OPELOUSAS DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

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James L. Nicholson, Jr., CPA Michael A. Roy, CPA Lisa Trouille Manuel, CPA Dana D. Quebedeaux, CPA Molly Fontenot Duplechain, CPA

Van L. Auld, CPA



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Retired

Dwight Ledoux, CPA - 1998 Joel Lanclos, Jr., CPA - 2003 G. Kenneth Pavy, II, CPA - 2020

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Directors Opelousas Downtown Development District Opelousas, Louisiana

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities of Opelousas Downtown Development District (the District) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, 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 accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities of the District, as of June 30, 2024 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

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 <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, 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 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

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 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 and Government Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, 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 <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, 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.
- 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 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 for a reasonable period of time.

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

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the Budgetary Comparison Schedule be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with 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 our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Management has omitted Management's Discussion and Analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Our opinion on the basic financial statements is not affected by this missing information.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements. The accompanying Schedule of Directors' and Officers' compensation on page 24 and the Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments on page 25 is 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 our 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 <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, we have also issued our report dated October 25, 2024, on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and on our test of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u> 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, we have issued a report, dated October 25, 2024, on the results of our 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 <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>. 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.

John S. Dowling & Company Opelousas, Louisiana

October 25, 2024

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (GWFS)

OPELOUSAS DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA STATEMENT OF NET POSITION JUNE 30, 2024

	GOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES	
ASSETS Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,274,499	
Investments	500,000	
_ Accrued interest receivable	14,202	
<u>Total assets</u>	3,788,701	
LIABILITIES Accounts payable Total liabilities	28,166 28,166	
NET POSITION Unrestricted	3,760,535	
Total net position	3,760,535	

OPELOUSAS DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

						Net	(Expenses)
						Re	venues and
	·	Pr	ogram	Reve	nues	Ch	ange in Net
				Ор	erating		Position
•		Charge	s for	Gra	ints and	Go	vernmental
Activities	Expenses	Servi	ces	Cont	ributions		Activities
Governmental activities							
General government	\$ 508,701	_\$				_\$_	(508,701)
Total governmental activities	508,701						(508,701)
	General Reve						
	Sales tax re						1,393,768
	Interest ear						105,361
	<u>Total</u>	general r	evenu	<u>es</u>			1,499,129
	Chang	ge in net	positio	n			990,428
	Net position	- July 1,	2023				2,770,107
	Net position - June 30, 2024				3,760,535		

FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

OPELOUSAS DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA BALANCE SHEET GOVERNMENTAL FUND JUNE 30, 2024

	GENERAL FUND	
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	3,274,499
Investments		500,000
Total assets		3,774,499
LIABILITIES Accounts payable Total liabilities	\$	28,166 28,166
FUND BALANCE		
Unassigned		3,746,333
Total fund balance		3,746,333
Total liabilities and fund balance		3,774,499

OPELOUSAS DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS' BALANCE SHEET TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION JUNE 30, 2024

Total fund balance of governmental fund	\$ 3,746,333
Accrued interest on investments	14,202
Net position of governmental activities	3,760,535

OPELOUSAS DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - GOVERNMENTAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

	GENERAL FUND
<u>REVENUES</u>	
Sales tax	\$ 1,393,768
Interest earned	91,159
<u>Total revenues</u>	1,484,927
EXPENDITURES	
Current operating	
Consulting fees	7,499
SLED administrative fees	110,388
Grant match fund/TAP Grant	221,900
Business Grants	56,089
Accounting and Auditing	22,047
Sales tax collection fees	13,918
Communications/marketing	2,109
Legal fees	588
Special projects	7,735
Office expense & supplies	210
Project - Donald Gardner Stadium	15,000
Project - Historic District	16,000
Project - South Park	7,500
Project - Wallior Street	27,718
Total expenditures	508,701
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	976,226
FUND BALANCE, beginning of year	2,770,107
FUND BALANCE, end of year	3,746,333

OPELOUSAS DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA

RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES – GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

Total net change in the fund balance of governmental fund	\$ 976,226
Accrued interest on investments	14,202
Total change in net position per Statement of Activities	990,428

NOTE (1) - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The Opelousas Downtown Development District was established in compliance with Louisiana Revised Statutes 33:2740.39 and 33:9038.32(F) to provide economic growth and development in downtown Opelousas.

