

**DeSoto Parish Sales & Use Tax Commission
Mansfield, Louisiana**

**Annual Financial Report
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

**DeSoto Parish Sales & Use Tax Commission
Mansfield, Louisiana**

**Annual Financial Report
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

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DeSoto Parish Sales & Use Tax Commission

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Independent Auditor's Report

Board Members
DeSoto Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission
Mansfield, Louisiana

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the DeSoto Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission, as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Commission's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the DeSoto Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission, as of June 30, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

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 (*Government Auditing Standards*). 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 the Commission and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an 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 in accordance 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 one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgement made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS 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 amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgement, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Commission's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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

Emphasis of Matter

As discussed in Note 14 to the financial statements, the other post-employment benefits (OPEB) liability for the Commission was \$706,338 at June 30, 2024 related to its participation in a single employer other post-employment benefit plan. The related actuarial valuations were performed by the Commission's actuary using various assumptions. Because actual experience may differ from the assumptions used, there is a risk that this amount at June 30, 2024 could be over or understated. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Management's Discussion and Analysis, Schedule of Changes in the Total OPEB Liability and Related Ratios, the Budgetary Comparison Schedules, and the notes to the required supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with GAAS, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the DeSoto Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission's basic financial statements. The accompanying supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic 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 GAAS. In our opinion, the accompanying supplementary information, as listed in the table of contents, is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 10, 2024, on our consideration of the DeSoto Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is 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 Desoto Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Commission's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Allen, Green & Williamson, LLP

ALLEN, GREEN & WILLIAMSON, LLP
Monroe, Louisiana
December 10, 2024

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION
AND ANALYSIS (MD&A)**

DeSoto Parish Sales & Use Tax Commission
Management's Discussion and Analysis
June 30, 2024

Our discussion and analysis of the DeSoto Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission's financial performance provides an overview of the Commission's financial activities for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS Our government-wide financial statements provide these insights into the results of this year's operations:

The liabilities and deferred inflows of the DeSoto Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission exceeded its assets and deferred outflows at the close of the most recent fiscal year by \$656,308 (net position). This is a decrease of \$53,526 from the \$(602,782) reported at fiscal year ended 2023. This decrease is mainly due to increase in compensated absence liability and OPEB liability.

The Commission's revenue received from charges for services for the year ended June 30, 2024 was \$534,811, this is a decrease of \$132,103 from the revenue received from charges for services of \$666,914 in 2023. This decrease in revenue is due to a decrease in total sales tax collections.

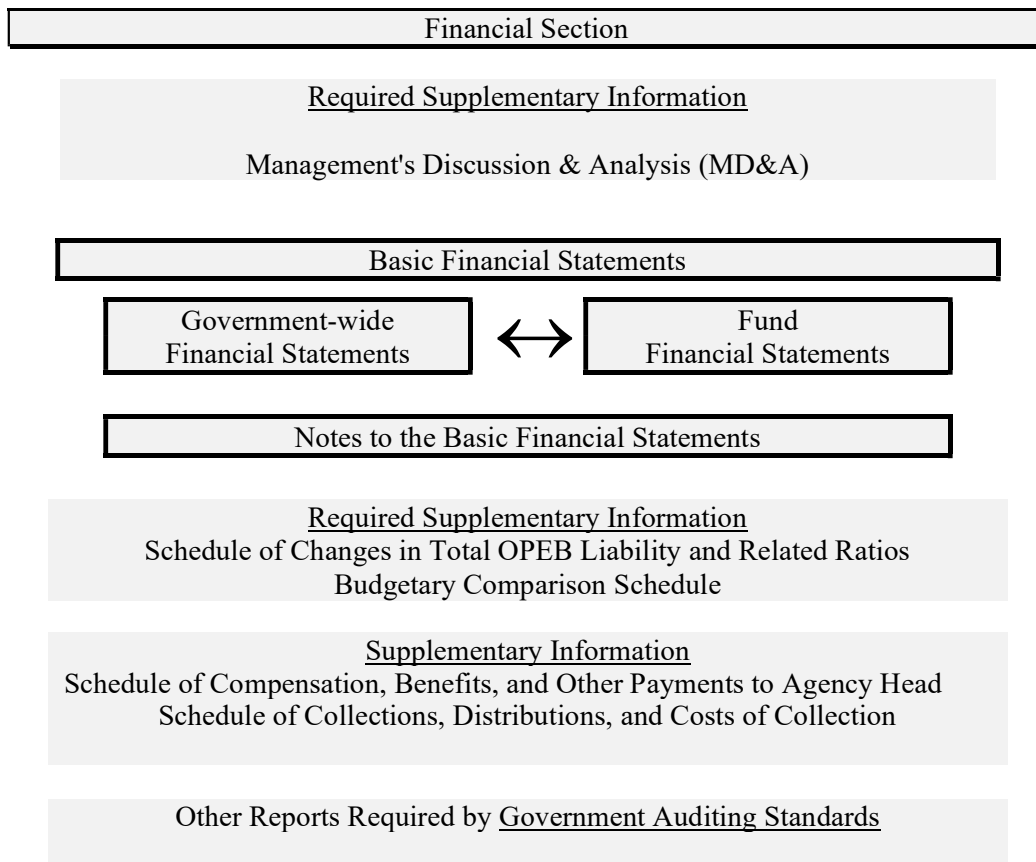
The Commission's total expenses for the year ended June 30, 2024 were \$596,681, this is a decrease of \$50,371 from the expenses of \$647,052 in 2023. This decrease in expenses was mainly due to purchasing a new sales tax system in 2023.

USING THIS ANNUAL REPORT

The DeSoto Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission's annual report consists of a series of financial statements that show information for the DeSoto Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission as a whole, and its funds. The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities provide information about the activities of the Commission as a whole and present a longer-term view of the Commission's finances. For our governmental activities, the fund financial statements tell how we financed our services in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending. Fund statements also may give you some insights into the Commission's overall financial health. Fund financial statements also report the Commission's operations in more detail than the government-wide financial statements by providing information about the Commission's General Fund.

DeSoto Parish Sales & Use Tax Commission
Management's Discussion and Analysis
June 30, 2024

The following chart reflects the information included in this annual report.



Our auditor has provided assurance in the independent auditor's report, located immediately preceding this Management's Discussion and Analysis, that the Basic Financial Statements are fairly stated. Varying degrees of assurance are being provided by the auditor regarding the Required Supplementary Information identified above. A user of this report should read the independent auditor's report carefully to ascertain the level of assurance being provided for each of the other parts of this report.

Reporting the Commission as a Whole

Our analysis of the DeSoto Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission as a whole begins with the government-wide financial statements. One of the most important questions asked about the Commission's finances is, "Is the Commission as a whole better off or worse off as a result of the year's activities?" The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities, which appear first in the Commission's financial statements, report information about the Commission as a whole and its activities in a way that helps answer this question. We prepare these statements to include all assets, liabilities, and deferred outflow/inflows of resources using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when cash is received or paid.

