

WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 7

KEITHVILLE, LOUISIANA

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

December 31, 2023

Marsha O. Millican
A Professional Accounting Corporation
Shreveport, Louisiana

WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 7

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Marsha O. Millican

A PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTING CORPORATION

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Commissioners
Waterworks District No. 7
Keithville, Louisiana

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and major fund of Waterworks District No. 7 (the District), a component unit of the Caddo Parish Commission, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In my opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and major fund of the District as of December 31, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with 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 and the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide*. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of my report. I am required to be independent of the Waterworks District No. 7 and to meet my other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to my audit. I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

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 District's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

My 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 my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, I:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in my judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

I am 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 I identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis 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. I have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to my inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge I obtained during my audit of the basic financial statements. I do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide me with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Other Supplementary Information

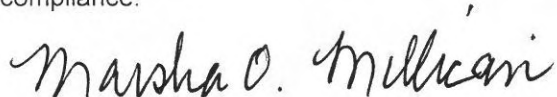
My audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements that collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements. The schedule of compensation paid to commissioners and the schedule of compensation, benefits and other payments to agency head are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are 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 auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In my opinion, the other supplementary information 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*, I have also issued my report dated June 4, 2024 on my consideration of Waterworks District No. 7's internal control over financial reporting and on my tests of its compliance with certain provisions of law, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of my testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

In accordance with the requirements of the Louisiana Legislative Auditor, I have issued a report, dated June 4, 2024 on the results of my statewide agreed-upon procedures performed in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards*. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of testing performed on those control and compliance areas identified in the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's statewide agreed-upon procedures, and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on control or compliance.

Handwritten signature of Marsha O. Millican in black ink.

Certified Public Accountant
June 4, 2024

**WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 7
6836 COLQUITT ROAD
KEITHVILLE, LOUISIANA 71047**

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

This section of Waterworks District No. 7's annual financial report presents our discussion and analysis of the District's financial performance during the fiscal year that ended on December 31, 2023. Please read it in conjunction with the District's financial statements, which follows this section.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The District had net position of \$3,590,617 at year end which represents an increase from the prior year of \$250,837.

During the year ended December 31, 2023, the District reduced its long-term debt by \$94,183.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

These financial statements consist of the following - Management's Discussion and Analysis (this section), the basic financial statements, and Notes to Financial Statements. These components are described below:

Basic Financial Statements

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements. The Statement of Net Position, Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position and Cash Flows provide information about the activities of the District as a whole and present a longer-term view of the District's finances. These statements include all assets and liabilities 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.

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position report the District's net position and changes in them. You can think of the District's net position, the difference between assets and liabilities, as one way to measure the District's financial health, or financial position. Over time, increases or decreases in the District's net position are one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE ENTITY

Net Position

Net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of the District's financial position. The District's assets exceeded liabilities by \$3,590,617 as of December 31, 2023.

The District's major assets are its fixed assets of \$2,372,562 representing its investment in its water distribution system and water treatment plant. The District owed \$584,583 at year end on the debt used to acquire those assets that is still outstanding. The District uses these capital assets to provide services to the citizens of the District; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending.

**Waterworks District No. 7
Statement of Net Position
December 31,**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Current assets	\$ 1,206,092	\$ 971,707
Other assets	973,242	898,184
Capital Assets, net of depreciation	2,372,562	2,476,926
Total Assets	<u>4,551,896</u>	<u>4,346,817</u>
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	42,756	42,377
Notes Payable	584,583	678,766
Other liabilities	333,940	285,894
Total liabilities	<u>961,279</u>	<u>1,007,037</u>
Deferred inflows of resources	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	1,787,979	1,398,160
Unrestricted	<u>1,802,638</u>	<u>1,541,620</u>
Net Position	<u>\$ 3,590,617</u>	<u>\$ 3,339,780</u>

Waterworks District No. 7
Statement of Changes in Net Position
December 31,

	2023	2022
Operating Revenues	\$ 1,148,364	\$ 1,076,527
Operating Expenses	893,564	849,807
Operating Income	254,800	226,720
Non-operating Income/Expense	(3,963)	(16,233)
Changes in Net Position	\$ 250,837	\$ 210,487

The District's total operating revenues increased by \$71,837 from the previous year. The total operating expense increased by \$43,757 from the previous year.

