

ST. MARTIN PARISH WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 3
Cade, Louisiana

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORTS

Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

ST. MARTIN PARISH WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 3

Cade, Louisiana

December 31, 2023

CONTENTS

	<u>Exhibit</u>	<u>Page No.</u>
Independent Auditors' Report		1-3
Basic Financial Statements:		
Statements of Net Position	A	4
Statements of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position	B	5
Statements of Cash Flows	C	6
Notes to Basic Financial Statements		7-18
Other Information		19
Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to Agency Head		20
Internal Control, Compliance and Other Matters:		
Independent Auditors' Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>		21-22
Schedule of Findings, Questioned Costs and Management's Corrective Action Plan		23-24
Summary Schedule of Prior Findings		25

MARAIST & MARAIST

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

(A PARTNERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTING CORPORATIONS)

215 S. MAIN STREET

ST. MARTINVILLE, LOUISIANA 70582

TELEPHONE: (337) 394-5571 • FAX: (337) 394-1720

CHARLES M. MARAIST, CPA*
CHARLES M. MARAIST, JR. CPA*
REGINA B. MARAIST, CPA*
*A PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTING CORPORATION

MEMBERS
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
SOCIETY OF
LOUISIANA CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board Members of the Waterworks
District No.3 of St. Martin Parish, LA
Cade, Louisiana 70519

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the business-type activities of the St. Martin Parish Waterworks District No. 3(the District), a component unit of the St. Martin Parish Government as of and for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the business-type activities the St. Martin Parish Waterworks District No. 3 as of December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the years 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 and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes 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

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 generally accepted auditing standards and

Governmental Auditing Standards will always detect material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

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

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

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

Required Supplementary Information

The St. Martin Parish Waterworks District No. 3 has omitted management's discussion and analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

Other Information

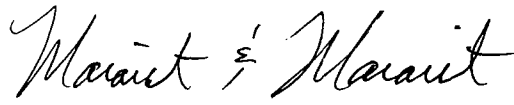
Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the St. Martin Parish Waterworks District No. 3's basic financial statements. The *Schedule of Compensation, Benefits, and Other Payments to Agency Head* on pages 19-20 is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The *Schedule of Compensation, Benefits, and Other Payments to Agency Head* 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. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional

procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the *Schedule of Compensation, Benefits, and Other Payments to Agency Head* 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 a report dated May 22, 2024 on our consideration of the St. Martin Parish Waterworks District No. 3's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the 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.



MARAIST & MARAIST
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

St. Martinville, Louisiana
May 22, 2024

ST. MARTIN PARISH WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 3
STATEMENTS OF NET POSITION
December 31, 2023 and 2022

Exhibit A
BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES
PROPRIETARY FUND

<u>ASSETS</u>	<u>12/31/23</u>	<u>12/31/22</u>
Current Assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 78,841	\$ 34,501
Accounts receivable	37,665	51,065
Prepaid expenses	10,972	9,638
Total current assets	\$ 127,478	\$ 95,204
Noncurrent Assets:		
Restricted cash and cash equivalents	919,415	971,887
Capital Assets, at cost, (net of accumulated depreciation of \$1,962,324 at 12/31/23 and \$1,848,102 at 12/31/22)	2,670,468	2,784,690
TOTAL ASSETS	\$ 3,717,361	\$ 3,851,781
<u>LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION</u>		
Current Liabilities(from current assets):		
Accounts payable	\$ 53,375	\$ 12,761
Payroll tax payable	-	1,100
Sales tax payable	393	-
Intergovernmental payables-St. Martin Parish Gov't.	30,020	9,035
Total current liabilities (from current assets)	\$ 83,788	\$ 22,896
Current Liabilities (from restricted assets):		
Customer deposits	\$ 83,050	\$ 81,450
Accrued interest payable	2,621	2,701
Notes payable-RDA (current portion)	44,724	42,760
Total current liabilities (from restricted assets)	\$ 130,395	\$ 126,911
Long-Term Liabilities:		
Notes Payable-RDA (long-term portion)	\$ 1,372,806	\$ 1,417,533
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$ 1,586,989	\$ 1,567,340
Net Position:		
Investment in capital assets	\$ 1,250,316	\$ 1,321,696
Restricted for debt service/contingency	446,728	514,671
Unrestricted/ (Deficit)	433,328	448,074
TOTAL NET POSITION	\$ 2,130,372	\$ 2,284,441

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

ST. MARTIN PARISH WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 3
STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND
CHANGES IN NET POSITION

For the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

Exhibit B
BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES
PROPRIETARY FUND

<u>OPERATING REVENUES:</u>	<u>FYE 12/31/23</u>	<u>FYE 12/31/22</u>
Water and waste fees	\$ 510,560	\$ 497,955
Meter sales	6,570	17,167
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	\$ 517,130	\$ 515,122
<u>OPERATING EXPENSE:</u>		
Sewerage fees	\$ 17,136	\$ 10,460
Payroll expense	68,297	69,197
Chemicals	112,690	73,048
Insurance expense	17,909	29,570
Merchant/bank fees	1,899	1,481
Repair and maintenance	35,687	46,909
Depreciation expense	114,222	114,222
Computer/internet fees	9,893	7,619
Professional fees	129,834	93,397
Supplies	17,850	24,918
Dues and subscriptions	2,869	4,189
Utilities and telephone	42,189	38,084
Contractual services	17,590	17,041
Office expense	8,165	8,625
Advertising expense	-	161
Equipment rental	6,078	3,741
Travel & training expense	4,135	2,488
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$ 606,443	\$ 545,155
OPERATING INCOME/(LOSS)	\$ (89,313)	\$ (30,033)
<u>NONOPERATING REVENUES/(EXPENSES)</u>		
Intergovernmental transfer	\$ -0-	\$ -0-
Interest expense	(64,756)	(66,638)
TOTAL NONOPERATING REVENUES/EXPENSES	\$ (64,756)	\$ (66,638)
CHANGE IN NET POSITION	\$ (154,069)	\$ (96,671)
NET POSITION, BEGINNING	2,284,441	2,381,112
NET POSITION, ENDING	\$ 2,130,372	\$ 2,284,441