DeSoto Parish Sales & Use Tax Commission
Management's Discussion and Analysis
June 30, 2024

These two statements report the Commission's net position - the difference between assets and liabilities, as reported in the Statement of Net Position - as one way to measure the DeSoto Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission's financial health, or financial position. Over time, increases or decreases in the Commission's net position as reported in the Statement of Activities are one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. The relationship between revenues and expenses is the Commission's operating results. However, the Commission's goal is to increase sales tax collections and decrease operating expenses.

In the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities, the Commission's activities are shown as:

Governmental Activities - All of the Commission's basic services are reported here, including salaries and contract labor, employee benefits, professional fees, operations and maintenance, repairs and upkeep, and administrative expenses. Sales tax collection fee revenue finances these activities.

Reporting the Commission's Most Significant Funds

Fund Financial Statements

The DeSoto Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission reports all of its activity in one governmental fund which uses the following approach:

Governmental fund reporting focuses on showing how money flows into and out of funds and the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. They are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the Commission's operations and the services it provides. Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the Commission's programs. We describe the relationship (or differences) between governmental activities (reported in the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) and governmental funds in the reconciliations (Statements D and F).

The DeSoto Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission reports a fiduciary fund. The Commission is the trustee, or fiduciary, for the sales and occupancy tax custodial fund which is reported in the statement of fiduciary net position and statement of changes in fiduciary net position. We exclude these activities from the Commission's other financial statements because the Commission cannot use these assets to finance its operations. The Commission is responsible for ensuring that the assets reported in these funds are used for their intended purpose.

DeSoto Parish Sales & Use Tax Commission
Management's Discussion and Analysis
June 30, 2024

THE COMMISSION AS A WHOLE

Our analysis below focuses on the net Position (Table 1) and changes in net position (Table 2) of the Commission's governmental activities.

Table 1
Net Position
June 30,

	2024	2023	Variance
ASSETS			
Other assets	\$ 144,500	\$ 162,874	\$ (18,374)
Capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation)	182,644	193,443	(10,799)
Total Assets	327,144	356,317	(29,173)
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS			
Deferred outflows for OPEB	390,575	483,221	(92,646)
LIABILITIES			
Long-term liabilities	748,194	734,605	13,589
Total Liabilities	748,194	734,605	13,589
DEFERRED INFLOWS			
Deferred inflows for OPEB	625,833	707,715	(81,882)
NET POSITION			
Net investment in capital assets	182,644	193,443	(10,799)
Unrestricted	(838,952)	(796,225)	(42,727)
Total Net Position	\$ (656,308)	\$ (602,782)	\$ (53,526)

Net position of the Commission's governmental activities for June 30, 2024 was a deficit of \$656,308. Unrestricted net position that is the part of net position that can be used to finance day-to-day operations without constraints established by debt covenants, enabling legislation, or other legal requirements was a deficit of \$838,952.

DeSoto Parish Sales & Use Tax Commission
Management's Discussion and Analysis
June 30, 2024

Table 2
Changes in Net Position
For the Years Ended June 30,

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Program revenues:			
Fees, charges, and commissions for services	\$ 534,811	\$ 666,914	\$(132,103)
General revenues - Interest earned	<u>8,344</u>	<u>663</u>	<u>7,681</u>
Total Revenues	<u>543,155</u>	<u>667,577</u>	<u>(124,422)</u>
Sales tax collections:			
Personnel services and related benefits	482,186	484,920	(2,734)
Operating services	86,439	138,088	(51,649)
Materials and supplies	9,397	7,025	2,372
Travel	5,807	4,469	1,338
Depreciation expense	<u>12,852</u>	<u>12,550</u>	<u>302</u>
Total Program Expenses	<u>596,681</u>	<u>647,052</u>	<u>(50,371)</u>
Change in Net Position	(53,526)	20,525	(74,051)
Net Position - Beginning of year	<u>(602,782)</u>	<u>(623,307)</u>	<u>20,525</u>
Net Position - End of year	<u>\$ (656,308)</u>	<u>\$ (602,782)</u>	<u>\$ (53,526)</u>

Governmental Activities

The cost of all governmental activities this year was \$596,681. This was a decrease of \$50,371.

THE DESOTO PARISH SALES AND USE TAX COMMISSION'S FUNDS

As the DeSoto Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission completed the year, its governmental funds reported a fund balance of \$144,500 which decreased \$(18,374) from prior year. Collection fees decreased \$132,103 due to a decrease in total sales and use tax collections.

GENERAL FUND BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS

Actual revenues exceeded budgeted revenues by \$49,902. This positive variance was due to excess revenues accumulated and carried forward from previous years.

Budgeted expenditures exceeded actual expenditures by \$65,679. This positive variance was due to a decrease in our personnel services and related benefits, and our total operating services.

The final budgeted revenues increased \$2,545 from the original budgeted revenues and final budgeted expenditures increased \$2,545 from the original budgeted expenditures. Budgeted revenues increased due to an increase in interest earnings. The final budgeted expenditures increased due to a change in contract services with a sales tax audit firm.

DeSoto Parish Sales & Use Tax Commission
Management's Discussion and Analysis
June 30, 2024

CAPITAL ASSET

At June 30, 2024, the Commission had \$182,644 invested in capital assets, including equipment, and furniture and fixtures. This amount represents a net decrease (including additions, deductions, and depreciation) of \$10,799 or 5.6%, from last year.

Capital Assets at Year-end

	2024	2023	Variance
Building	\$ 389,607	\$ 389,607	\$ -
Equipment and furniture	105,590	115,654	(10,064)
Total	495,197	505,261	(10,064)
Less Accumulated Depreciation	312,553	311,818	735
Net Capital Assets	\$ 182,644	\$ 193,443	\$ (10,799)

ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGETS Our appointed officials and citizens consider many factors when setting the DeSoto Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission's budget and tax rates. One of the most important factors affecting the budget is sales tax collections. 99% of our total revenues are from collection fees charged to collect the tax. We have budgeted no significant changes in revenue and expenditures for the year ending June 30, 2025.

CONTACTING THE COMMISSION'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT Our financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, and investors and creditors with a general overview of the Commission's finances and to show the Commission's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or wish to request additional financial information, contact Mr. Chris Robinette, Administrator, P. O. Box 927, Mansfield, LA 71052 or at (318) 872-3343.

**GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS**

DESOTO PARISH SALES & USE TAX COMMISSION

**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
June 30, 2024**

	Statement A
	GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES
ASSETS	
Cash	\$ 143,475
Prepaid items	1,025
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	<u>182,644</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>327,144</u>
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS	
Deferred outflows for OPEB	<u>390,575</u>
LIABILITIES	
Long-term liabilities:	
Due within one year	15,693
Due in more than one year	26,163
OPEB liability	<u>706,338</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>748,194</u>
DEFERRED INFLOWS	
Deferred inflows for OPEB	<u>625,833</u>
NET POSITION	
Net investment in capital assets	182,644
Unrestricted	<u>(838,952)</u>
TOTAL NET POSITION	<u><u>\$ (656,308)</u></u>

THE NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS STATEMENT.