CAPITAL ASSETS AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

Capital Assets

At the end of 2023, the District had \$2,372,562 net of depreciation, invested in its capital assets. This amount represents a net decrease of \$104,260 as a result of additions of \$21,771 and depreciation expense of \$126,031.

Capital Assets at Year End
December 31,

	2023	2022
Distribution and Treatment Systems	\$ 4,083,722	\$ 4,065,255
Office Furniture	57,728	57,728
Storage Building	82,478	82,478
Equipment	621,989	618,789
Total	4,845,917	4,824,250
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	2,523,555	2,397,524
Subtotal	2,322,362	2,426,726
Land	50,200	50,200
Net Fixed Assets	\$ 2,372,562	\$ 2,476,926

Debt

The District had long-term debt as follows:

	<u>Balance</u> <u>1/1/2023</u>	<u>Proceeds</u>	<u>Payments</u>	<u>Balance</u> <u>12/31/2023</u>
Water Revenue Bond	\$ 181,105	\$ -	\$ 34,941	\$ 146,164
Bonds Series 2013 B	101,909	-	15,474	86,435
Bonds Series 2013 B-1	366,490	-	14,506	351,984
Bonds Series 2013	<u>29,262</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>29,262</u>	<u>-</u>
Totals	<u>\$ 678,766</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 94,183</u>	<u>\$ 584,583</u>

ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGETS AND RATES

Management of the District considers the following factors and indicators when setting the next year's rates and fees. These factors and indicators include: long-term debt, cost of operations and number of customers.

REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, customers and creditors with a general overview of the Waterworks District No. 7, Keithville, Louisiana's finances and to show the District's accountability for the money it receives. Questions concerning any of the information provided in this report or requests for additional information should be addressed to Waterworks District No. 7, 6836 Colquitt Road, Keithville, Louisiana 71047, or by calling (318) 925-6880.

WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 7

Statement of Net Position

December 31, 2023

ASSETS	
<u>Current Assets</u>	
Cash	\$ 1,120,975
Accounts Receivable (Net)	85,117
Total Current Assets	<u>1,206,092</u>
<u>Other Assets</u>	
Restricted Cash	88,473
Investments	677,873
Fixed Assets (Net)	2,372,562
Operating Lease Right of Use Asset (Net)	206,896
Total Other Assets	<u>3,345,804</u>
Total Assets	<u>4,551,896</u>
Deferred Outflows of Resources	<u>-</u>
LIABILITIES	
<u>Current Liabilities</u>	
Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses	42,756
Current portion of long-term debt	93,825
Operating Lease Liability - Current Portion	4,099
Total Current Liabilities	<u>140,680</u>
<u>Long Term Liabilities</u>	
Customer Deposits Payable	88,473
Long-Term Debt, Net of Current Portion	490,758
Operating Lease Liability - Net of Current Portion	239,450
Accrued Interest Payable	1,918
Total Long-Term Liabilities	<u>820,599</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>961,279</u>
Deferred Inflows of Resources	<u>-</u>
NET POSITION	
Invested in Capital Assets, Net of Related Debt	1,787,979
Unreserved	1,802,638
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 3,590,617</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 7

Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position

For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Revenues:	
Charges for Services	\$ 1,148,364
Total Revenues	<u>1,148,364</u>
Operating Expenses:	
Personal Services	310,020
Utilities	77,977
Repair and Maintenance	136,090
Other Supplies and Expense	219,538
Insurance	23,908
Depreciation	<u>126,031</u>
Total Expenses	<u>893,564</u>
Operating Income (Loss)	254,800
Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)	
Interest Income	24,982
Interest Expense	<u>(28,945)</u>
Total Non-Operating Revenues (Expenses)	<u>(3,963)</u>
Change in Net Position	250,837
Net Position - Beginning of Year	<u>3,339,780</u>
Net Position - End of Year	<u><u>\$ 3,590,617</u></u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 7