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

ST. MARTIN PARISH WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 3
STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

For the Years Ended December 31, 2023 and 2022

Exhibit C
BUSINESS-TYPE ACTIVITIES
PROPRIETARY FUND

	FYE 12/31/22	FYE 12/31/21
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Receipts from customers	\$ 532,523	\$ 513,817
Receipts from operating grants	-0-	-0-
Payments to suppliers	(316,273)	(305,503)
Payments to employees	(67,783)	(68,975)
	\$ 148,467	\$ 139,339
CASH FLOWS FROM CAPITAL AND RELATED FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Repayment of loan principal	\$ (42,763)	\$ (40,884)
Interest paid on bonds/notes payable	(64,836)	(66,713)
Repayment of intergovernmental loans	(49,000)	(70,000)
Acquisition of capital assets	-0-	-0-
	\$ (156,599)	\$ (177,597)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:	\$ -0-	\$ -0-
NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	\$ (8,132)	\$ (38,258)
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	1,006,388	1,044,646
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS, END OF YEAR	\$ 998,256	\$ 1,006,388
RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING INCOME/(LOSS) TO NET CASH PROVIDED/(USED) BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Operating income/(loss)	\$ (89,313)	\$ (30,033)
Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net cash provided/(used) by operating activities:		
Depreciation expense	114,222	114,222
Changes in net assets and liabilities:		
Receivables, net	13,400	(4,055)
Prepaid expenses	(1,334)	(1,406)
Accounts payable	40,614	(13,528)
Customer deposits	1,600	2,750
Sales tax payable	393	(286)
Payroll liabilities	(1,100)	222
Intergovernmental payables	69,985	71,453
Net cash provided/(used) by operating activities	\$ 148,467	\$ 139,339
Reconciliation of Total Cash:		
Current assets – cash	\$ 78,841	\$ 34,501
Restricted assets – cash	919,415	971,887
Total Cash	\$ 998,256	\$ 1,006,388

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

ST. MARTIN PARISH WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 3

Cade, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

December 31, 2023

(1) GENERAL STATEMENT & SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

General Statement

The Waterworks District No. 3 of St. Martin Parish, Louisiana is a component unit of the St. Martin Parish Government. The waterworks district was established in 2001 as authorized by Chapter 9 of Title 33 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to acquire and make improvements to the Cade Water System, in order to provide the rural areas of southwestern St. Martin Parish with a quality water supply and distribution system to supply rural residents with potable drinking water for domestic, livestock, garden, industrial and commercial purposes. The basic operations of the Waterworks District are financed by charges to customers based upon water consumption. The Waterworks District is governed by a board of control composed of five members which is appointed by the parish government. The members of the board of control serve without compensation.

Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The accounting and reporting policies of the Waterworks District #3 of St. Martin Parish (the Waterworks District) conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governments(GAAP). GAAP includes all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board(GASB) pronouncements. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board(GASB) is responsible for establishing GAAP for state and local governments through its pronouncements(Statements and Interpretations).

The following significant accounting policies were applied in the preparation of the accompanying financial statements:

(A) Financial Reporting Entity

As the governing authority of the parish, for reporting purposes, the St. Martin Parish Government is the financial reporting entity for St. Martin Parish. The financial reporting entity consists of (a) the primary government (Parish Government), (b) organizations for which the primary government is financially accountable, and (c) other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the primary government are such that exclusion would cause the reporting entity's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete.

ST. MARTIN PARISH WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 3
Cade, Louisiana
Notes to Basic Financial Statements(continued)

Because the parish government appoints the District's governing body, the St. Martin Parish Waterworks District No. 3 was determined to be a component unit of the St. Martin Parish Government, the financial reporting entity. The accompanying component unit financial statements present information only on the proprietary fund maintained by the District and do not present information on the parish government, the general government services provided by that governmental unit, or the other governmental units that comprise the financial reporting entity.

(B) Basis of Presentation (Government-Wide Financial Statements)

The accompanying financial statements of the Waterworks District No. 3 of St. Martin Parish have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applied to governmental entities and as a governmental entity provides certain disclosures required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board.

The statement of net position and statement of revenue, expenses and changes in net position display information about the St. Martin Parish Waterworks District No. 3, as a whole. They include all funds of the reporting entity. The statements distinguish between governmental and business-type activities. Governmental activities, which normally are supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from business-type activities, which rely to a significant extent on fees and charges for support. St. Martin Parish Waterworks District No. 3 does not have governmental activities. It's operation is a business-type activity.

(C) Fund Accounting

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

ST. MARTIN PARISH WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 3
Cade, Louisiana
Notes to Basic Financial Statements(continued)

The District maintains only one fund and it is described below:

Proprietary Fund (Enterprise Fund)

Proprietary funds are used to account for operations that (a)are financed and operated in a manner similar to private business enterprises – where the intent of the governing body is that the costs (expenses, including depreciation) of providing goods or services to the general public on a continuing basis be financed or recovered primarily through user charges; or (b)where the governing body has decided that the periodic determination of revenues earned, expenses incurred, and/or net income is appropriate for capital maintenance, public policy, management control, accountability, or other purposes.

(D) Measurement Focus/Basis of Accounting

Measurement focus is a term used to describe “which” transactions are recorded within the various financial statements. Basis of accounting refers to “when” transactions are recorded regardless of the measurement focus applied.

Measurement Focus

The enterprise fund utilizes an “economic resources” measurement focus. The accounting objectives of this measurement focus are the determination of operating income, changes in net position (or cost recovery), financial position and cash flows. All assets and liabilities (whether current or noncurrent) associated with their activities are reported. Proprietary fund equity is classified as net position, and is displayed in three components:

- (1)Net investment in capital assets-Consists of capital assets including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.
- (2)Restricted net position-Consists of restricted assets reduced by liabilities and deferred inflows of resources related to those assets. Constraints may be placed on the use, either by (a)external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (b)law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- (3)Unrestricted net position-Net amount of the assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources that are not included in either of the other two categories of net position.