DESOTO PARISH SALES & USE TAX COMMISSION

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

	Statement B
	GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES
EXPENSES	
Sales Tax Collections:	
Personnel services and related benefits	\$ 482,186
Operating services	86,439
Materials and supplies	9,397
Travel expense	5,807
Depreciation	12,852
	596,681
TOTAL PROGRAM EXPENSES	596,681
PROGRAM REVENUES	
Charges for services	534,811
	534,811
NET PROGRAM EXPENSE	(61,870)
GENERAL REVENUES	
Interest earned	8,344
	8,344
TOTAL GENERAL REVENUES	8,344
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	(53,526)
NET POSITION - BEGINNING	(602,782)
NET POSITION - ENDING	\$ (656,308)

THE NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS STATEMENT.

DeSoto Parish Sales & Use Tax Commission

FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DESOTO PARISH SALES & USE TAX COMMISSION

**GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
Balance Sheet
June 30, 2024**

Statement C

ASSETS	
Cash	\$ 143,475
Prepaid items	<u>1,025</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>144,500</u></u>
LIABILITIES	
Accounts payable	<u>-</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>-</u>
FUND BALANCES	
Nonspendable	1,025
Committed	61,262
Unassigned	<u>82,213</u>
TOTAL FUND BALANCES	<u><u>144,500</u></u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE	<u><u>\$ 144,500</u></u>

THE NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS STATEMENT.

DESOTO PARISH SALES & USE TAX COMMISSION

**Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds
Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Position
June 30, 2024**

Statement D

Total fund balances - governmental funds	\$	144,500
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The cost of capital assets (land, buildings, furniture, and equipment) purchased or constructed is reported as an expenditure in governmental funds. The Statement of Net Position includes those capital assets among the assets of the Commission as a whole. The cost of those capital assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives (as depreciation expense) to the various programs reported as governmental activities in the Statement of Activities. Because depreciation expense does not affect financial resources, it is not reported in governmental funds.

Costs of capital assets	\$	495,197	
Accumulated depreciation		<u>(312,553)</u>	182,644

Deferred outflows/inflows related to OPEB are not due and payable in the current period and accordingly are not reported in the fund financial statements.

Deferred inflows	(625,833)
Deferred outflows	390,575

Long-term liabilities applicable to the Commission are not due and payable in the current period and accordingly are not reported as fund liabilities. All liabilities, both current and long-term, are reported in the Statement of Net Position.

Balances at June 30, 2024 are:

OPEB liability	(706,338)
Compensated absences payable	<u>(41,856)</u>

Net Position - Governmental Activities	\$	<u><u>(656,308)</u></u>
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THE NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS STATEMENT.

DESOTO PARISH SALES & USE TAX COMMISSION

**GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures,
and Changes in Fund Balance
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

Statement E

REVENUES	
Local sources:	
Collection fees	\$ 534,811
Interest earned	8,344
	<hr/>
TOTAL REVENUES	543,155
	<hr/>
EXPENDITURES	
Current:	
Sales tax collections:	
Personal services and related benefits	457,833
Operating services	86,439
Materials and supplies	9,397
Travel expense	5,807
Capital outlay	2,053
	<hr/>
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	561,529
	<hr/>
Net Change in Fund Balances	(18,374)
FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING	162,874
	<hr/>
FUND BALANCE - ENDING	\$ 144,500
	<hr/> <hr/>

THE NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS STATEMENT.

DESOTO PARISH SALES & USE TAX COMMISSION

**Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances
to the Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

Statement F

Total net change in fund balances - governmental funds \$ (18,374)

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:

Capital outlays are reported in governmental funds 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 depreciation exceeds capital outlays in the period:

Capital outlay	\$	2,053	
Depreciation		<u>(12,852)</u>	(10,799)

In the Statement of Activities, certain operating expenses - compensated absences (vacations and sick leave) - are measured by the amounts earned during the year. In the governmental funds, however, expenditures for these items are measured by the amount of financial resources used (essentially, the amounts actually paid). This year, vacation and sick time earned (\$24,445) exceeded the amounts used (\$15,693) by \$8,752. (8,752)

The increase in OPEB expense is reported in the Statement of Activities and not reported as expenditures in governmental funds. (15,601)

Change in net position of governmental activities \$ (53,526)

THE NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS STATEMENT.

DESOTO PARISH SALES & USE TAX COMMISSION

FIDUCIARY FUND
Statement of Fiduciary Net Position
June 30, 2024

Statement G

**CUSTODIAL
FUND**

ASSETS	
Cash	\$ 91,064
Sales tax receivable (net of allowance of \$0)	4,174,949
Occupancy tax receivable	27,777
Cash restricted for taxes paid under protest	<u>362</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>4,294,152</u>
LIABILITIES	
Due to local governments	<u>4,293,790</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES	<u>4,293,790</u>
NET POSITION	
Restricted for:	
Individuals, organizations, and other governments	<u>\$ 362</u>

THE NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS STATEMENT.

DESOTO PARISH SALES & USE TAX COMMISSION

FIDUCIARY FUND
Statement of Changes in Fiduciary Net Position
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

	Statement H
	CUSTODIAL FUND
	<hr/>
ADDITIONS	
Sales and occupancy tax collections for other governments	\$ 62,207,943
	<hr/>
TOTAL ADDITIONS	62,207,943
	<hr/>
DEDUCTIONS	
Payments of sales and occupancy tax to other governments	62,207,925
	<hr/>
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	62,207,925
	<hr/>
Net Increase (Decrease) in Fiduciary Net Position	18
NET POSITION - Beginning	344
	<hr/>
NET POSITION - Ending	\$ 362
	<hr/> <hr/>

THE NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ARE AN INTEGRAL PART OF THIS STATEMENT.

DeSoto Parish Sales & Use Tax Commission
Notes to the Financial Statements
June 30, 2024

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DeSoto Parish Sales & Use Tax Commission
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NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES As provided by Article VII, Section 3 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, the DeSoto Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission serves as the collector of sales and use taxes for the parish. The commission is comprised of five members, two each selected from the DeSoto Parish School Board and the DeSoto Parish Police Jury and one selected from the City of Mansfield, in accordance with a joint agreement of the agencies. The commissioners serve for indefinite terms and without benefit of compensation. The accompanying financial statements of the Commission have been prepared in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles.

A. REPORTING ENTITY The DeSoto Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission was created as a political subdivision of the state under the provisions of Article VII, Section 3, of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974. Commission board members are appointed by taxing authorities imposing sales taxes within the parish and are solely accountable for fiscal matters, which include fiscal management for controlling the collection and disbursement of funds. Additionally, the Commission is the collector for all sales and use and occupancy taxes within the parish. Based on the above, the Commission was determined to be a separate governmental reporting entity. The Commission includes all funds that are within the primary responsibility of the Commission.

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

Funds of the Commission are classified into two categories: governmental and fiduciary. In turn, each category is divided into separate fund types. The fund and a description of each existing fund type follow:

Governmental Funds Governmental funds are used to account for the Commission's general government activities, including the collection and disbursement of specific or legally restricted monies, the acquisition of capital assets, and the servicing of long-term debt. Governmental funds include:

General fund - the primary operating fund of the Commission. It accounts for all financial resources of the Commission.