Statement of Cash Flows

Year Ended December 31, 2023

Cash flows from operating activities:	
Cash received from customers	\$ 1,133,114
Cash payments to suppliers	<u>(754,730)</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>378,384</u>
Cash flows from capital and related financing activities:	
Fixed asset purchases	(21,771)
Interest paid on long-term debt	(27,507)
Net principal payments on lease liability	(2,171)
Principal payments on long-term debt	<u>(94,183)</u>
Net cash provided by capital and related financing activities	<u>(145,632)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:	
Net change in investments	<u>(26,175)</u>
Net cash provided by investing activities	<u>(26,175)</u>
Cash flows from noncapital financing activities:	
Interest income	<u>24,982</u>
Net increase in cash	231,559
Cash, beginning of year (including restricted cash of \$76,049)	<u>977,889</u>
Cash, end of year (including restricted cash of \$88,473)	<u>\$ 1,209,448</u>
Reconciliation of operating income to net cash provided	
by operating activities:	
Operating income	254,800
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash	
provided by operating activities:	
Depreciation	126,031
Increase in accounts receivable	(15,250)
Increase in customer deposits	12,424
Increase in accounts payable	<u>379</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>\$ 378,384</u>

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 7

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023

Waterworks District No. 7, Keithville, Louisiana, was created on January 8, 1975 as provided under Louisiana Revised Statutes 33:3811 and is a component unit of the Caddo Parish Commission. The purpose of the District is to provide water service to the residents of District No. 7. The District is governed by a five person board of commissioners appointed by the Caddo Parish Commission. Commissioners of the District serve five-year terms and are compensated as provided in Louisiana Revised Statutes 33:3819. The District is comprised of property in southwest Caddo Parish, Louisiana, and services approximately 1,934 residential and commercial customers.

1. *Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:*

The financial statements of Waterworks District No. 7, Keithville, Louisiana (the District), have been prepared in conformity with governmental accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The accompanying component unit financial statements have been prepared in conformity with GASB Statement No. 34, Basic Financial Statements - and Management's Discussion and Analysis for State and Local Governments, issued in June, 1999. The following is a summary of the more significant accounting policies:

Basis of Accounting: The accrual basis of accounting is utilized by the District. Under this method, revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred.

Investments: Investments are stated at cost which approximates market.

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

Bad Debts: An allowance for doubtful accounts is maintained for estimated uncollectible utility receivables. The balance of the allowance account at December 31, 2023 was \$529.

2. *Cash:*

At year end, the carrying amount of the District's cash balance at banks totaled \$1,209,448. Bank balances were \$1,216,657 at year end. The difference is due to outstanding checks at year end. The difference is due to outstanding checks at year end. Bank balances totaling \$587,363 were insured by the FDIC. An additional \$629,294 were collateralized by securities held in the name of the District.

3. *Investments:*

Investments totaled \$677,873 at December 31, 2023. Investments at year end consisted of certificates of deposit and money market accounts. All investments are insured by FDIC insurance.

WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 7

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023

4. *Accounts Receivable:*

Accounts receivable for customer water bills at December 31, 2023, totaled \$85,646 less an allowance for doubtful accounts of \$529.

5. *Fixed Assets:*

A summary of fixed assets follows:

Office Furniture	\$ 57,728
Machinery & Equipment	621,989
Storage Building	82,478
Water System	4,083,722
	<u>4,845,917</u>
Less: Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(2,523,555)</u>
Subtotal	2,322,362
Land	50,200
Net fixed assets	<u><u>\$ 2,372,562</u></u>

Fixed asset additions for the year totaled \$21,771. Depreciation charged to operations for the year ended December 31, 2023 was \$126,031.

