2020

2020-001. Noncompliance with Local Government Budget Act

Criteria: The Local Government Budget Act requires the District to adopt a budget amendment when total actual expenditures exceed total budgeted expenditures by 5% or more.

Condition: Actual expenditures for the General Fund were \$39,692 (254%) more than budgeted expenditures.

Cause: The District failed to amend its budget for capital outlay expenditures and major repair expenditures incurred during the year.

Effect: Noncompliance with the Local Government Budget Act.

Recommendation: The Board of Commissioners should adopt a budget amendment in an open meeting whenever actual expenditures exceed budgeted expenditures by 5% or more.

Management's Response: The Board of Commissioners will adopt a budget amendment in an open meeting whenever actual expenditures exceed budgeted expenditures by 5% or more for all future years.