Fiduciary Funds Fiduciary funds account for assets held by the government in a trustee capacity or a custodian on behalf of outside parties, including other governments.

Custodial Funds are used to report fiduciary activities that are not required to be reported in pension (and other employee benefit) trust funds, investment trust, or private-purpose trust funds. The custodial funds are as follows:

Sales tax collection custodial fund - accounts for sales tax monies collected on behalf of other taxing authorities within the parish.

Occupancy tax collection custodial fund - accounts for occupancy tax monies collected on behalf of other taxing authorities within the parish.

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C. MEASUREMENT FOCUS AND BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

Government-Wide Financial Statements (GWFS) The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities display information about the reporting government as a whole. The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities were prepared using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets, liabilities, and deferred outflows/inflows of resources resulting from exchange and exchange-like transactions are recognized when the exchange takes place. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets, liabilities, and deferred outflows/inflows of resources resulting from non-exchange transactions are recognized in accordance with the requirements of GASB Statement No. 33 "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Non-exchange Transactions." Fiduciary funds are not included in the government-wide financial statements.

Program revenues Program revenues included in the Statement of Activities derive directly from the program itself or from parties outside the Commission's taxpayers or citizenry, as a whole; program revenues reduce the cost of the function to be financed from the Commission's general revenues.

Allocation of indirect expenses The Commission reports all direct expenses by object in the Statement of Activities. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with an object.

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

Fund Financial Statements (FFS)

Governmental Funds The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. Governmental fund types use the flow of current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when susceptible to accrual (i.e., when they are "measurable and available"). "Measurable" means the amount of the transaction can be determined and "available" means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. The government considers all revenues available if they are collected within 60 days after year-end. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for unmatured interest on long-term debt which is recognized when due, and certain compensated absences and claims and judgments which are recognized when the obligations are expected to be liquidated with expendable available financial resources.

With this measurement focus, only current assets and current liabilities are generally included on the balance sheet. Operating statements of these funds present increases and decreases in net current assets. The governmental funds use the following practices in recording revenues and expenditures:

Revenues

Fees for the collection of sales and use taxes are recorded when the commission is entitled to the funds which are when the taxes are collected.

Fees for the collection of occupancy taxes are recorded when the commission is entitled to the funds which are when the taxes are collected.

Interest income is recorded monthly as interest is earned.

Other receipts become measurable and available when cash is received by the Commission and are recognized as revenue at that time.

DeSoto Parish Sales & Use Tax Commission
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Expenditures

Salaries are recorded as earned.

Fiduciary Funds The custodial funds are accounted for using the accrual basis of accounting.

D. BUDGETS

General Budget Policies The Commission follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the combined financial statements:

During March and April, the administrator prepares a preliminary budget for presentation to the Commission. In accordance with adopted policies of the Commission, the budget document must include the following:

1. A budget message, signed by the administrator, which includes a summary description of the most important features and objectives of the budget.
2. A budget summary listing.
3. A proposed budget adoption resolution for the City of Mansfield, DeSoto Parish School Board, and Desoto Parish Police Jury.

The Commission then reviews the proposed budget, makes any changes it deems appropriate, and approves the budget for submission to the taxing bodies on or before May 1. The City, School Board, and Police Jury, no later than June 15, approve or reject the budget.

During the year, the administrator is authorized, subject to approval of the Commission, to make changes within budget classifications as he may deem appropriate. However, any reallocation of budgeted amounts in excess of 5% of total revenues, total expenditures, and/or beginning fund balance, must be approved in advance by the City, School Board, and Police Jury.

Appropriations lapse at year-end and must be re-appropriated for the following year to be expended. Budgeted amounts included in the accompanying financial statements include the original budget amounts and any subsequent amendments.

Formal budget integration (within the accounting records) is not employed. Budget amounts included in the accompanying financial statements include the original and amended adopted budget.

Encumbrances Encumbrance accounting, under which purchase orders are recorded in order to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation, is not employed. However, outstanding purchase orders are taken into consideration before expenditures are incurred in order to assure that applicable appropriations are not exceeded.

E. DEPOSITS Cash includes amounts in demand deposits, interest-bearing demand deposits, and time deposit accounts. Cash equivalents include amounts in time deposits and those investments with original maturities of 90 days or less. Under state law, the Commission may deposit funds in demand deposits, interest-bearing demand deposits, or time deposits with state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having their principal offices in Louisiana.

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F. CAPITAL ASSETS Capital assets are recorded at cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed and depreciated over their estimated useful lives. The capitalization threshold is \$100. Donated capital assets are recorded at their estimated fair value at the date of donation. Estimated useful life is management’s estimate of how long the asset is expected to meet service demands. Straight line depreciation is used, based on the following estimated useful lives:

Buildings	40 years
Furniture and Equipment	5-12 years

G. DEFERRED OUTFLOWS/INFLOWS OF RESOURCES In addition to assets, the Statement of Financial Position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred outflows of resources, represents a consumption of net assets that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. The Commission has deferred outflows related to OPEB; see Note 14 for additional information. In addition to liabilities, the Statement of Net Position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, deferred inflows of resources, represents an acquisition of net assets that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenues) until that time. The Commission has deferred inflows of resources which relate to OPEB obligations. See Note 14 for additional information.

H. COMPENSATED ABSENCES All employees earn up to 20 days of vacation leave each year depending on the length of service. Unused vacation leave may be carried forward to the succeeding year up to a maximum of 25 days and is paid to employees upon separation from service. All employees receive one day of sick leave per month. Unused sick leave may be carried forward to the succeeding year up to a maximum of 25 days and is paid to employees upon separation from service.

I. USE OF ESTIMATES The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statement and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

J. FUNDEQUITY OF FUND FINACIAL STATEMENTS GASB 54 requires the fund balance amounts to be reported within the fund balance categories as follows:

Non-spendable: Fund balance that is not in spendable form or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. This category includes items that are not easily converted to cash such as inventories and prepaid items.

Restricted: Fund balance that can be spent only for the specific purposes stipulated by constitution, external resource providers, or through enabling legislation.

Committed: Fund balance that can only be used for specific purposes determined by the Commission’s highest level of decision-making authority. The Board is the highest level of decision-making authority for the Commission which can commit fund balance prior to the close of the fiscal year through the submission and adoption of a resolution. Committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the Board removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action it employed to previously commit the funds.

Assigned: Fund balance that is constrained by the Commission’s intent to be used for specific purposes but are neither restricted nor committed. The Commission’s policy does not address assignment of fund balance.

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Unassigned: Fund balance that is the residual classification for the general fund.

Restricted amounts are considered to have been spent when an expenditure is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balances are available. The Commission reduces unassigned amounts, followed by committed amounts when an expenditure is incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of those unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used.

K. LONG-TERM LIABILITIES The Commission provides certain continuing medical, dental, vision, and life insurance benefits for its retired employees. The OPEB Plan is a single employer defined benefit “substantive plan” as understood by past practices of the Commission.