6. *Long-Term Debt:*

The following is a summary of debt transactions of Waterworks District No. 7 for the year ended December 31, 2023.

	Balance <u>1/1/2023</u>	<u>Proceeds</u>	<u>Payments</u>	Balance <u>12/31/2023</u>
Water Revenue Bond	\$ 181,105	\$ -	\$ 34,941	\$ 146,164
Bonds Series 2013 B	101,909	-	15,474	86,435
Bonds Series 2013 B-1	366,490	-	14,506	351,984
Bonds Series 2013	29,262	-	29,262	-
	<u>678,766</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>94,183</u>	<u>584,583</u>
Totals	<u><u>\$ 678,766</u></u>	<u><u>\$ -</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 94,183</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 584,583</u></u>

WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 7

Keithville, Louisiana

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023

6. Long-Term Debt: (Continued)

Bonds and notes payable at December 31, 2023, are comprised of the following:

Revenue Bonds - Series 2013B

Note payable to a bank dated September 30, 2013 in the amount of \$262,500, due in monthly installments of \$1,935 October 20, 2013 through July 30, 2023; with a balloon payment of \$92,459 on July 30, 2023; bearing interest at a rate of 3.125%; collateralized by assets of the District. \$ 86,435

Revenue Bonds - Series 2013B-1

Note payable to a bank dated September 30, 2013 in the amount of \$598,000; due in monthly installments of \$3,362 October 20, 2013 through July 30, 2023; with a balloon payment of \$353,897 on July 30, 2023; bearing interest at a rate of 3.15%; collateralized by assets of the District. 351,984

Revenue Bonds - Series 2013

Note payable to a bank dated May 29, 2013 in the amount of \$440,675; due in monthly installments of \$4,095 from July 1, 2013 through August 1, 2023; bearing interest at a rate of 2.5%; collateralized by assets of the District. -

Utility Revenue Bonds

Water Revenue Bonds in the amount of \$369,000 dated July, 2017; due in monthly installments of \$3,727 through July, 2027; bearing interest at a rate of 5%; collateralized by assets of the District. 146,164

Total Notes Payable 584,583

Less: Current Maturities (93,825)

Note Payable - Long-Term \$ 490,758

WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 7

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023

The annual requirements to amortize debt outstanding as of December 31, 2023 including interest payments of \$114,632 are as follows:

<u>Year Ending December 31</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2024	\$ 93,825	\$ 26,866	\$ 120,691
2025	98,228	22,462	120,690
2026	102,843	17,848	120,691
2027	68,139	13,517	81,656
2028	37,333	11,222	48,555
2029 and After	184,215	22,717	206,932
Totals	<u>\$ 584,583</u>	<u>\$ 114,632</u>	<u>\$ 699,215</u>

7. Leases:

The District adopted FASB ASC 842, *Leases* for the year ended December 31, 2022. Under this statements, a lessee is required to recognize a lease liability and an intangible lease right-to-use asset ("ROU").

The District has nine operating leases for plots of land, of which eight are for the production of water and one is for stand pipe. The payment on the leases total \$12,600 per year.

The following schedule summarizes lease information for 2023:

Operating lease expense - \$12,600.

Cash paid for amounts included in the measurement of leases and liabilities for operating leases - \$12,600.

ROU assets obtained in exchanges for lease liabilities - \$-0-.

Weighted average remaining in term (in years) - 30.

Weighted average discount rate - 3.30%.

Maturities for operating as leases are as follows:

<u>Year Ending December 31</u>	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Interest</u>	<u>Total</u>
2024	\$ 4,099	\$ 6,401	\$ 10,500
2025	4,237	6,263	10,500
2026	4,379	6,121	10,500
2027	4,525	5,975	10,500
2028	4,677	5,823	10,500
2029 and After	221,632	79,197	300,829
Totals	<u>243,549</u>	<u>109,780</u>	<u>353,329</u>

WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 7

Notes to Financial Statements

December 31, 2023

8. *Pension Plan:*

The Districted has adopted a SIMPLE plan to benefit its employees. The plan calls for matching contributions up to 3% of gross pay in each calendar year to the SIMPLE IRA accounts of all eligible employees. Eligible employees include those that received at least \$300 in any previous year and expect to receive \$300 during any specific year. Contributions of \$6,954 were paid to the plan for the year ended December 31, 2023, based on eligible wages of \$231,800.