ST MARTIN PARISH WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 3
Cade, Louisiana
Notes to Basic Financial Statements(continued)

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

Basis of Accounting

The proprietary fund statements are presented using the accrual basis of accounting. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when the liability is incurred or economic asset used. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources resulting from exchange and exchange-like transactions are recognized when the exchange takes place. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred 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 Nonexchange Transactions*.

Purchases of operating supplies are regarded as expenditures at the time purchased and inventories of such supplies (if any) are not recorded as assets at the close of the fiscal year, unless material. Payments made to vendors for services that will benefit periods beyond year end are recorded as prepaid items.

Operating revenues and expense reported in the proprietary fund financial statements are those that result from providing services and producing and delivering goods and/or services. It also includes all revenues and expenses not related to capital and related financing, non-capital financing or investing activities.

(E) Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources

In some instances, the GASB requires a government to delay recognition of decreases in net position as expenditures until a future period. In other instances, governments are required to delay recognition of increased in net position as revenues until a future period. In these circumstances, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources result from delayed recognition of expenditures or revenues, respectively. There were no deferred outflows of resources or deferred inflows of resources as of December 31, 2023 or December 31, 2022.

ST MARTIN PARISH WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 3
Cade, Louisiana
Notes to Basic Financial Statements(continued)

(F) Compensated Absences

The Waterworks District does not grant compensated absences to any of its employees, either in the form of sick leave or vacation leave. The District utilizes a shared employee, who is employed of the St. Martin Parish Government. The District is billed monthly for an allocable portion of this employee’s payroll and benefit cost, but is not directly liable for benefit costs associated with the employee. Therefore, no liability for compensated absences has been recorded.

(2) CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS:

Cash includes amounts in demand deposits and interest-bearing deposits. Under state law, the District may deposit funds in demand deposits, interest-bearing demand deposits, or time deposits with state banks organized under Louisiana law or any other state of the United States, or under the laws of the United States.

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of the failure of the depository financial institution, the District’s deposits may not be recovered or will not be able to recover the collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. These deposits are stated at cost, which approximates market. Under state law, these deposits, (or the resulting balances) must be secured by federal deposit insurance or similar federal security or the pledge of securities owned by the fiscal agent bank. The market value of the pledged securities plus the federal deposit insurance must at all times equal the amount on deposit with the fiscal agent bank. The District does not have a policy for custodial credit risk.

The carrying amount of cash and cash equivalents are displayed on the balance sheet as follows:

	<u>Book Balance</u>	
<u>Unrestricted:</u>	12/31/23	12/31/22
Revenue account – checking	\$ 78,841	\$ 34,501
<u>Restricted:</u>		
Reserve note fund – checking	129,487	129,502
Contingency account fund – checking	317,241	385,169
Meter deposit fund – checking	254,151	248,680
Security deposit fund – checking	218,536	208,536
	\$ 998,256	\$ 1,006,388

Deposits with banks(collected bank balances) are categorized to give an indication of the level of risk at December 31, 2023 and 2022 as follows:

	12/31/23	12/31/22
Federal Insurance(FDIC)	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000
Pledged securities held by custodial bank	767,074	765,569
Totals	\$ 1,017,074	\$ 1,015,569

ST MARTIN PARISH WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 3

Cade, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements(continued)

(3) ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE AND UNCOLLECTIBLE CHARGES

The Waterworks District No. 3 does not maintain an allowance for estimated uncollectible accounts. When an account is determined uncollectible it is deducted from the accounts receivable and charged against customer deposits initially, and the remaining balance charged to uncollectible water revenues. Due to the small monetary amounts involved, and the availability of customer deposits to offset against any unpaid water bills, this method yields results which are not materially different from the allowance method of accounting for uncollectible receivables.

St. Martin Waterworks District No. 3's accounts receivable consist of uncollected billed utility services. An accounts receivable aging schedule, together with pertinent water system operating data, is as follows:

<u>Days</u>	12/31/23	12/31/22
	<u>Amounts</u>	<u>Amounts</u>
0-90	\$ 37,665	\$ 49,071
91 and older	-	1,994
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$ 37,665</u>	<u>\$ 51,065</u>

Breakdown of active customers:

Residential	898	911
Commercial	180	180
<u>Total</u>	<u>1,078</u>	<u>1,091</u>

The present water billing rate schedule is as follows:

<u>Residential monthly billing</u>	
First 2,000 gallons (minimum)	\$15.50
Over 2,000 gallons (per 1,000 gallons)	\$4.60
<u>Commercial monthly billing</u>	
First 2,000 gallons (minimum)	\$20.00
Over 2,000 gallons (per 1,000 gallons)	\$4.60

(4) CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital assets purchased or acquired with an original cost of \$5,000 or more are reported at historical costs or estimated historical cost. Contributed assets are reported at fair market value as of the date received. Additions, improvements and other capital outlays that significantly extend the useful life of an asset are capitalized. Other costs incurred for repairs and maintenance are expensed as

ST MARTIN PARISH WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 3
Cade, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements(continued)

incurred. Interest costs during construction are not capitalized. Depreciation on all assets is computed on the straight-line basis over the following service lives:

Buildings	20-30 years
Water System	40-50 years
Furniture, Fixtures & Equipment	5-10 years
Improvements	20-25 years

The following is a summary of the capital assets of the Proprietary Fund at December 31, 2023:

	Beginning Balance 01/01/23	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance 12/31/23
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land	\$ 199,000			\$ 199,000
Other capital assets:				
Treatment plants and buildings and water distribution system	4,425,436			4,425,436
Office equipment	8,356			8,356
Totals	<u>\$ 4,632,792</u>			<u>\$ 4,632,792</u>
Less: Accumulated depreciation for				
Treatment plants and buildings and water distribution system	\$ 1,842,608	\$ 113,446		\$ 1,956,054
Office equipment	5,494	776		6,270
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>\$ 1,848,102</u>	<u>\$ 114,222</u>		<u>\$ 1,962,324</u>
Capital assets, net	<u>\$ 2,784,690</u>	<u>\$ (114,222)</u>		<u>\$ 2,670,468</u>

The following is a summary of the capital assets of the Proprietary Fund at December 31, 2022:

	Beginning Balance 01/01/22	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance 12/31/22
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land	\$ 199,000			\$ 199,000
Other capital assets:				
Treatment plants and buildings and water distribution system	4,425,436			4,425,436
Office equipment	8,356			8,356
Totals	<u>\$ 4,632,792</u>	<u>\$</u>		<u>\$ 4,632,792</u>
Less: Accumulated depreciation for				
Treatment plants and buildings and water distribution system	\$ 1,729,160	\$ 113,448		\$ 1,842,608
Office equipment	4,720	774		5,494
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>\$ 1,733,880</u>	<u>\$ 114,222</u>		<u>\$ 1,848,102</u>
Capital assets, net	<u>\$ 2,898,912</u>	<u>\$ (114,222)</u>		<u>\$ 2,784,690</u>

ST MARTIN PARISH WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 3
Cade, Louisiana
Notes to Basic Financial Statements(continued)

(5) LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

The following is a summary of the long-term debt transactions and balances of the Waterworks District No. 3.

	<u>Balance</u> <u>12/31/23</u>
\$1,390,000 Water Revenue Bonds, due in monthly installments of \$6,310.60 through January 16, 2044, bearing interest of 4 ½%, to be retired from excess annual water revenues.	\$ 997,654
\$431,000 Water Revenue Bonds, due in monthly installments of \$1,956.74 through January 16, 2044, bearing interest of 4 ½%, to be retired from excess annual water revenues.	309,345
\$154,000 Water Revenue Bonds, due in monthly installments of \$699.16 through January 16, 2044, bearing interest of 4 ½% to be retired from excess annual water revenues.	110,531
Total	<u>\$ 1,417,530</u>
Balance—12/31/21	\$ 1,501,177
Principal reductions-FYE 12/22	<u>(40,884)</u>
Balance—12/31/22	\$ 1,460,293
Principal reductions-FYE 12/23	<u>(42,763)</u>
Balance—12/31/23	<u>\$ 1,417,530</u>

ST MARTIN PARISH WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 3
Cade, Louisiana
Notes to Basic Financial Statements(continued)

The annual requirements to amortize revenue bonds outstanding at December 31, 2023, are as follows:

<u>Year Ended</u> <u>December 31,</u>	<u>Totals</u>
2024	\$ 107,598
2025	107,598
2026	107,598
2027	107,598
2028	107,598
2029—2033	537,990
2034—2038	537,990
2039—2043	537,990
2044	<u>583</u>
Total principal & interest	\$ 2,152,543
Less: Interest	<u>735,013</u>
Balance at December 31, 2023	<u><u>\$ 1,417,530</u></u>

(6) RESTRICTED ASSETS

Certain assets of the Waterworks District No. 3 are restricted under the terms of the Loan Resolution Security Agreement with the United States Office of Rural Development. All funds received shall be pledged for the purpose of the following funds and shall be set aside into the following separate accounts:

All revenue received shall be set aside in an account to be designated as the General Revenue Account. The General Revenue Account shall be used to make the monthly debt service payments plus operating and maintenance expenses.

From the remaining funds in the General Revenue Account there shall be set aside into an account designated as the Reserve Account the sum of \$449 each month until there is accumulated in that account the sum of \$107,598 after which deposits may be suspended, except to replace withdrawals. Similarly, there shall be set aside into an account designated as the Contingency Account the sum of \$449 each month until the amount on deposit in the Reserve Account reaches \$107,598, after which deposits into the Contingency Account will increase to \$897 per month.

ST MARTIN PARISH WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 3
Cade, Louisiana
Notes to Basic Financial Statements(continued)

All of the revenues received in any fiscal year and that are not required to be paid into any of the above noted funds in such fiscal year shall be regarded as surplus and may be used for any lawful purpose.

The customer security deposit account represents refundable deposits collected from customers requesting service connection. The customer security deposit account totaled \$218,536 at December 31, 2023. There is an amount due the general revenue account from the customer security deposit account in the amount of \$135,486 at December 31, 2023.

Compliance with Water Revenue Bonds Restrictions

As of December 31, 2023, the Waterworks District No. 3 is in compliance with all significant limitations and restrictions set forth in the issuance of the outstanding water revenue bonds.

(7) RETIREMENT PLANS

The District is allocated the costs of a shared employee, who is employed by the St. Martin Parish Government. That employee is a member of the Parochial Employee Retirement System. The District is billed monthly for an allocable portion of this employee's payroll and benefit cost, but is not directly liable for benefit costs associated with the employee. The District maintains no supplemental retirement or pension plans with respect to this employee.

(8) COMPENSATION OF BOARD MEMBERS

The names and contact information for the members of the board of control, who do not receive compensation or per diem payments, are as follows:

Cynthia Victor – President
P. O. Box 147 - Cade, LA
(337)519-1136

John Hayes – Vice President
1012 Donald Dr. - St. Martinville, LA
(337)367-1567

Roland Kerlegan – Member
P. O. Box 816 - St. Martinville, LA
(337)277-4448

Nikki Girouard - Board Member
1688 Smede Hwy.- Cade, LA
(337)367-1567

Brigid Zacharie – Board Member
P. O. Box 96-Cade, LA (337)364-3861

All board members serve concurrently for a term of three years. The term of the current board of directors expires on July 2, 2024.