NOTE 2 - DEPOSITS Deposits are stated at cost, which approximates fair value. Under state law, these deposits (or the resulting bank balances) must be secured by federal deposit insurance or the pledge of securities owned by the fiscal agent bank. The fair value of the pledged securities plus the federal deposit insurance must at all times equal the amount on deposit with the fiscal agent. These securities are held in the name of the pledging fiscal agent bank in a holding or custodial bank that is mutually acceptable to both parties. At year-end, the Commission’s carrying amount of deposits was \$234,901 and the bank balance was \$274,866.

These deposits are reported as follows: Statement A-cash and cash equivalents, \$143,475; Statement G-cash, \$91,064 and restricted cash, \$362. The entire bank balance was collateralized with FDIC Insurance or by collateral that is not held in the Commission’s name. Even though the pledged securities are considered uncollateralized under the provisions of GASB Statement No. 3 Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1229 imposes a statutory requirement on the custodial bank to advertise and sell the pledge securities within 10 days of being notified by the Commission that the fiscal agent has failed to pay deposited funds upon request. The Commission has no formal custodial credit risk for deposit policy.

Interest rate risk: The Commission’s policy does not address interest rate risk.

Custodial credit risk: The Commission’s policy does not address custodial credit risk.

NOTE 3 - CAPITAL ASSETS The changes in capital assets follow:

	Balance Beginning	Additions	Deletions	Balance Ending
Governmental activities:				
Building	\$ 389,607	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 389,607
Furniture and equipment	115,654	2,053	12,117	105,590
Total	505,261	2,053	12,117	495,197
Less accumulated depreciation:	311,818	12,852	12,117	312,553
Capital assets, net	<u>\$ 193,443</u>	<u>\$ (10,799)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 182,644</u>

NOTE 4 - RETIREMENT SYSTEMS All Commission employees participate in the Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana, which is a cost-sharing, multiple-employer public employee retirement system (PERS). Benefit provisions are ultimately approved and amended by the Louisiana Legislature. Employees of the Commission are enrolled in the retirement system as employees of DeSoto Parish School Board; therefore, the proportionate share of the pension liability is reported by DeSoto Parish School Board. The Commission does not report a pension liability, deferred outflow, or deferred inflows. The Commission reports as an expenditure the amount that has been paid to the School Board which is the actuarially required contribution. The Teacher’s

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Retirement System of Louisiana issues a public report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. A copy of the report may be obtained from www.trsl.org. Pertinent information relative to the plan is as follows:

General Information about the Pension Plan

Plan Descriptions/Benefits Provided:

Teachers' Retirement System of Louisiana: TRSL administers a plan to provide retirement, disability, and survivor benefits to employees who meet the legal definition of a “teacher” as provided for in R.S 11:701. Eligibility for retirement benefits and the calculation of retirement benefits are provided for in R.S. 11:761. Statutory changes closed existing, and created new, sub-plans for members hired on or after January 1, 2011 and July 1, 2015.

Most members are eligible to receive retirement benefits 1) at the age of 60 with 5 years of service, 2) at the age of 55 with at least 25 years of service, or 3) at any age with at least 30 years of service. For members joining on or after July 1, 2015, retirement benefits are paid at age 62 with at least 5 year of service credit. Members may retire with an actuarially reduced benefit with 20 years of service credit. Retirement benefits are calculated by applying a percentage ranging from 2% to 3% of final average salary multiplied by years of service. Average compensation is defined as the member’s average annual earned compensation for the highest 36 consecutive months of employment for members employed prior to January 1, 2011, or highest 60 consecutive months of employment for members employed after that date.

Under R.S. 11:778 and 11:779, members who have suffered a qualified disability are eligible for disability benefits if employed prior to January 1, 2011 and attained at least 5 years of service or if employed on or after January 1, 2011 and attained at least 10 years of service. Members employed prior to January 1, 2011 receive disability benefits equal to 2½% of average compensation multiplied by the years of service, but not more than 50% of average compensation subject to statutory minimums. Members employed on or after January 1, 2011 receive disability benefits equivalent to the regular retirement formula without reduction by reason of age.

Survivor benefits are provided for in R.S. 11:762. In order for survivor benefits to be paid, the deceased member must have been in state service at the time of death and must have a minimum of five years of service, at least two of which were earned immediately prior to death, or must have had a minimum of twenty years of service regardless of when earned in order for a benefit to be paid to a minor or handicapped child. Survivor benefits are equal to 50% of the benefit to which the member would have been entitled if retired on the date of death using a factor of 2½% regardless of years of service or age, or \$600 per month, whichever is greater. Benefits are payable to an unmarried child until age 21, or age 23 if the child remains a full-time student. The minimum service credit requirement is ten years for a surviving spouse with no minor children, and benefits are to be paid for life to the spouse or a qualified handicapped child.

TRSL has established a DROP plan. When members enter DROP, their status changes from active member to retiree even though they continue to work and draw their salary for a period up to three years. The election is irrevocable once participation begins. During participation, benefits otherwise payable are fixed and deposited in an individual DROP account. Upon leaving DROP, members must choose among available alternatives for the distribution of benefits that have accumulated in their DROP accounts.

Contribution rates (as a percentage of covered salaries) for active plan members as established by the Louisiana Legislature for the year ended June 30, 2024, are as follows:

	<u>Employee</u>	<u>Employer</u>
Louisiana Teachers' Retirement System, Regular	8%	24.1%

DeSoto Parish Sales & Use Tax Commission
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Total covered payroll of the Commission for TRSL - Regular Plan for the year ended June 30, 2024, amounted to \$280,747. Employer contributions to the DeSoto Parish School Board were \$67,660 which was the annual actuarial required contribution for the Commissions employees.

NOTE 5 - COMPENSATED ABSENCES At June 30, 2024, employees of the Commission have accumulated and vested \$41,856 of employee leave benefits including \$598 of salary related benefits, which was computed in accordance with GASB Codification Section C60.

NOTE 6 - LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS The following is a summary of the long-term obligation transactions for the year ended June 30, 2024:

Governmental activities:	Beginning Balance	Additions	Deductions	Ending Balances	Due within One year
Compensated Absences	\$ 33,104	\$ 24,445	\$ 15,693	\$ 41,856	\$ 15,693
OPEB liability	701,501	4,837	-	706,338	-
Total	<u>\$ 734,605</u>	<u>\$ 29,282</u>	<u>\$ 15,693</u>	<u>\$ 748,194</u>	<u>\$ 15,693</u>

NOTE 7 - RISK MANAGEMENT The Commission is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; and injuries to employees. To handle such risk of loss, the commission maintains commercial insurance policies covering: automobile liability, medical payments, uninsured motorist, and collision; business liability; property coverage; workers compensation; and surety bond coverage. No claims were paid on any of the policies during the past three years which exceeded the policies' coverage amounts. In addition to the above policies, the commission also maintains an errors and omissions claims paid policy.

NOTE 8 - LITIGATION AND CLAIMS

Taxes Paid Under Protest At June 30, 2024, the Commission is involved in litigations regarding taxes paid under protest. These funds have been placed in an escrow account. Cash of \$362 for taxes paid under protest is included in the custodial fund Statement of Fiduciary Net Position.