The District is governed by a Board of Directors, composed of seven members; one member appointed by the mayor of Opelousas, one appointed by St. Landry Economic Development District, one appointed by a member of the Louisiana Senate, one appointed by a member of the Louisiana House of Representatives, one appointed by the city council of Opelousas, one appointed from the membership of Vision St. Landry, and one appointed by the St. Landry Parish president. The members of the Board serve without pay.

The accompanying financial statements of the Opelousas Downtown Development District have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles.

The following is a summary of certain significant accounting policies and practices of the Opelousas Downtown Development District:

A. FINANCIAL REPORTING ENTITY

As the governing authority of the parish, for reporting purposes, the St. Landry Parish Government is the financial reporting entity for St. Landry 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 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.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 14 established criteria for determining which component units should be considered part of the St. Landry Parish Government for financial reporting purposes. The basic criterion for including a potential component unit within the reporting entity is financial accountability. The GASB has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. This criteria includes:

- 1. Appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body, and
 - a. The ability of the parish government to impose its will on that organization and/or
 - b. The potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to or impose specific financial burdens on the parish government.
- 2. Organizations for which the parish government does not appoint a voting majority but are fiscally dependent on the parish government.

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

A. FINANCIAL REPORTING ENTITY (Continued)

3. Organizations for which the reporting entity's financial statements would be misleading if data of the organization is not included because of the nature or significance of the relationship.

The Opelousas Downtown Development District is not considered to be a component unit of the parish government because the parish government does not appoint a majority of the members of the District's seven-member Board and is not fiscally dependent on the parish government. The accompanying financial statements present information only on the funds maintained by the District and do not present information on the parish government.

B. BASIS OF PRESENTATION

Government-wide Financial Statements (GWFS). The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities display information on all of the nonfiduciary activities of the Opelousas Downtown Development District. They include all funds of the reporting entity. 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. Fiduciary funds are not included in the GWFS.

The Statement of Activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function and, therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include (a) fees and charges paid by the recipients of goods or services offered by the programs, and (b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, are presented as general revenues.

<u>Fund Financial Statements</u>. The Opelousas Downtown Development District uses funds to report on its financial position and the results of its operations. A fund is an independent fiscal and accounting entity with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues, and expenditures, or expenses, as appropriate. Government resources are allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based upon the purposes for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled. The fund presented in the financial statements is described as follows:

Governmental Fund

General Fund – The General Fund is the general operating fund of the District. It is used to account for all financial resources except those that are required to be accounted for in another fund.

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

C. 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

On the government-wide Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities, the governmental activities are presented using the economic resources measurement focus.

In the fund financial statements, the "current financial resources" measurement focus or the "economic resources" measurement focus is used as appropriate:

- a. The fund financial statements utilize a "current financial resources" measurement focus. Only current financial assets and liabilities are generally included on their balance sheets. Their operating statements present sources and uses of available spendable financial resources during a given period. These funds use fund balance as their measure of available spendable financial resources at the end of the period.
- b. The government-wide financial statements utilize an "economic resources" measurement focus. The accounting objective of this measurement focus is the determination of operating income, changes in net position and financial position. All assets and liabilities (whether current or noncurrent) associated with their activities are reported.

Basis of Accounting

In the government-wide Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities, the governmental activities are presented using the accrual basis of accounting. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recorded when the liability is incurred or economic asset used. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets, and liabilities resulting from exchange and exchange-like transactions are recognized when the exchange takes place.

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

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

C. <u>MEASUREMENT FOCUS/BASIS OF ACCOUNTING</u> (Continued)

Revenues from local sources consist primarily of sales taxes. Sales tax revenues and revenues received from the State of Louisiana are recognized when susceptible to accrual. Miscellaneous revenues are recorded as revenue when received in cash because they are generally not measurable until actually received. Investment earnings are recorded as earned since they are measurable and available.

Purchases of various operating supplies are regarded as expenditures at the time purchased. The costs of governmental fund-type inventories are recorded as expenditures when purchased and items on hand at year-end, if any, are not recorded as assets, unless material. Expenditures for insurance and similar services which extend over more than one accounting period are accounted for as expenditures of the period of acquisition, unless material.

D. BUDGETS

The District adopted a budget for its General Fund on the modified accrual basis of accounting.

E. ENCUMBRANCES

The District does not employ the encumbrance system of accounting.

F. CASH AND INVESTMENTS

Cash includes amounts in demand deposits. Investments consist of Certificates of Deposit in local banks. 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.