ST MARTIN PARISH WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 3
Cade, Louisiana
Notes to Basic Financial Statements(continued)

(9) RISK MANAGEMENT

The Waterworks District is exposed to risks of loss in the areas of health care, workers' compensation, general and auto liability, and property hazards. These risks are handled by purchasing commercial insurance. There have been no significant reductions in these insurance coverages during the current fiscal year, nor have settlements exceeded insurance coverage for the current or prior two fiscal years. A summary of coverage maintained at December 31, 2023 consists of:

Coverage Provided For	Limits of Coverage (in dollars)	Description of limits	Expiration Date
Fidelity Bond	\$ 107,598	Per officer	07/12/24
Commercial General Liability	\$ 1,000,000	Each occurrence	07/22/24
	\$ 100,000	Fire damage limit	
	\$ 5,000	Medical expense limit	
	\$ 1,000,000	Personal and advertising injury limit	
	\$ 3,000,000	General aggregate limit	
	\$ 1,000,000	Products – completed operations aggregated	
Commercial Property	\$ 1,306,669	Buildings, water wells, and Tanks	07/22/24
Commercial Auto Coverage	\$ 1,000,000	Liability	07/22/24
	\$ 1,000,000	Uninsured motorist	
Workers Compensation	\$ 500,000	Bodily injury	07/23/24

(10) CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

The Waterworks District has no contingent liability exposure of which management is aware as of 12/31/23.

ST MARTIN PARISH WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 3

Cade, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements(continued)

(11) ESTIMATES

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual costs could differ from those estimates.

(12) OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS(OPEB)

For the year ended December 31, 2023, GASB 45 requires all governmental agencies to disclose life, health, and deferred compensation benefits to retirees. When an employee retires from the Water District, there are no future costs incurred by the District for other post-employment benefits. Due to this fact, OPEB has no impact on the Statement of Net Position or the Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Net Position of the St. Martin Parish Waterworks District No. 3.

(13) SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Subsequent events were evaluated through May 22, 2024, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued. As of May 22, 2024, there were no subsequent events noted.

Other Information

Waterworks District No. 3 of St. Martin Parish
 Schedule of Compensation, Benefits, and Other Payments
 To Agency Head
 For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Agency Head Name: Cynthia Victor, Board President

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Salary	\$ -
Benefits-insurance	-
Benefits-retirement	-
Benefits-other	-
Car allowance	-
Vehicle provided by government	-
Per diem	300
Reimbursements	-
Conference travel	135
Continuing professional education	-
Housing	-
Unvouchered expenses	-
Meals	-
 Total	 <u>\$ 435</u>

MARAIST & MARAIST

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
(A PARTNERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTING CORPORATIONS)

215 S. MAIN STREET
ST. MARTINVILLE, LOUISIANA 70582
TELEPHONE: (337) 394-5571 • FAX: (337) 394-1720

CHARLES M. MARAIST, CPA*
CHARLES M. MARAIST, JR. CPA*
REGINA B. MARAIST, CPA*
*A PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTING CORPORATION

MEMBERS
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
SOCIETY OF
LOUISIANA CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

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

To the Board Members of the Waterworks
District No. 3 of St. Martin Parish, Louisiana
Cade, Louisiana 70519

We have audited, 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, the financial statements of the business-type activities of the Waterworks District No. 3 of St. Martin Parish, Louisiana, a component unit of the St. Martin Parish Government, as of and for the years ended December 31, 2023 and 2022, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Waterworks District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated May 22, 2024.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered the Waterworks District No. 3 of St. Martin Parish, Louisiana's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Waterworks District No. 3 of St. Martin Parish, Louisiana's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Waterworks District No. 3 of St. Martin Parish, Louisiana'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 reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the District's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. *A significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Our consideration of internal control over financial reporting was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be *material weaknesses* or *significant deficiencies* and therefore, *material weaknesses* or *significant deficiencies* may exist that were not identified. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be *material weaknesses*. We did identify certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings, questioned costs, and management's corrective action plan as Item 23/1 and 23/2, which we consider to be *significant deficiencies*.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Waterworks District's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. 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 non-compliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Waterworks District No. 3 of St. Martin Parish's Response to Findings

The Waterworks District's responses to the findings identified in our audit are described in the accompanying summary schedule of findings, questioned costs and management's corrective action plan. We did not audit the Waterworks District's responses, and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

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 Waterworks 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 Waterworks District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose. However, under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513 this report is distributed by the Legislative Auditor as a public document.


MARAIST & MARAIST
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

St. Martinville, Louisiana
May 22, 2024

WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 3
of St. Martin Parish, Louisiana
Cade, Louisiana
Schedule of Findings, Questioned Costs
And Management's Corrective Action Plan
Year Ended December 31, 2023

Part I: SUMMARY OF AUDIT RESULTS

1. The auditor's report expresses an unmodified opinion on the financial statements of the St. Martin Parish Waterworks District No. 3.
2. Two significant deficiencies in internal control over financial reporting relating to the audit of the financial statements were reported in the *Independent Auditors' Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards*. Items 23/1 and 23/2 are considered to be a significant deficiencies.
3. No instances of noncompliance relating to the audit of the financial statements are reported in the *Independent Auditors' Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards*.
4. No management letter was issued for the St. Martin Parish Waterworks District No. 3 as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023.
5. There was no single audit required under the 2CFR 200.516(a) (Uniform Guidance).

Part II: 2023 FINDINGS – FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT

23/1 – Inadequate Segregation of Accounting Duties

Condition

The Waterworks District No. 3 does not have an adequate segregation of duties within the accounting system.

Criteria

Segregation of conflicting duties within accounting functions is a basic required internal control.

Cause

The cause of the condition is the fact that the District does not have a sufficient number of staff performing administrative and financial duties so as to provide adequate segregation of accounting and financial duties.

WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 3
of St. Martin Parish, Louisiana
Cade, Louisiana
Schedule of Findings, Questioned Costs
And Management's Corrective Action Plan (Continued)
Year Ended December 31, 2023

Effect

Failure to adequately segregate accounting and financial functions increases the risk that errors and/or irregularities, including fraud and/or defalcations, may occur and not be prevented and/or detected.