Other Claims There are \$75,535 in refund requests where a lawsuit has been filed for the recovery of taxes that were remitted without being paid under protest and distributed to the respective taxing authorities. No liabilities have been recorded for these claims.

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NOTE 9 - CUSTODIAL SALES TAX FUND DEPOSITS DUE TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS The following is a summary of the collections and payments made to local governmental entities for sales tax collections during the year ended June 30, 2024:

BALANCE, Beginning		\$ 5,945,455
<u>Receipts:</u>		
Sales Tax Collections		62,004,515
<u>Disbursements:</u>		
DeSoto Parish School Board		36,546,956
DeSoto Parish Police Jury		14,618,959
DeSoto Parish Law Enforcement District		7,309,628
City of Mansfield		2,908,125
Town of Logansport		311,081
Village of South Mansfield		73,538
Town of Stonewall		740,912
Village of Grand Cane		164,798
Town of Keachi		226,106
Collection fees		532,664
Audit fees (sales tax vendors)		251,190
Total Disbursements		63,683,957
BALANCE, Ending		\$ 4,266,013

NOTE 10 - CUSTODIAL OCCUPANCY TAX COLLECTION FUND DEPOSITS DUE TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS The following is a summary of the collections and payments made to local governmental entities for occupancy tax collections during the year ended June 30, 2024:

BALANCE, Beginning		\$ 20,420
<u>Receipts:</u>		
Occupancy Tax Collections		264,775
<u>Disbursements:</u>		
City of Mansfield		173,170
Tourist Bureau		82,099
Collection Fee		2,149
Total Disbursements		257,418
BALANCE, Ending		\$ 27,777

DeSoto Parish Sales & Use Tax Commission
Notes to the Financial Statements
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NOTE 11 - SALES TAX AND OCCUPANCY TAX COLLECTIONS AND DISBURSEMENTS The following are schedules of the sales tax and occupancy tax collections and disbursements on a cash basis collected on behalf of and distributed to local governmental entities for fiscal year ended June 30, 2024:

	SALES TAX			
	Total Collections	Collection Fees	Audit Fees	Total Distribution
DeSoto Parish School Board (2.5%)				
School Board 5/1/68 (1%)	\$ 14,803,290	\$ 123,681	\$ 60,826	\$ 14,618,783
School Board 7/1/86 (.5%)	7,401,645	61,841	30,413	7,309,391
School Board 7/1/86 (.5%)	7,401,645	61,841	30,413	7,309,391
School Board 7/1/01 (.5%)	7,401,645	61,841	30,413	7,309,391
	<u>37,008,225</u>	<u>309,204</u>	<u>152,065</u>	<u>36,546,956</u>
DeSoto Parish Police Jury (1%)				
Police Jury 7/1/81 (.25%)	3,700,867	30,921	15,206	3,654,740
Police Jury 7/1/81 (.50%)	7,401,734	61,842	30,413	7,309,479
Police Jury 7/1/81 (.10%)	1,480,347	12,368	6,083	1,461,896
Police Jury 7/1/81 (.15%)	2,220,520	18,552	9,124	2,192,844
	<u>14,803,468</u>	<u>123,683</u>	<u>60,826</u>	<u>14,618,959</u>
Law Enforcement District (.5%)	7,401,884	61,843	30,413	7,309,628
City of Mansfield (1.5%)				
Mansfield 7/1/80 (1%)	1,957,964	16,521	2,596	1,938,847
Mansfield 1/1/09 (.5%)	978,835	8,259	1,298	969,278
	<u>2,936,799</u>	<u>24,780</u>	<u>3,894</u>	<u>2,908,125</u>
Town of Logansport (1%)	315,261	2,687	1,493	311,081
Village of South Mansfield (1%)	74,182	632	12	73,538
Town of Stonewall (1%)	748,630	6,227	1,491	740,912
Village of Grand Cane (1.25%)	167,061	1,409	854	164,798
Town of Keachi (1%)	228,447	2,199	142	226,106
Total	<u><u>\$ 63,683,957</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 532,664</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 251,190</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 62,900,103</u></u>
OCCUPANCY TAX				
	Total Collections	Collection Fees	Audit Fees	Total Distribution
City of Mansfield (3%)	\$ 174,618	\$ 1,448	\$ -	\$ 173,170
Tourist Bureau (3%)	82,800	701	-	82,099
	<u><u>\$ 257,418</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 2,149</u></u>	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 255,269</u></u>

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NOTE 12 - FUND BALANCE CLASSIFICATION DETAILS: The following are details of the fund balance classifications.

Non spendable:	General
Prepaid items	\$ 1,025
Committed to:	
Sick and annual leave pay	61,262
Unassigned	82,213
Total	\$ 144,500

NOTE 13 - LIENS OVER SALES TAX REMITTERS The Commission has outstanding liens against sales tax remitters who have not submitted sales tax reports to the Commission. The Commission cannot determine the exact amounts owed by the sales tax remitters, since no sales tax returns were submitted and processed into the Commission’s accounting records. The lien amounts recorded at the Clerk of Court’s Office are based on estimates determined by the frequency of sales tax returns submitted and the tax liability owed by the remitter in past sales tax returns. Therefore, no amounts are recorded on the Commission’s custodial fund, since the collection of the estimates is not probable.

NOTE 14 - OTHER POST EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB) The Desoto Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission has elected to provide post retirement benefits to its employees. Employees of the Commission are included in the health insurance benefit plan of the DeSoto Parish School Board. The School Board does have a trust established for their OPEB plan. The Commission does not have a separate trust established. No assets are accumulated in a trust that meets the criteria in GASB No. 75, paragraph 4, to pay related benefits.

Plan description - The Commission’s OPEB plan is a single-employer defined benefit “substantive plan” as understood by past practices of the Commission and its employees. Although no written plan currently exists or is sanctioned by law, the OPEB plan is reported based on communication to plan members. The plan provides lifetime healthcare insurance for eligible retirees through the Commission’s group health insurance plan. The authority to establish and/or amend the obligation of the employer, employees, and retirees rests with the Commission. Also, no stand-alone financial report was prepared. Substantially all of the Commission’s employees become eligible for these benefits if they reach normal retirement age while working for the Commission, and if the employee chooses to obtain health care benefits from the Commission.

Benefits Provided and Funding Policy - The contribution requirements of plan members and the Commission are established and comply with LRS 42:801-883. Employees do not contribute to their post-employment benefits cost until they become retirees and begin receiving those benefits. The contribution rates are as follows:

Years of Employment	Medical		Dental		Vision	
	% Paid by Retiree	% Paid by Commission	% Paid by Retiree	% Paid by Commission	% Paid by Retiree	% Paid by Commission
Less than 10	80	20	100	0	No insurance	
10 to 14.99	60	40	75	25	No insurance	
15 to 19.99	40	60	50	50	No insurance	
20 or more	20	80	25	75	No insurance	

- Medical - grandfathering provisions apply to those employees hired before January 1, 2010.
- Dental - grandfathering provisions apply to those employees hired before January 1, 2011.
- Vision - grandfathering provisions apply to those employees retired before January 1, 2011.
- Medical – For employees hired after July 1, 2016 and 20 years of experience, the retiree contribution will be 20%.