G. EQUITY CLASSIFICATIONS

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

- 1. <u>Net investment in capital assets</u> Consist of capital assets including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowing that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.
- 2. <u>Restricted net position</u> Consist of net position with constraints placed on the use either by (1) external groups, such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (2) law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- 3. <u>Unrestricted net position</u> All other net position that do not meet the definition of "restricted" or "net investment in capital assets."

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

G. <u>EQUITY CLASSIFICATIONS</u> (Continued)

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund equity is classified as fund balance. Fund balance reports aggregate amounts for five classifications of fund balances based on the constraints imposed on the use of these resources.

The nonspendable fund balance classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are either (a) not in spendable form – prepaid items or inventories; or (b) legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

The spendable portion of the fund balance comprises the remaining four classifications: restricted, committed, assigned and unassigned.

- 1. Restricted fund balance This classification reflects the constraints imposed on resources either (a) externally by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (b) imposed by law through constitutional provisions for enabling legislation.
- 2. Committed fund balance This amount can only be used for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal resolutions or ordinances of the Board of Directors the government's highest level of decision-making authority. Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the Board of Directors removes the specified use by taking the same type of action imposing the commitment. This classification also includes contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements.
- 3. <u>Assigned fund balance</u> This classification reflects the amounts constrained by the District's "intent" to be used for specific purposes but are neither restricted nor committed. The Board of Directors have the authority to assign amounts to be used for specific purposes. Assigned fund balances include all remaining amounts (except negative balances) that are reported in governmental funds, other than the General Fund, that are not classified as nonspendable and are neither restricted nor committed.
- 4. <u>Unassigned fund balance</u> This fund balance is the residual classification for the General Fund. It is also used to report negative fund balances in other governmental funds.

The District considers restricted amounts to be spent first when both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available unless there are legal documents/contracts that prohibit doing this, such as in grant agreements requiring dollar for dollar spending. When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the District's policy to use externally restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources – committed, assigned and unassigned – in order as needed.

NOTE (1) - <u>SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES</u> (Continued)

H. ESTIMATES

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

I. OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (OPEB)

The Opelousas Downtown Development District does not provide any post-employment benefits to retirees and therefore is not required under GASB No. 75, <u>Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Post-Employment Benefits Other Than Pensions</u>.

NOTE (2) - CASH AND INVESTMENTS

On June 30, 2024, The District had \$3,774,620 in bank deposits and the book balance of was \$3,774,499. Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of the failure of a 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. 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.

As of June 30, 2024, \$1,250,000 of the total bank balance was covered by FDIC insurance and \$2,524,620 was exposed to custodial credit risk. Deposits exposed to custodial credit risk are uninsured and collateralized with securities held by the pledging institutions' trust department or agent, but not in the District's name. The District does not have a policy for custodial credit risk.

NOTE (3) - ADMINISTRATION FEE

Louisiana Revised Statue 33:9038.32(F) states that 8% of the District's annual revenue shall be paid to St. Landry Parish Economic Development District (SLED). For the year ended June 30, 2024, the District paid SLED administration fees of \$110,388.

NOTE (4) - FUND BALANCE CONSTRAINTS

The constraints on fund balance as listed in aggregate in the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance are detailed according to balance classification.

NOTE (5) - <u>SUBSEQUENT EVENTS</u>

Subsequent events were evaluated through October 25, 2024, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued. As of October 25, 2024, there were no subsequent events noted.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

OPELOUSAS DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

		•		VARIANCE
	BUD	GET	•	FAVORABLE
	ORIGINAL	FINAL	ACTUAL	(UNFAVORABLE)
	•			
REVENUES				
Sales tax revenue	\$1,100,000	\$ 1,370,300	\$ 1,393,768	\$ 23,468
Interest earned	8,400	94,521	91,159	(3,362)
Total revenues	1,108,400_	1,464,821_	1,484,927	20,106
<u>EXPENDITURES</u>				
Current operating				
Consulting fees	150,000	2,730	7,499	(4,769)
SLED administrative fees	88,000	109,409	110,388	(979)
Grant match fund/TAP Grant	150,000	266,770	221,900	44,870
Business Grants	50,000	61,189	56,089	5,100
Events	1,500	-	,	-
Insurance	2,500	_	_	_
Accounting and Auditing	15,000	20,466	22,047	(1,581)
Sales tax collection fees	11,000	13,845	13,918	(73)
Communications/marketing	10,000	2,055	2,109	(54)
Legal fees	25,000	440	588	(148)
Special projects	500,000	105,702	7,735	97,967
Office expense & supplies	2,500	230	210	20
Project - Donald Gardner Stadium	, <u>-</u>	_	15,000	(15,000)
Project - Historic District	_	-	16,000	(16,000)
Project - South Park	-	_	7,500	(7,500)
Project - Wallior Street	_	_	27,718	(27,718)
Total expenditures	1,005,500	582,836	508,701	74,135
NET CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE	102,900	881,985	976,226	94,241
FUND BALANCE, beginning of year			2,770,107	
FUND BALANCE, end of year			3,746,333	

