

Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.

Natchitoches, Louisiana

Annual Financial Statements
with Independent Auditor's Report

As of and For the Year Ended
September 30, 2024
with Supplemental Information Schedules

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Independent Auditor's Report

Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.
Natchitoches, Louisiana

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc., as of and for the year ended September 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.'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 modified accrual basis financial position of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc., as of September 30, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. 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 Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc., 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.

Responsibility 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 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 Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.'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 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, 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 Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.'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 Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.'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 information 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 the 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 the 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 Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.'s basic financial statements. The Schedule of Compensation, Benefits, and Other Payments to Agency Head is presented for the purposes of additional analysis and are 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 were 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.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

In accordance with the requirements of the Louisiana Legislative Auditor, we have issued a report, dated March 28, 2025, 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 Government Auditing Standards. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of testing performed on those control and compliance areas identified in the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's state wide agreed-upon procedures, and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on control or compliance.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with Government Auditing Standards, we have also issued our report dated March 28, 2025, on our consideration of the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.'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 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 Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Kenneth D. Folden & Co., CPAs, LLC

Jonesboro, Louisiana

March 28, 2025

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.
Natchitoches, Louisiana

Statement of Net Position
As of September 30, 2024

	Governmental Activities
Assets	
Cash and equivalents	\$ 496,401
Accounts receivable	782,000
Cash and equivalents - restricted	153,570
Capital assets (net of accumulated depreciation)	612,764
Total Assets	<u>2,044,735</u>
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts payable	36,627
Interest payable	3,379
Lease payable-current	4,471
Notes payable	150,554
Non-Current Liabilities	
Compensated absences	29,299
Total Liabilities	<u>224,330</u>
Net Position	
Net investment in capital assets	612,764
Restricted	1,023,295
Unrestricted	184,345
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 1,820,404</u>

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

Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.
Natchitoches, Louisiana

Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended September 30, 2024

	Major Funds			Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position						
	Expenses	Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Governmental Activities					
<u>Functions/Programs</u>										
Primary government										
Governmental activities										
General government	\$	822,285	\$	-	\$	883,962	\$	-	\$	61,677
Total governmental activities	\$	822,285	\$	-	\$	883,962	-			61,677
Change in net position										61,677
Net position - September 30, 2023										1,758,726
Net position - September 30, 2024										\$ 1,820,403

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

FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.
Natchitoches, Louisiana

Balance Sheet - Governmental Funds
As of September 30, 2024

	Governmental Funds
Assets	
Cash and equivalents	\$ 496,401
Accounts receivable	782,000
Cash and equivalents - restricted	153,570
Total Assets	<u>\$ 1,431,971</u>
Liabilities & Fund Balances	
Liabilities:	
Accounts payable	\$ 36,627
Notes payable	150,554
Lease payable	4,471
Interest payable	3,379
Total Liabilities	<u>195,031</u>
Fund balances:	
Restricted, reported in:	
Federal appropriation	1,048,123
Assigned, reported in:	
Non-federal community fund	5,234
Unassigned, reported in:	
Non-federal community fund	183,583
Total Fund Balances	<u>1,236,940</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Balances	<u>\$ 1,431,971</u>

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

Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.
Natchitoches, Louisiana

Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Position
As of September 30, 2024

Total Fund Balances at September 30, 2024 - Governmental Funds (Statement C)	\$ 1,236,939
Total Net Position reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position (Statement A) are different because:	
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in governmental funds, net of depreciation.	612,764
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds.	
Compensated absences	(29,299)
Lease payable-noncurrent	<u>-</u>
Net Position at September 30, 2024	<u><u>\$ 1,820,404</u></u>

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

Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.
Natchitoches, Louisiana

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance - Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended September 30, 2024

	Governmental Funds
Revenues	
Federal appropriation	\$ 677,000
Non-federal appropriation	206,962
Miscellaneous	-
Total revenues	<u>883,962</u>
Expenditures	
Administrative and Operations	468,710
Marketing and Visitor Services	98,636
Signage	19,375
Travel and Training	17,548
Planning	498
Grants and Projects	176,616
Capital Outlay	111,463
Total expenditures	<u>892,846</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>(8,884)</u>
Other financing sources (uses)	
Interest earnings	-
Lease proceeds	-
Lease expenditures	(4,471)
Interest expense	(3,404)
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>(7,875)</u>
Net changes in fund balances	(16,759)
Fund balances - September 30, 2023	<u>1,253,698</u>
Fund balances - September 30, 2024	<u><u>\$ 1,236,939</u></u>

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

Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.
Natchitoches, Louisiana

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

Total net change in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds (Statement E)	\$	(16,759)
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Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:

Capital outlays are reported in governmental funds as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital outlay differs from depreciation for the period.