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For employees that retired prior to January 1, 2010, the Board pays 100% of the life insurance premium for retired employees with coverage ending at age 99. Employees that retire after December 31, 2009 are eligible for the following life insurance benefits paid based on their years of service working for the Commission when they retire with coverage ending at 80:

<u>Years of Employment</u>	<u>Life Insurance</u>
Less than 20	No insurance
15 to 20	\$5,000
20 or more	\$10,000

Employees Covered by Benefit Terms – At June 30, 2024, the following employees were covered by the benefit terms:

Active employees	4
Total	4

Total OPEB Liability – The Commission’s total OPEB liability of \$706,338 was measured as of June 30, 2024 and was determined by an actuarial valuation as of July 1, 2022.

Actuarial Assumptions and Other Inputs – The total OPEB liability in the June 30, 2024 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions and other inputs, applied to all periods included in the measurement, unless otherwise specified:

Actuarial method	Entry age normal cost - Level percent of pay
Discount rate	3.93% based on the Bond Buyer General Obligation 20 bond municipal index
Healthcare trend	Ranges from 5.75% in Year 1 to 4.9% after Year 6
Mortality	PubG.H-2010 Mortality tables with generational projection using Scale MP-2021
Turnover	Ranges from 31% at age 18 and less than one year of experience to 5.4% at age 41 and 4 plus years of experience
Retirement rates	30 years of service at any age; age 55 and 25 years of service; or, age 60 with 5 years of service
Salary increase, including inflation	3.00%
Inflation	2.50%

No salary experience studies were conducted. The discount rate was increased from 3.65% in the June 30, 2023 valuation to 3.93%.

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Changes in the Total OPEB Liability:

	Total OPEB Liability
Balance at June 30, 2023	\$ 701,501
Changes for the year:	
Service cost	16,446
Interest	26,205
Difference between expected and actual experience	1,279
Effect of assumptions changes or inputs	(39,093)
Benefit payments	-
Net changes	4,837
Balance at June 30, 2024	\$ 706,338

Sensitivity of the Total OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate – The following presents the total OPEB liability of the Commission, as well as what the Commission’s total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower and one percentage point higher than the current discount rate.

	1% Decrease (2.93%)	Discount Rate (3.93%)	1% Increase (4.93%)
Total OPEB liability	\$ 887,096	\$ 706,338	\$ 587,792

Sensitivity of the Total OPEB Liability to Changes in the Healthcare Cost Trend Rates – The following presents the total OPEB liability of the Commission, as well as what the Commission’s total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that are one percentage point lower and one percentage point higher than the current healthcare cost trend rates.

	1% Decrease	Current Trend Rate	1% Increase
Total OPEB liability	\$ 569,256	\$ 706,338	\$ 1,140,385

OPEB Expense and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB – For the year ended June 30, 2024, the Commission recognized OPEB expense of \$15,601. At June 30, 2024, the Commission reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 106,789	\$ 326,285
Changes of assumptions or other inputs	283,786	299,548
	\$ 390,575	\$ 625,833

DeSoto Parish Sales & Use Tax Commission
Notes to the Financial Statements
June 30, 2024

Amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

Year Ended June 30:	
2025	(27,050)
2026	(27,050)
2027	(27,050)
2028	(55,047)
2029	(64,643)
Thereafter	(34,418)

NOTE 15 - NEW GASB STANDARDS In the current fiscal year the Commission implemented GASB Statement No. 100 – *Accounting Changes and Error Corrections – an amendment of GASB statement No. 62*. This statement provides guidance to enhance accounting changes and error corrections to provide more understandable, reliable, consistent and comparable information for making decisions or assessing accountability. The adoption of this standard had no impact on the Commission’s financial statements or notes to the financial statements.

**REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY
INFORMATION**

DeSoto Parish Sales & Use Tax Commission

Schedule of Changes in Total OPEB Liability and Related Ratios June 30, 2024

Exhibit 1

Total OPEB Liability	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Service costs	\$ 16,446	\$ 17,390	\$ 27,761	\$ 42,681	\$ 19,361	\$ 18,797	\$ 20,966
Interest	26,205	30,493	23,905	21,669	24,140	23,957	22,767
Difference between expected and actual experience	1,279	(343,500)	65,781	129,114	(153,923)	(14,917)	(3,535)
Effect of assumption changes or inputs	(39,093)	153,114	(352,388)	(52,344)	377,899	45,398	(33,650)
Benefit payments	-	-	-	-	-	(12,531)	(11,878)
Net change in total OPEB liability	4,837	(142,503)	(234,941)	141,120	267,477	60,704	(5,330)
Total OPEB liability - Beginning	701,501	844,004	1,078,945	937,825	670,348	609,644	614,974
Total OPEB liability - Ending	<u>\$ 706,338</u>	<u>\$ 701,501</u>	<u>\$ 844,004</u>	<u>\$1,078,945</u>	<u>\$ 937,825</u>	<u>\$ 670,348</u>	<u>\$ 609,644</u>
Covered employee payroll	268,158	260,348	321,502	312,138	319,416	311,125	302,063
Total OPEB liability as a percentage of covered employee payroll	263.40%	269.45%	262.52%	345.66%	293.61%	215.46%	201.83%

Changes of Assumptions

Changes of assumptions and other inputs reflect the effect of changes in the discount rate each period. The following is the discount rate used:

2024	3.93%
2023	3.65%
2022	3.54%
2021	2.16%
2020	2.21%
2019	3.50%
2018	3.87%

Changes in mortality rates:

- 2022 - 2024 PubG.H-2010 mortality tables with generational projection using Scale MP-2021.
- 2020 & 2021 PubG.H-2010 mortality tables with generational projection using Scale MP-2020.
- 2018 & 2019 RP-2000 Combined Mortality Table.

Notes:

This schedule is presented to illustrate the requirement to show information for 10 years. However, until a full 10 year trend is compiled, only information for those years for which information is available is presented.

No assets are accumulated in a trust that meets the criteria in GASB No. 75, paragraph 4, to pay related benefits.

DESOTO PARISH SALES & USE TAX COMMISSION

**GENERAL FUND
Budgetary Comparison Schedule
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

Exhibit 2

	BUDGETED AMOUNTS		ACTUAL AMOUNTS	VARIANCE WITH FINAL BUDGET POSITIVE (NEGATIVE)
	ORIGINAL	FINAL		
REVENUES				
Local sources:				
Collection fees	\$ 485,228	\$ 485,228	\$ 534,811	\$ 49,583
Interest earned	5,480	8,025	8,344	319
TOTAL REVENUES	490,708	493,253	543,155	49,902
EXPENDITURES				
Current:				
Sales tax collections:				
Personal services and related benefits	502,697	496,016	457,833	38,183
Operating services	106,285	115,011	86,439	28,572
Materials and supplies	6,670	7,170	9,397	(2,227)
Travel expense	4,775	4,775	5,807	(1,032)
Capital outlay	4,236	4,236	2,053	2,183
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	624,663	627,208	561,529	65,679
Net Change in Fund Balances	(133,955)	(133,955)	(18,374)	115,581
BUDGETARY FUND BALANCE - BEGINNING	133,955	133,955	162,874	28,919
BUDGETARY FUND BALANCE - ENDING	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 144,500	\$ 144,500

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE.