OTHER SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

OPELOUSAS DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA SCHEDULE OF DIRECTORS' AND OFFICERS' COMPENSATION JUNE 30, 2024

Name of Commissioner	Office Held	An	aount
Lena Charles	Chairwoman	\$	-
Don D'Avy	Vice Chairman		_
Keith Broussard	Secretary/Treasurer		-
Ogden Pitre	Board Member		-
Pat Fontenot	Board Member		-
Rob Hillard	Board Member		-
Sarah Branton	Board Member		

See independent auditor's report.

OPELOUSAS DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA

SCHEDULE OF COMPENSATION, BENEFITS, AND OTHER PAYMENTS TO AGENCY HEAD OR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER JUNE 30, 2024

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

Agency Head Name: Lena Charles, Chairwoman

Purpose	Amount
Salary	0
Benefits-insurance	0
Benefits-retirement	0
Benefits	0
Car allowance	0
Vehicle provided by government	0
Per diem	0
Reimbursements	0
Travel	0
Registration fees	0
Conference travel	0
Continuing professional education fees	0
Housing	
Unvouchered expenses	0
Special meals	0
Other	0

See independent auditor's report.

RELATED REPORTS

James L. Nicholson, Jr., CPA Michael A. Roy, CPA Lisa Trouille Manuel, CPA Dana D. Quebedeaux, CPA Molly Fontenot Duplechain, CPA

Van L. Auld, CPA



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Retired

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

To the Board of Directors
Opelousas Downtown Development District
Opelousas, Louisiana

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in <u>Government Auditing Standards</u> issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities of Opelousas Downtown Development District as of and for the year ended June 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated October 25, 2024.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control.

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

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

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the 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 financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that is required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards.

Purpose of this Report

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

John J. Dowling & Company Opelousas, Louisiana

October 25, 2024

OPELOUSAS DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

SECTION I - SUMMARY OF AUDIT RESULTS

- 1. The independent auditor's report expresses an unmodified opinion on the basic financial statements.
- 2. No significant deficiencies and no material weakness relating to the audit of the financial statements were reported.
- 3. No instances of material noncompliance relating to the audit of the financial statements were reported.
- 4. No management letter was issued.
- 5. There was no single audit requirement under The Uniform Guidance.
- SECTION II INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

 No findings
- SECTION III <u>INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE MATERIAL TO FEDERAL AWARDS</u>

 N/A

SECTION IV -MANAGEMENT LETTER

N/A

OPELOUSAS DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

SECTION I - INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

INTERNAL CONTROL

None

COMPLIANCE

None

SECTION II - INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE MATERIAL TO FEDERAL AWARDS

N/A

SECTION III - MANAGEMENT LETTER

N/A

James L. Nicholson, Jr., CPA Michael A. Roy, CPA Lisa Trouille Manuel, CPA Dana D. Quebedeaux, CPA Molly Fontenot Duplechain, CPA

Van L. Auld, CPA



JOHN S. DOWLING & COMPANY

A CORPORATION OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS www.jsdc-cpas.com

John S. Dowling, CPA - 1904-1984 John Newton Stout, CPA - 1936-2005 Chizal S. Fontenot, CPA - 1955-2012 Russell J. Stelly, CPA - 1942 - 2019 Harold Dupre, CPA - 1931-2019

Retired

Dwight Ledoux, CPA - 1998 Joel Lancios, Jr., CPA - 2003 G. Kenneth Pavy, II, CPA - 2020

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

To the Board of Directors of Opelousas Downtown Development District and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor:

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on the control and compliance (C/C) areas identified in the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's (LLA's) Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures (SAUPs) for the fiscal period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. The District's management is responsible for those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs.

Opelousas Downtown Development District has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of the engagement, which is to perform specified procedures on the C/C areas identified in LLA's SAUPs for the fiscal period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. Additionally, LLA has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate for its purposes. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of this report and may not meet the needs of all users of this report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes.