9. *Contingencies:*

From time to time, in the normal course of business, the District is subject to various claims and litigation. Management believes the District has sufficient liability coverage to protect it from material losses.

10. *Subsequent Events:*

Management has evaluated subsequent events through June 4, 2023, the date the financial statements were available to be issued, and determined no additional disclosures are warranted.

WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 7

Schedule of Compensation Paid to Commissioners

For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Steve Milkovich	\$ 1,020
Lonnie Dunn	660
Jewell Wagner	960
Ann Osment	960
Glenda Britton	<u>720</u>
Total	<u><u>\$ 4,320</u></u>

WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 7

Schedule of Compensation, Reimbursements, Benefits, and Other Payments
to Agency Head
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Agency Head: Randy Moulton, Operations Manager

Salary	<u>\$ 105,304</u>
Payroll Taxes	<u>\$ 8,111</u>
Retirement	<u>\$ 3,013</u>
Reimbursements - Mileage	<u>\$ 10,950</u>

WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 7

Corrective Action Taken on Prior Year Findings

Year Ended December 31, 2023

There were no findings for the year ended December 31, 2022.



Marsha O. Millican

A PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTING CORPORATION

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

To the Board of Commissioners
Waterworks District No. 7
Keithville, Louisiana

I have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities of Waterworks District No. 7 as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023 and related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements, and have issued my report thereon dated June 4, 2024.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing my audit of the financial statements, I considered Waterworks District No. 7's internal control over financial reporting to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing my opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, I do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over financial reporting.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the District's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected 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.

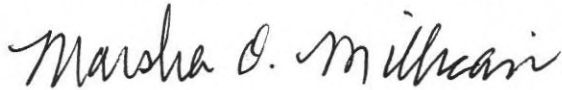
My consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during my audit, I did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that I consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Waterworks District No. 7's financial statements are free of material misstatement, I performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of my audit and, accordingly, I do not express such an opinion. The results of my 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 my testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the District'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 District's internal control and compliance. This communication is not suitable for any other purpose. Although the intended use of this report may be limited, under Louisiana Revised Statutes, it is issued by the Legislative Auditor as a public document.



Certified Public Accountant

June 4, 2024

WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 7

Schedule of Findings

Year Ended December 31, 2023

1. The auditor's report expresses an unmodified opinion on the financial statements.
2. No significant deficiencies in internal accounting control were disclosed during the audit.
3. No instances of noncompliance material to the financial statements of the District were disclosed during the audit.

There were no findings for the year ended December 31, 2023.



Marsha O. Millican

A PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTING CORPORATION

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

To the Board of Commissioners
Waterworks District No. 7
Keithville, Louisiana

I have performed the procedures enumerated below on the control and compliance (C/C) areas identified in the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's (LLA's) Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures (SAUPS) for the fiscal period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. Management of Waterworks District No. 7 (the District) is responsible for those C/C areas identified in the SAUPS.

The Board of Directors of Waterworks District No. 7 has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of the engagement, which is to perform specified procedures on the C/C areas identified in the LLA's SAUPS for the fiscal period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. Additionally, LLA has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate for its purposes. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of this report and may not meet the needs of all users of this report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes.

The procedures and associated findings are as follows:

1) Written Policies and Procedures

- A. Obtain and inspect the entity's written policies and procedures and observe whether they address each of the following categories and subcategories if applicable to public funds and the entity's operations:
- i. **Budgeting**, including preparing, adopting, monitoring, and amending the budget.
 - ii. **Purchasing**, including (1) how purchases are initiated; (2) how vendors are added to the vendor list; (3) the preparation and approval process of purchase requisitions and purchase orders; (4) controls to ensure compliance with 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 conformation).
- 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 reimbursements**, 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 prohibition 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 a 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.