DeSoto Parish Sales & Use Tax Commission

Notes to the Budgetary Comparison Schedule For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

A. BUDGETS

General Budget Policies – State statute requires budgets be adopted for the general fund and all special revenue funds. The budget is approved in the April board meeting by the Commission. The operating budgets include proposed expenditures and the means of financing the expenditures. Public hearings are conducted prior to the Commission’s approval to receive comments from the public. It is then submitted for final approval to the City of Mansfield, Desoto Parish School Board, and Desoto Parish Police Jury.

Appropriations (unexpended budget balances) lapse at year end. Formal budget integration (within the accounting records) is not employed as a management control device. Budget amounts included in the accompanying financial statements include the original adopted budget and all subsequent amendments. All budget revisions are approved by the Commission.

Budget Basis of Accounting – The general fund budget is prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Legally, the Commission must adopt a balanced budget; that is, total budgeted revenues and other financing sources including fund balance must equal or exceed total budget expenditures and other financing uses. State statute requires the Commission to amend its budget when revenues plus projected revenues within a fund are expected to be less than budgeted revenues by five percent or more and/or expenditures within a fund are expected to exceed budgeted expenditures by five percent or more.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

DeSoto Parish Sales & Use Tax Commission

**Schedule of Compensation, Benefits, and Other Payments to Agency Head
For the Year Ended June 30, 2024**

Exhibit 3

Agency Head : Chris Robinette, Administrator

<u>Purpose</u>		<u>Amount</u>
Salary	\$	108,216
Benefits - Insurance		15,875
Benefits - Retirement		26,081
Per Diem (Cell Phone Allowance)		720
Reimbursements		18
Travel		880
Registration Fees		930
Conference Travel		1,001
Conference (Hotel)		1,045
Conference (Special Meals)		124

DeSoto Parish Sales & Use Tax Commission

Schedule of Collections, Distributions, and Costs of Collection For the Year Ended June 30, 2024

Exhibit 4

Collections

Sales and Use Tax	\$ 62,822,613
All Other Taxes (Occupancy)	257,269
Interest	166,565
Penalties	192,553
Fees	251,187
Total Collections Received	<u>63,690,187</u>
Less Collections Received and Held in Escrow	-
Total Collections Available for Disbursement	<u>\$ 63,690,187</u>

Amounts Disbursed To Each Local Taxing Authority (Net of Collection Costs)

DeSoto Parish School Board (2.5%)	36,546,957
DeSoto Parish Police Jury (1%)	14,618,960
Law Enforcement District (0.5%)	7,309,629
City of Mansfield (1.5%)	2,908,126
Town of Logansport (1%)	311,081
Village of South Mansfield (1%)	73,538
Town of Stonewall (1%)	740,911
Village of Grand Cane (1.25%)	164,798
Town of Keachi (1%)	226,107
City of Mansfield Occupancy (3%)	173,170
DeSoto Parish Tourist Bureau (3%)	82,098
Total Amounts Disbursed to Local Taxing Authorities	<u>\$ 63,155,375</u>
Total Amount Retained by Collector	<u>\$ 534,812</u>

Amounts Disbursed for Costs of Collection

Collector Employee Salaries	280,747
Collector Employee Benefits	157,085
Contracted Collector Services	2,306
All Other Costs of Collection	101,391
Total Amounts Disbursed for Costs of Collection	<u>\$ 541,529</u>
Balance in Excess (Deficiency) of Costs of Collection	<u>\$ (6,717)</u>



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Jennie Henry, CPA, CFE

Supervisor: Sandra Harper, CPA

Ernest L. Allen, CPA
(Retired) 1963 - 2000

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*

Independent Auditor’s Report

Board Members
DeSoto Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission
Mansfield, 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 (*Government Auditing Standards*), the financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of DeSoto Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Commission’s basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated December 10, 2024.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the DeSoto Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission'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 DeSoto Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission’s internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the DeSoto Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission’s internal control.

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

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

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the DeSoto Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission'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*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose. Although the intended use of these reports may be limited, under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the Office of the Legislative Auditor as a public document.

Allen, Green & Williamson, LLP

ALLEN, GREEN & WILLIAMSON, LLP
Monroe, Louisiana
December 10, 2024



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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT’S REPORT ON APPLYING STATEWIDE AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

Board Members
DeSoto Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission
Mansfield, Louisiana

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 year ended June 30, 2024. DeSoto Parish Sales and Use Tax Commission’s management is responsible for those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs.

The Commission 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 year ended June 30, 2024. 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.

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.

Comment: No exceptions were noted as a result of applying the agreed upon procedures.

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. Alternatively, for those entities reporting on the not-for-profit 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.

Comment: No exceptions were noted as a result of applying the agreed upon procedures.

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 written 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 within 1 month of the date the reconciliation was prepared (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.

Comment: No exceptions were noted as a result of applying the agreed upon procedures.

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 also 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). Alternatively, 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.

Comment: No exceptions were noted as a result of applying the agreed upon procedures.

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.

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.

Comment: No exceptions were noted as a result of applying the agreed upon procedures.

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 #7B 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). 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.

Comment: No exceptions were noted as a result of applying the agreed upon 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 reimbursements 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 that each reimbursement was reviewed and approved, in writing, by someone other than the person receiving reimbursement.

Comment: No exceptions were noted as a result of applying the agreed upon 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. Alternatively, 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 documented approval);
- 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 that the invoice and related payment agreed to the terms and conditions of the contract.

Comment: No exceptions were noted as a result of applying the agreed upon 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 procedure #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 agrees 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's or official's cumulative leave records, agree the pay rates to the employee's or official's authorized pay rates in the employee's or official's 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.

Comment: No exceptions were noted as a result of applying the agreed upon 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 that 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 that 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.

Comment: No exceptions were noted as a result of applying the agreed upon 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).

Comment: No exceptions were noted as a result of applying the agreed upon 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 that 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.

Comment: No exceptions were noted as a result of applying the agreed upon 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.
- C. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #9A, obtain cybersecurity training documentation from management, and observe that the documentation demonstrates that the following employees/officials with access to the agency’s information technology assets have completed training as required by R.S. 42:1267. The requirements are as follows:
- Hired before June 9, 2020 – completed the training: and
 - Hired on or after June 9, 2020 – completed the training within 30 days of initial service or employment.

Comment: We performed the 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 that 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.

Comment: No exceptions were noted as a result of applying the agreed upon procedures.

We were engaged by the DeSoto Sales and Use Tax Commission 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* issued by the United States Comptroller General. 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 the Commission 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.

Allen, Green & Williamson, LLP

Allen, Green & Williamson, LLP
Monroe, Louisiana
December 10, 2024