Recommendation

Based upon the size of the operation and the cost-benefit of additional personnel, it is not feasible to achieve complete segregation of duties within the accounting system. Management should, whenever possible, reassign incompatible duties among different employees to ensure that a single employee does not have a control of more than one of the following responsibilities: (1) authorization; (2) custody; (3) record keeping; (4) reconciliation.

23/2 – Application of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles(GAAP)

Condition

Management and staff lack the expertise and/or experience in the selection and application of generally accepted accounting principles, as applicable to governmental entities in the financial statement preparation process.

Criteria

The District's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that pertain to its ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial data consistent with the assertions embodied in the financial statements, including the ability of its management and staff to detect potential misstatements that may exist in the financial statements and related disclosures.

Cause

The cause of the condition results from the reliance on the external auditors as part of the internal control process.

Effect

Financial statements and related supporting transactions may reflect a departure from generally accepted accounting principles.

Recommendation

Management should evaluate the additional costs required to achieve the desired benefit and determine if it is economically feasible in relation to the benefit received.

Part III: FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

Not Applicable

WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 3
of St. Martin Parish, Louisiana
Cade, Louisiana
Schedule of Findings, Questioned Costs
And Management's Corrective Action Plan (Continued)
Year Ended December 31, 2023

Part IV: MANAGEMENT'S CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

Finding 23/1

Inadequate segregation of accounting functions.

Planned Corrective Action-The District has provided as much segregation as possible with the resources available. All efforts are given to segregate duties where feasible. In an effort to establish more sound controls, the Board of the District monitors activity and balances in all fund accounts.

Finding 23/2

Application of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles(GAAP)

Planned Corrective Action-The District has considered this weakness and determined that it would not be cost effective at this time to employ or contract the appropriate personnel to remove this deficiency.

WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 3
of St. Martin Parish, Louisiana
Cade, Louisiana
Summary Schedule of Prior Findings
Year Ended December 31, 2023

Part I: INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE MATERIAL TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

22/1 – Inadequate Segregation of Accounting Functions

Management is aware of and has evaluated this inadequacy and concluded that the related costs versus benefits to be achieved does not justify the additional personnel it would require to establish an adequate segregation.

22/2 – Application of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles(GAAP)

Management is aware of and has evaluated this deficiency and concluded that it would not be cost effective at this time to employ the requisite personnel it would require to remove this deficiency.

Part II: FEDERAL AWARD FINDINGS AND QUESTIONED COSTS

Not applicable.

Part III: MANAGEMENT LETTER

No prior year findings.

ST. MARTIN PARISH WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 3

STATEWIDE AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES REPORT

Year Ended December 31, 2023

MARAIST & MARAIST

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
(A PARTNERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTING CORPORATIONS)

215 S. MAIN STREET
ST. MARTINVILLE, LOUISIANA 70582
TELEPHONE: (337) 394-5571 • FAX: (337) 394-1720

CHARLES M. MARAIST, CPA*
CHARLES M. MARAIST, JR. CPA*
REGINA B. MARAIST, CPA*
*A PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTING CORPORATION

MEMBERS
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
SOCIETY OF
LOUISIANA CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

To the Board of Members of the Waterworks
District No. 3 of St. Martin Parish, LA
and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, which were agreed to by the St. Martin Parish Waterworks District No. 3 and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor (LLA) on the control and compliance (C/C) areas identified in the LLA's Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures (SAUPs) for the fiscal period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. The Waterworks District No. 3's management is responsible for those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs.

This agreed-upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and applicable standards of Government Auditing Standards. The sufficiency of these procedures is solely the responsibility of the specified users of this report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

The procedures and associated findings are as follows:

Written Policies and Procedures

1. We obtained and inspected the entity's written policies and procedures and observed whether they address each of the following categories and subcategories (or reported that the entity does not have any written policies and procedures), as applicable:
 - a) ***Budgeting***, including preparing, adopting, monitoring, and amending the budget
 - b) ***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.
 - c) ***Disbursements***, including processing, reviewing, and approving
 - d) ***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).

- e) **Payroll/Personnel**, including (1) payroll processing, and (2) reviewing and approving time and attendance records, including leave and overtime worked, and (3) approval process for employee(s) rate of pay or approval and maintenance of pay rate schedules.
- f) **Credit Cards (and debit cards, fuel cards, P-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).
- g) **Contracting**, including (1) types of services requiring written contracts, (2) standard terms and conditions, (3) legal review, (4) approval process, and (5) monitoring process.
- h) **Travel and expense reimbursement**, including (1) allowable expenses, (2) dollar thresholds by category of expense, (3) documentation requirements, and (4) required approvers.
- i) **Ethics**, including (1) the prohibitions as defined in Louisiana Revised Statute 42:1111-1121, (2) actions to be taken if an ethics violation takes place, (3) system to monitor possible ethics violations, and (4) requirement that documentation is maintained to demonstrate that all employees and officials were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy.
- j) **Debt Service**, including (1) debt issuance approval, (2) continuing disclosure/EMMA reporting requirements, (3) debt reserve requirements, and (4) debt service requirements.
- k) **Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity**, including (1) identification of critical data and frequency of data backups, (2) restoring of backups in a separate physical location isolated from the network, (3) periodic testing/verification that backups can be restored, (4) use of antivirus patches/updates, (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.
- l) **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 – No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

Board or Finance Committee

- 2. We 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:
 - a) Observed whether 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.

- b) For those entities reporting on the governmental accounting model, observed 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.
- c) 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.
- d) Observed whether the board/finance committee received written updates of the progress of resolving audit finding(s), according to management's corrective plan at each meeting until the findings are considered fully resolved.