The procedures and associated findings are as follows:

1) Written Policies and Procedures

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

Written policies and procedures were obtained for purchasing and address all of the above functions.

iii. *Disbursements*, including processing, reviewing, and approving.

Written policies and procedures were obtained for disbursements and address all of the above functions.

iv. Receipts/Collections, including receiving, recording, and preparing deposits. Also, policies and procedures should include management's actions to determine the completeness of all collections for each type of revenue or agency fund additions (e.g., periodic confirmation with outside parties, reconciliation to utility billing after cutoff procedures, reconciliation of traffic ticket number sequences, agency fund forfeiture monies confirmation).

Written policies and procedures were obtained for receipts/collections and address all of the above functions.

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.

The District does not have any employees, and therefore, no written policies and procedures.

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.

Written policies and procedures were obtained for contracting and address all of the above functions.

vii. *Travel and Expense Reimbursement*, including (1) allowable expenses, (2) dollar thresholds by category of expense, (3) documentation requirements, and (4) required approvers.

The District does not have written policies and procedures for travel and expense reimbursements, because they do not have any employees.

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).

The District does not have any credit cards, and therefore, no written policies and procedures.

ix. *Ethics*, including (1) the prohibitions as defined in Louisiana Revised Statute (R.S.) 42:1111-1121, (2) actions to be taken if an ethics violation takes place, (3) system to monitor possible ethics violations, and (4) a requirement that documentation is maintained to demonstrate that all employees and officials were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy.

Written policies and procedures were obtained for ethics and address all of the above functions.

- x. **Debt Service**, including (1) debt issuance approval, (2) continuing disclosure/EMMA reporting requirements, (3) debt reserve requirements, and (4) debt service requirements.
 - The District does not have any debt service, and therefore, no written policies and procedures.
- xi. Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity, including (1) identification of critical data and frequency of data backups, (2) storage of backups in a separate physical location isolated from the network, (3) periodic testing/verification that backups can be restored, (4) use of antivirus software on all systems, (5) timely application of all available system and software patches/updates, and (6) identification of personnel, processes, and tools needed to recover operations after a critical event.

The District does not have any information technology, and therefore, no written policies and procedures.

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.

Written policies and procedures were obtained for sexual harassment and address all of the above functions.

2) Board or Finance Committee

- A. Obtain and inspect the board/finance committee minutes for the fiscal period, as well as the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or equivalent document in effect during the fiscal period, and
 - i. Observe that the board/finance committee met with a quorum at least monthly, or on a frequency in accordance with the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or other equivalent document.
 - No exceptions noted.
 - ii. For those entities reporting on the governmental accounting model, observe whether the minutes referenced or included monthly budget-to-actual comparisons on the general fund, quarterly budget-to-actual, at a minimum, on proprietary funds, and semi-annual budget-to-actual, at a minimum, on all special revenue funds
 - No exceptions noted.
 - 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.
 - Not applicable.

iv. Observe whether the board/finance committee received written updates of the progress of resolving audit finding(s), according to management's corrective action plan at each meeting until the findings are considered fully resolved.

Not applicable.

3) Bank Reconciliations

- 1. Obtain a listing of entity bank accounts for the fiscal period from management and management's representation that the listing is complete. Ask management to identify the entity's main operating account. Select the entity's main operating account and randomly select 4 additional accounts (or all accounts if less than 5). Randomly select one month from the fiscal period, obtain and inspect the corresponding bank statement and reconciliation for each selected account, and observe that:
 - i. Bank reconciliations include evidence that they were prepared within 2 months of the related statement closing date (e.g., initialed and dated or electronically logged);
 - No exceptions noted.
 - ii. Bank reconciliations include written evidence that a member of management or a board member who does not handle cash, post ledgers, or issue checks has reviewed each bank reconciliation within 1 month of the date the reconciliation was prepared (e.g., initialed and dated, electronically logged); and
 - No exceptions noted.
 - iii. Management has documentation reflecting it has researched reconciling items that have been outstanding for more than 12 months from the statement closing date, if applicable.

Not applicable

4) Collections (excluding electronic fund transfers)

This section is not applicable. All collections are direct deposited and there aren't any employees that work for The District.

- 5) Non-Payroll Disbursements (excluding card purchases, travel reimbursements, and petty cash purchases)
- A. Obtain a listing of locations that process payments for the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 locations (or all locations if less than 5).

Obtained listing of locations that process payments and management's representation that the listing is complete.