Procedure Results - The entity has written policies and procedures that adequately address each of the categories and subcategories above.

2) Board or Finance Committee

- A. I obtained and inspected 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. I observed 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, I observed that the minutes referenced or included monthly budget-to-actual comparisons on the general fund, quarterly budget-to-actual, at a minimum, on proprietary funds, and semi-annual budget-to-actual, at a minimum, on all special revenue funds. *Alternately, for those entities reporting on the nonprofit accounting model, observe that the minutes referenced or included financial activity relating to the public funds if those public funds comprised more than 10% of the entity's collections during the fiscal period.*
 - iii. For governmental entities, I obtained the prior year audit report and observed 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. I observed 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.

Procedure Results - No exceptions were noted.

3) Bank Reconciliations

- A. I obtained a listing of entity bank accounts for the fiscal period from management and management's representation that the listing is complete. I asked management to identify the entity's main operating account. I selected the entity's main operating account and randomly selected 4 additional accounts (or all accounts if less than 5). I randomly selected one month from the fiscal period, obtained and inspected the corresponding bank statement and reconciliation for each selected accounts, and observed 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/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 that it has researched reconciling items that have been outstanding for more than 12 months from the statement closing date, if applicable.

Procedure Results - No exceptions were noted.

(4 Collections (excluding electronic funds transfers))

- A. I obtained 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. I selected 1 deposit site (there is only 1).
- B. For each deposit site selected, I obtained a listing of collection locations and management's representation that the listing is complete. I selected one collection location for each deposit site (i.e., 1 collection locations for 1 deposit site), obtained and inspected written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if no written policies or procedures, inquire of employees about their job duties) at each collection location, and observed that job duties are properly segregated at each collection location such that:
 - i. Employees responsible for cash collections do not share cash drawers/registers;
 - ii. Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not responsible for preparing/making bank deposits, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling collection documentation (e.g., pre-numbered receipts) to the deposit;
 - iii. Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not also responsible for posting collection entries to the general ledger or subsidiary ledgers, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling ledger postings to each other and to the deposit; and
 - iv. The employee(s) responsible for reconciling cash collections to the general ledger and/or subsidiary ledgers, by revenue source and/or agency fund additions, is (are) not also responsible for collecting cash, unless another employee/official verifies the reconciliation.
- C. Obtain from management a copy of the bond or insurance policy for theft covering all employees who have access to cash. Observe that the bond or insurance policy for theft was in force during the fiscal period.
- D. I randomly selected 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.* I obtained 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.

Procedure Results - No exceptions were noted.

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

- A. I obtained a listing of locations that process payments for the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. I selected 1 location (there is only 1).
- B. For each location selected under procedure #5A above, I obtained a listing of those employees involved with non-payroll purchasing and payment functions. I obtained 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/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 employees/official responsible for signing checks mails the payment or gives the signed checks to an employee to mail who is not responsible for processing payments; and
 - v. Only employees/officials authorized to sign checks approve the electronic disbursement (release) of funds, whether through automated clearinghouse (ACH), electronic funds transfer (EFT), wire transfer, or some other electronic means.

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

- C. For each location selected under procedure #5 above, I obtained the entity's non-payroll disbursement transaction population (excluding cards and travel reimbursements) and obtained management's representation that the population is complete. I randomly selected 5 disbursements for each location, obtained supporting documentation for each transaction, and
- i. Observed whether the disbursement, whether by paper or electronic means, matched the related original itemized invoice and that supporting documentation indicates that deliverables included on the invoice were received by the entity, and
 - ii. Observed 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, I randomly selected 5 non-payroll-related electronic disbursements (or all electronic disbursements if less than 5) and observed that each electronic disbursement was (a) approved by only those persons authorized to disburse funds (e.g., sign checks) per the entity's policy, and (b) approved by the required number of authorized signers per the entity's policy. [Note: If no electronic payments were made from the main operating account during the month selected, the practitioner should select an alternative month and/or account for testing that does include electronic disbursements.