Procedure Results – No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

Bank Reconciliations

- 3. We obtained a listing of client bank accounts for the fiscal period from management and management's representation that the listing is complete. We asked management to identify the entity's main operating account. We selected the entity's main operating account and randomly selected 4 additional accounts (or all accounts if less than 5). We randomly selected one month from the fiscal period, obtained and inspected the corresponding bank statement and reconciliation for each selected account, and observed whether:
 - a) Bank reconciliations include evidence that they were prepared within 2 months of the related statement closing date (e.g., initialed and dated, electronically logged);
 - b) Bank reconciliations include evidence that a member of management/board member who does not handle cash, post ledgers, or issue checks has reviewed each bank reconciliation (e.g., initialed and dated, electronically logged); and
 - c) 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 – Bank reconciliations selected did not include evidence that they were prepared within 2 months of the related statement, or that a member of management has reviewed same. Also, several outstanding items older than 12 months from the statement closing date have not been appropriately reconciled and disposed of.

Collections

4. We 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. We randomly selected 5 deposit sites (all deposit sites if less than 5).
5. For each deposit site selected, we obtained a listing of collection locations and management's representation that the listing is complete. We randomly selected one collection location for each deposit site (i.e. 5 collection locations for 5 deposit sites), obtained and inspected written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if no written policies or procedures, we inquired of employees about their job duties) at each collection location, and observed that job duties are properly segregated at each collection location such that:
 - a) Employees that are responsible for cash collections do not share cash drawers/registers.
 - b) 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.
 - c) Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not 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.
 - d) The employee(s) responsible for reconciling cash collections to the general ledger and/or subsidiary ledgers, by revenue source and/or agency fund additions are not responsible for collecting cash, unless another employee/official verifies the reconciliation.
6. We obtained from management a copy of the bond or insurance policy for theft covering all employees who have access to cash. We observed that the bond or insurance policy for theft was in force during the fiscal period.
7. We randomly selected two deposit dates for each of the 5 bank accounts selected for procedure #3 under *Bank Reconciliations* above (selected the next deposit date chronologically if no deposits were made on the dates randomly selected and randomly selected a deposit if multiple deposits were made on the same day) *.Alternately, the practitioner may use a source document other than bank statements when selecting the deposit dates for testing, such as a cash collection log, daily revenue report, receipt book, etc.* We obtained supporting documentation for each of the 10 deposits and:
 - a) Observed that receipts are sequentially pre-numbered.
 - b) Traced sequentially pre-numbered receipts, system reports, and other related collection documentation to the deposit slip.
 - c) Traced the deposit slip total to the actual deposit per the bank statement.

- d) Observed 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
- e) Traced the actual deposit per the bank statement to the general ledger.

Procedure Results – Employees responsible for collecting cash share a register/drawer. Employees responsible for collecting cash are also responsible for preparing/making bank deposits. Employees responsible for collecting cash are responsible for posting and reconciling cash collection entries to the subsidiary ledger.

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

- 8. We obtained a listing of locations that process payments for the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. We randomly selected 5 locations (or all locations if less than 5).
- 9. For each location selected under #8 above, we obtained a listing of those employees involved with non-payroll purchasing and payment functions. We obtained written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if the agency has no written policies and procedures, we inquired of employees about their job duties), and observed that job duties are properly segregated such that:
 - a) At least two employees are involved in initiating a purchase request, approving a purchase, and placing an order/making the purchase.
 - b) At least two employees are involved in processing and approving payments to vendors.
 - c) 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.
 - d) 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
 - e) Only employee/official 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.
- 10. For each location selected under #8 above, we obtained the entity's non-payroll disbursement transaction population (excluding cards and travel reimbursements) and obtained management's representation that the population is complete. We randomly selected 5 disbursements for each location, obtained supporting documentation for each transaction and:

- a) Observed whether the disbursement, whether by paper or electronic means, matched the related original itemized invoice and that supporting documentation indicated deliverables included on the invoice were received by the entity, and
 - b) Observed that the disbursement documentation included evidence (e.g., initial/date, electronic logging) of segregation of duties tested under #9, as applicable.
11. Using the entity's main operating account and the month selected in *Bank Reconciliations* procedure #3, randomly select 5 non-payroll-related electronic disbursements (or all electronic disbursements if less than 5) and observe that each electronic disbursement was (a) approved by only those persons authorized to disburse funds (e.g., sign checks) per the entity's policy, and (b) approved by the required number of authorized signers per the entity's policy. *Note: If no electronic payments were made from the main operating account during the month selected the practitioner should select an alternative month and/or account for testing that does include electronic disbursements.*

Procedure Results – An employee responsible for processing payments is also responsible for adding/modifying vendor files, and for mailing the checks to vendors.

Credit Cards/Debit Cards/Fuel Cards/P-Cards

12. We obtained from management a listing of all active credit cards, bank debit cards, fuel cards, and P-cards (cards) for the fiscal period, including the card numbers and the names of the persons who maintained possession of the cards. We obtained management's representation that the listing is complete.
13. Using the listing prepared by management, we randomly selected 5 cards (or all cards if less than 5) that were used during the fiscal period. We randomly selected one monthly statement or combined statement for each card (for a debit card, we randomly selected one monthly bank statement), obtained supporting documentation, and:
- a) Observed that 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) was reviewed and approved, in writing, by someone other than the authorized card holder. [Note: Requiring such approval may constrain the legal authority of certain public officials (e.g., mayor of a Lawrason Act municipality); these instances should not be reported.]]
 - b) Observed that finance charges and late fees were not assessed on the selected statements.
14. Using the monthly statements or combined statements selected under #12 above, excluding fuel cards, we randomly selected 10 transactions (or all transactions if less than 10) from each statement, and obtained supporting documentation for the

transactions (i.e. each card should have 10 transactions subject to testing). For each transaction, we 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 note 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 found as a result of this procedure.