- B. For each location selected under procedure #5A above, obtain a listing of those employees involved with non-payroll purchasing and payment functions. Obtain written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if the agency has no written policies and procedures, then inquire of employees about their job duties), and observe that job duties are properly segregated such that
 - i. At least two employees are involved in initiating a purchase request, approving a purchase, and placing an order or making the purchase;

No exceptions noted.

- At least two employees are involved in processing and approving payments to vendors;
 No exceptions noted.
- 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;

No exceptions noted.

iv. Either the employee/official responsible for signing checks mails the payment or gives the signed checks to an employee to mail who is not responsible for processing payments; and

No exceptions noted.

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.

No exceptions noted.

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

No exceptions noted.

ii. Observe whether the disbursement documentation included evidence (e.g., initial/date, electronic logging) of segregation of duties tested under procedure #5B above, as applicable.

No exceptions noted.

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

No exceptions noted.

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

This section is not applicable. The District does not have any credit cards.

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

This section is not applicable.

8) Contracts

- A. Obtain from management a listing of all agreements/contracts for professional services, materials and supplies, leases, and construction activities that were initiated or renewed during the fiscal period. Alternatively, the practitioner may use an equivalent selection source, such as an active vendor list. Obtain management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 contracts (or all contracts if less than 5) from the listing, excluding the practitioner's contract, and
 - i. Observe whether the contract was bid in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law (e.g., solicited quotes or bids, advertised), if required by law;

Not applicable.

ii. Observe whether the contract was approved by the governing body/board, if required by policy or law (e.g., Lawrason Act, Home Rule Charter);

No exceptions.

iii. If the contract was amended (e.g., change order), observe that the original contract terms provided for such an amendment and that amendments were made in compliance with the contract terms (e.g., if approval is required for any amendment, the documented approval); and

Not applicable.

iv. Randomly select one payment from the fiscal period for each of the 5 contracts, obtain the supporting invoice, agree the invoice to the contract terms, and observe that the invoice and related payment agreed to the terms and conditions of the contract.

No exceptions.

9) Payroll and Personnel

This section is not applicable. The District does not have any employees.

10) Ethics

- A. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #9A obtain ethics documentation from management, and
 - 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 No exceptions noted.
 - 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.

Not applicable.

B. Inquire and/or observe whether the agency has appointed an ethics designee as required by R.S. 42:1170.

Someone has been appointed as the ethics designee.

11) Debt Service

A. Obtain a listing of bonds/notes and other debt instruments issued during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Select all debt instruments on the listing, obtain supporting documentation, and observe that State Bond Commission approval was obtained for each debt instrument issued as required by Article VII, Section 8 of the Louisiana Constitution.

Not applicable.

B. Obtain a listing of bonds/notes outstanding at the end of the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select one bond/note, inspect debt covenants, obtain supporting documentation for the reserve balance and payments, and agree actual reserve balances and payments to those required by debt covenants (including contingency funds, short-lived asset funds, or other funds required by the debt covenants).

Not applicable.

12) Fraud Notice

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

No exceptions noted.

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

Not applicable.

13) Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity

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

- C. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #9A, obtain cybersecurity training documentation from management, and observe that the documentation demonstrates that the following employees/officials with access to the agency's information technology assets have completed 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.

Not applicable.

14) Prevention of Sexual Harassment

A. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #9A, obtain sexual harassment training documentation from management, and observe that the documentation demonstrates each employee/official completed at least one hour of sexual harassment training during the calendar year as required by R.S. 42:343.

One selected employee/official did not complete the sexual harassment training during the year.

B. Observe that the entity has posted its sexual harassment policy and complaint procedure on its website (or in a conspicuous location on the entity's premises if the entity does not have a website).

Not applicable.

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

No exceptions noted.

We were engaged by Opelousas Downtown Development District 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 <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>. We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination or review engagement, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

We are required to be independent of Opelousas Downtown Development District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to our agreed-upon procedures engagement.

The 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.

John S. Dowling & Company
Opelousas, Louisiana

October 25, 2024

OPELOUSAS DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT OPELOUSAS, LOUISIANA FOR THE YEAR EDNED JUNE 30, 2024

Management's Response to Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures Exceptions.

Prevention of Sexual Harassment

14.a Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #9A, obtain sexual harassment training documentation from management, and observe that the documentation demonstrates each employee/official completed at least one hour of sexual harassment training during the calendar year as required by R.S. 42:343.

Management's Response: The District will complete the Sexual Harassment Training.