Depreciation		(28,127)
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Capital outlay		111,463
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Decrease (increase) in compensated absences		(9,370)
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Lease principal expense, which is considered an other financing use on the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance (Statement E), is a reduction of lease payable on the Government-Wide Statements. Lease proceeds, which is considered an other financing source on the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance (Statement E), is an increase in capital assets on the Government-Wide Statements.

Lease principal expense		4,471
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Lease proceeds		-
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Change in net position of governmental activities (Statement B)	\$	61,678
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.
Natchitoches, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements
As of and for the year ended September 30, 2024

The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. is the management entity of the Cane River Heritage Area, a site designated by the federal government and intended to encourage historic preservation of the area in appreciation of the history and heritage of the site. The Cane River National Heritage Area encompasses approximately 116,000 acres.

The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. is a state and federally recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, and it is considered a quasi-public entity for reporting purposes. It became the federally-approved management entity of the Cane River National Heritage Area on August 6, 2010. Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. is governed by a board of directors in accordance with the bylaws of the corporation; the board is comprised of not less than five (5) nor more than twenty-five (25) directors.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying financial statements of the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (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 CRNHA applies all relevant GASB pronouncements, and GAAP, as applicable to governmental entities. Also, the CRNHA's financial statements are prepared in accordance with the requirements of Louisiana R.S. 24:513, the Louisiana Municipal Audit and Accounting Guide and to the industry guide, Audits of State and Local Government Units, published by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

B. Reporting Entity

The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. is a legally separate, non-profit, quasi-public corporation. Based on the criteria set forth in GASB Statement No. 14, The Financial Reporting Entity, is not a component unit of another primary government nor does it have any component units that are related to it. In addition, based on the criteria set forth in GASB Statement No. 39, Determining Whether Certain Organizations are Component Units, and GASB Statement No. 61, the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. has presented its financial statements as a primary governing body, is legally separate, and is fiscally independent of other state and local governments. Accordingly, the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. is viewed as being fiscally independent for purposes of applying the reporting criteria of GASB 14.

C. Government-Wide Financial Statements

The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.'s government-wide financial statements include the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities. These statements present a summary of the governmental activities. Fiduciary activities of the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. are not included in these statements.

Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.
Natchitoches, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements
As of and for the year ended September 30, 2024

These statements are presented on an "economic resources" measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Accordingly, all of the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.'s assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources, including capital assets and long-term liabilities, are included in the accompanying Statement of Net Position. The Statement of Activities presents changes in Net Position. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized in the period in which they are earned while expenses are recognized in the period in which the liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets and liabilities resulting from exchange or exchange-like transactions are recognized when the exchange occurs (regardless of when cash is received or disbursed). Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets and liabilities resulting from nonexchange transactions are recognized in accordance with the requirements of GASB Statement No. 33, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Nonexchange Transactions.

The Statement of Activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.'s governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function. Program revenues include (a) fees and charges paid by the recipient for goods or services offered by the program, 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.

D. Fund Financial Statements

The accounts of the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. are organized on the basis of funds, each of which is considered a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, fund equity, revenues, expenditures or expenses, as appropriate, additions, and deductions. 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 maintained is consistent with legal and managerial requirements. The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. has only one category of funds, which is the governmental fund.

Governmental Funds

Governmental fund financial statements include a Balance Sheet and a Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances for all major governmental funds. An accompanying schedule is presented to reconcile and explain the differences in fund balances and changes in fund balances as presented in these statements to the net position and changes in net position presented in the Government-Wide financial statements. The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. has presented all major funds.