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

15. We 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. We randomly selected 5 reimbursements, obtained 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:
- a) If reimbursed using a per diem, agreed the reimbursement rate to those rates established either by the State of Louisiana or the U.S. General Services Administration (www.gsa.gov).
 - b) If reimbursed using actual costs, observed that the reimbursement is supported by an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased.
 - c) Observed 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 policy (procedure #1h).
 - d) Observed that each reimbursement was reviewed and approved, in writing, by someone other than the person receiving reimbursement.

Procedure Results – No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

Contracts

16. We 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. *Alternately, the practitioner may use an equivalent selection source, such as an active vendor list.* We obtained management's representation that the listing is complete. We randomly selected 5 contracts (or all contracts if less than 5) from the listing, excluding the practitioner's contract, and:

- a) Observed that the contract was bid in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law (e.g., solicited quotes or bids, advertised), if required by law.
- b) Observed that the contract was approved by the governing body/board, if required by policy or law (e.g. Lawrason Act, Home Rule Charter).
- c) 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).
- d) We randomly selected one payment from the fiscal period for each of the 5 contracts, obtained the supporting invoice, agreed the invoice to the contract terms, and observed that the invoice and related payment agreed to the terms and conditions of the contract.

Procedure Results – No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

Payroll and Personnel

17. We obtained a listing of employees/elected officials employed during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. We randomly selected 5 employees/officials, obtained related paid salaries and personnel files, and agree paid salaries to authorized salaries/pay rates in the personnel files.
18. We randomly selected one pay period during the fiscal period. For the 5 employees/officials selected under #17 above, we obtained attendance records and leave documentation for the pay period, and:
 - a) Observed that all selected employees/officials documented their daily attendance and leave (e.g., vacation, sick, compensatory). (Note: Generally, an elected official is not eligible to earn leave and does not document his/her attendance and leave. However, if the elected official is earning leave according to policy and/or contract, the official should document his/her daily attendance and leave.)
 - b) Observed whether supervisors approved the attendance and leave of the selected employees/officials.
 - c) Observed that any leave accrued or taken during the pay period is reflected in the entity's cumulative leave records.
 - d) Observed the rate paid to the employees or officials agree to the authorized salary/pay rate found within the personnel file.
19. We obtained a listing of those employees/officials that received termination payments during the fiscal period and management's representation that the list is complete. We randomly selected two employees/officials, obtained related documentation of the hours and pay rates used in management's termination payment calculations, agreed the hours to the employee/officials' cumulate leave records, and agreed the pay rates to the employee/officials' authorized pay rates in

the employee/officials' personnel files, and agreed the termination payment to entity policy.

20. We 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 required deadlines.

Procedure Results – No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

Ethics

21. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from procedure #17 under "Payroll and Personnel" above, we obtained ethics documentation from management, and:
- a. Observed whether the documentation demonstrates each employee/official completed one hour of ethics training during the fiscal period.
 - b. Observed whether the entity maintains documentation which demonstrates that each employee/official were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy during the fiscal period, as applicable.
22. Inquire and/or observe whether the agency has appointed an ethics designee as required by R. S. 42:1170.

Procedure Results – No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

Debt Service

23. We obtained a listing of bonds/notes and other debt instruments issued during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. We selected 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.
24. We obtained a listing of bonds/notes outstanding at the end of the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. We randomly selected 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 as required by the debt covenants).

Procedure Results – No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

Fraud Notice

25. We obtained a listing of misappropriations of public funds and assets during the fiscal period(if any), and management's representation that the listing is complete. We selected all misappropriations on the listing(if any), obtained supporting documentation, and observed 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.
26. We observed 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.

Procedure Results – No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity

27. We performed the following procedures:
- a) Obtained and inspected the entity's most recent documentation that it has backed up its critical data (if no written documentation, inquire of personnel responsible for backing up critical data) and observed that such backup occurred within the past week. If backups are stored on a physical medium (e.g., tapes, CDs), we observed evidence that backups are encrypted before being transported.
 - b) Obtained and inspected the entity's most recent documentation that it has tested/verified that its backups can be restored (if no written documentation, inquired of personnel responsible for testing/verifying backup restoration) and observed evidence that the test/verification was successfully performed within the past 3 months.
 - c) 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 selected 5 computers and observed 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.
28. Randomly selected 5 terminated employees(or all terminated employees if less than 5) using the list of terminated employees obtained in procedure #19. Observe evidence that the selected terminated employees have been removed or disabled from the network.

Procedure Results – No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

29. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from procedure #17 under *Payroll and Personnel* above, we obtained cybersecurity training documentation

from management, and observed that the documentation demonstrates each 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:

- i. Hired before June 9, 2020 – completed the training; and
- ii. Hired on or after June 9, 2020 – completed the training within 30 days of initial service or employment.

Procedure Results – The District is currently in the implementation phase of instituting a cybersecurity training program which will meet the requirements of R.S. 42:1267.

Prevention of Sexual Harassment

30. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from procedure #17 under *Payroll and Personnel* above, we 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.
31. 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).
32. 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 it includes the applicable requirements of R.S. 42:344:
 1. Number and percentage of public servants in the agency who have completed the training requirements;
 2. Number of sexual harassment complaints received by the agency;
 3. Number of complaints which resulted in a finding that sexual harassment occurred;
 4. Number of complaints in which the finding of sexual harassment resulted in discipline or corrective action; and
 5. Amount of time it took to resolve each complaint.

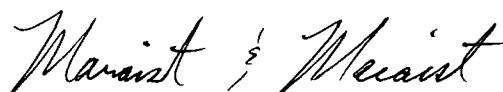
Procedure Results – No exceptions were found as a result of this procedure.

Management Response – Management agrees with the exceptions noted in the report and is working within the constraints of its limited financial resources to correct the items identified.

We were engaged by the St. Martin Parish Waterworks District No. 3 to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted our engagement in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and applicable standards of *Government Auditing Standards*. We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination or review, 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 District and to meet our ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to our agreed-upon procedures engagement.

The purpose of this report is 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.

Handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Maraist & Maraist".

Maraist & Maraist
Certified Public Accountants

St. Martinville, Louisiana
May 22, 2024