Procedure Results - No exceptions were noted.

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

- A. I obtained 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. I obtained management's representation that the listing is complete.
- B. Using the listing prepared by management, I randomly selected 5 cards (or all cards if less than 5) that were used during the fiscal period. I randomly selected one monthly statement or combined statement for each card (for a debit card, randomly select on monthly bank statement). I obtained supporting documentation, and:
- i. Observed 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. [Note: 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. Observed 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, I randomly select 10 transactions (or all transactions if less than 10) from each statement and obtained supporting documentation for the transactions (e.g., each card should have 10 transactions subject to inspection). For each transaction, I observed 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.

Procedure Results - No exceptions were noted.

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

- A. I obtained 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.

Procedure Results - No exceptions were noted.

8) Contracts

- A. I obtained 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.* I obtained management's representation that the listing is complete. I selected 1 contract (there is only 1) from the listing, excluding the practitioner's contract, and:

- i. Observed 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. Observed that 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), observed 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 was approval documented).
- iv. I randomly selected 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.

Procedure Results - No exceptions were noted.

9) Payroll and Personnel

- A. I obtained a list of employees and officials employed during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. I randomly select 5 employees or officials, obtained related salaries and personnel files, and agreed paid salaries to authorized salaries/ pay rates in the personnel files.
- B. I randomly selected one pay period during the fiscal period. For the 5 employees or officials selected under procedure #9A above, I obtained attendance records and leave documentation for the pay period, and
 - i. Observed that all selected employees or officials documented their daily attendance and leave (e.g., vacation, sick, compensatory);
 - ii. Observed whether supervisors approved the attendance and leave of the selected employees or officials;
 - iii. Observed that any leave accrued or taken during the pay period is reflected in the entity's accumulative leave records; and
 - iv. Observed that the rate paid to the employees or officials agree to the authorized salary/pay rate found within the personnel file.
- C. I obtained 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 employees' or officials' cumulative leave records, agree the pay rates to the employee or officials' authorized pay rates in the employee's or official's personnel files, and agree the termination payment to entity policy.

- D. I obtained 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 the required deadlines.

Procedure Results - No exceptions were noted.

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 entity has appointed an ethics designee as required by R.S. 42:1170.

Procedure Results - No exceptions were noted.

11) Debt Service

- A. I obtained 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. I obtained 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).

Procedure Results - No exceptions were noted.

12) Fraud Notice

- A. I obtained a listing of misappropriation 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 to the district attorney of the parish in which the entity is domiciled as required by R.S. 24:523.
- B. I observed 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.

Procedure Results - No exceptions were noted.

13) Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity

- A. Perform the following procedures, **verbally discuss the results with management, and report, "I performed the procedure and discussed the results with management."**
- i. I obtained and inspected 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. I obtained and inspected 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. I obtained 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. I Randomly selected 5 terminated employees (or all terminated employees if less than 5) using the list of terminated employees obtained in procedure #9C. I observed 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, I obtained cybersecurity training documentation from management, and observed the documentation demonstrates that the following employees/officials with access to the agency's information technology assets have completed cybersecurity 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.

"I performed the procedure 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, I obtained sexual harassment training documentation from management, and observed 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. I observed 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. I obtained the entity's annual sexual harassment report for the current fiscal period, observed that the report was dated on or before February 1, and observed that the report includes the applicable requirements of R.S. 42:344:
 - i. Number and percentage of public servants in the entity who have completed the training requirements.;
 - ii. Number of sexual harassment complaints received by the entity;
 - 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.

Procedure Results - No exceptions were noted.

I was engaged by the District to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted my engagement in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and applicable standards of *Government Auditing Standards*. I was 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, I do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had I performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to my attention that would have been reported to you.

I am required to be independent of the District and to meet my other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to my 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.

Marsha D. Michican

Certified Public Accountant

June 4, 2024