All governmental funds are accounted for on a spending or "current financial resources" measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Accordingly, only current assets, deferred outflows of resources, current liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources are included on the Balance Sheets. Amounts recorded as assets exclude capital assets and the acquisition of capital assets is treated as an expenditure. Long-term debts are reported as an other financing source, and repayment of long-term debt is reported as an expenditure. The Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances presents increases (revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (expenditures and other financing uses) in fund balance.

Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.
Natchitoches, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements
As of and for the year ended September 30, 2024

Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized in the accounting period in which they become both measurable and available to finance expenditures of the current period.

"Measurable" means the amount of the transaction can be determined, and "available" means collectible within the current period or soon thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. Accordingly, revenues are recorded when received in cash and when collected within 60 days after year-end. Expenditures are recorded in the accounting period in which the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on general long-term debt, which are recognized when due.

The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. reports the following major governmental funds:

General Fund - The primary operating fund of the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc., the General Fund accounts for all financial resources, except those required to be accounted for in other funds. The General Fund is available for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred in accordance with state and federal laws and according to Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. policy.

Revenues

The governmental funds use the following practices in recording revenues:

Entitlements and shared revenues are recorded as unrestricted grants-in-aid at the time of receipt or earlier if the susceptible-to-accrual criteria are met. Expenditure-driven grants are recognized when the qualifying expenditures have been incurred, all other grant requirements have been met, and the susceptible-to-accrual criteria have been met.

Interest earnings are recorded when the investments have matured and the interest is available.

Expenditures

The governmental funds use the following practices in recording expenditures:

Salaries are recorded as expenditures when earned by employees.

Purchases of various operating supplies, etc. are recorded as expenditures when the related fund liability is incurred.

Compensated absences are recognized as expenditures when leave is actually taken or when employees, or their heirs, are paid for accrued leave upon retirement or death.

Principal and interest on long-term debt are recognized when due.

Other Financing Sources (Uses)

The governmental funds use the following practices in recording other financing sources (uses):

Transfers between funds that are not expected to be repaid, sales of fixed assets, and long-term debt proceeds and payments, are accounted for as other financing sources (uses). These other financing sources (uses) are recognized at the time the underlying events occur.

Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.
Natchitoches, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements
As of and for the year ended September 30, 2024

E. Equity Classifications

The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. has implemented GASB Statement No. 63, Financial Reporting of Deferred Outflows of Resources, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position.

In the Government-Wide Financial Statements, the difference between (a) assets and deferred outflows of resources and (b) liabilities and deferred inflows of resources is classified as net position and reported in three components:

Net investment in capital assets: This classification 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 these assets.

Restricted net position: This classification consists of net position with constraints placed on its use either by external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments, or law through constitutional provision or enabling legislation.

Unrestricted net position: Any other net position that does not meet the definition of "restricted" or "net investment in capital assets."

When an expense is incurred for the purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position are available, management applies unrestricted net position first, unless a determination is made to use restricted net position. The policy concerning which to apply first varies with the intended use and legal requirements. This decision is typically made by management at the incurrence of the expense.

The Governmental Fund Financial Statements present fund balances based on classifications that comprise a hierarchy that is based primarily on the extent to which the CRNHA is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in the respective governmental funds can be spent. The classifications used in the governmental fund financial statements are as follows:

Nonspendable: This classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are either (a) not in spendable form or (b) are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. did not have any nonspendable funds for the year ended September 30, 2024.

Restricted: This classification includes amounts for which constraints have been placed on the use of the resources either (a) externally imposed by creditors (such as through a debt covenant), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments, or (b) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. had \$1,051,554 restricted for federal appropriation for the year ended September 30, 2024.

Committed: This classification includes amounts that can be used only for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the Board of Directors. These amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the Board of Directors removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action that was employed when the funds were initially committed. This classification also includes contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements. The Board typically establishes commitments through the adoption and amendment of the budget. The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. did not have any committed funds for the year ended September 30, 2024.

Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.
Natchitoches, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements
As of and for the year ended September 30, 2024

Assigned: This classification includes amounts that are constrained by the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.'s intent to be used for a specific purpose but are neither restricted nor committed. This intent can be expressed by the Board of Directors or through the Board delegating this responsibility to a body or official for specific purposes. The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. had assigned funds of \$5,234 for use in non-federal community appropriations for the year ended September 30, 2024.

Unassigned: This classification includes the residual fund balance for the General Fund. The Unassigned classification also includes negative residual fund balance of any other governmental fund that cannot be eliminated by offsetting of Assigned fund balance amounts. The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. has \$183,583 that is designated as unassigned.

The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. would typically use Restricted fund balances first, followed by Committed resources, and then Assigned resources, as appropriate opportunities arise, but reserves the right to selectively spend Unassigned resources first to defer the use of these other classified funds.

F. Budgets

Prior to the beginning of each fiscal year, the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. adopts a budget for the next fiscal year. The budget is open for public inspection. All budgetary appropriations lapse at the end of the fiscal year. The budget is prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting. The budget was adopted on September 27, 2023. There were no amendments to the budget.

G. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash includes amounts in demand deposits, interest-bearing demand deposits, and money market accounts. Cash equivalents include amounts in time deposits and those investments with original maturities of 90 days or less. Under state law, the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. may deposit funds in demand deposits in stock-owned federally insured depository institutions organized under the laws of the state of Louisiana or of any other state of the United States, or under the laws of the United States. The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. may invest in certificates and time deposits with state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having their principal offices in Louisiana.

Under state law, the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. may invest in United States bonds, treasury notes, or certificates. Those with maturities of 90 days or less would be classified as cash equivalents and all other reported as investments.

The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. reports restricted assets, if any, on the Statement of Net Position (Statement A).

H. Investments

The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.'s investments comply with Louisiana Revised Statute 33:2955. Under state law, the CRNHA may deposit funds with a fiscal agent organized under the laws of Louisiana, the laws of any other state in the union, or the laws of the United States. The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. may invest in United States bonds, treasury notes and bills, or government-backed agency securities or certificates, and time deposits of state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having principal offices in Louisiana. These deposits are classified as investments if their original maturities exceed 90 days. Investments are stated at fair value except for the following, which are permitted under GASB Statement No. 31:

Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.
Natchitoches, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements
As of and for the year ended September 30, 2024

Investments in non-participating interest earning contracts, such as non-negotiable certificates of deposit with redemption terms that do not consider market rates, are reported using a cost-based measure.

The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. reported at amortized cost money market investments and participating interest-earning investment contracts that have a remaining maturity at the time of purchase of one year or less. Interest-earning investment contracts include time deposits with financial institutions (such as certificates of deposit), repurchase agreements, and guaranteed investment contracts. Money market investments are short-term, highly liquid debt instruments that include U.S. Treasury obligations.

I. Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property, plant, equipment, and infrastructure assets (e.g. roads, bridges, sidewalks, and similar items), are recorded in the applicable governmental or business-type activities columns of the government-wide financial statements, but are not reported in the governmental fund financial statements. Acquisitions of property and equipment are capitalized at historical cost or estimated cost if historical cost is not available. Donated assets are recorded as capital assets at their estimated fair market value at the date of donation. The CRNHA maintains a threshold level of \$500 or more for capitalizing capital assets.

Improvements and replacements of property and equipment are capitalized. Maintenance and repairs that do not improve or extend the lives of property and equipment are charged to expense as incurred. When assets are sold or retired, their cost and related accumulated depreciation are removed from the accounts and any gain or loss is reported in the Statement of Activities.

Leasehold improvements	20 years
Furniture, fixtures, and equipment	5 - 10 years

J. Deferred Outflows of Resources

The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. reports decreases in net position that relate to future periods as deferred outflows of resources in a separate section of its government-wide statement of net position. The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. did not report any deferred outflows of resources, and no deferred outflows of resources affect the governmental funds financial statements.

K. Compensated Absences

Full-time employees of the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. earn vacation hours based on the number of years of continuous service. Sick leave shall be accrued by each full-time employee at a rate of 12 days per year. Vacation and sick leave may be accumulated from year to year. Upon termination or retirement, employees are entitled to be paid a maximum of 480 hours of sick leave, 480 hours of vacation, and 240 hours of compensatory time. At September 30, 2024, 2023, and 2022, the recorded amount for compensated absences is \$29,299, \$19,929, and \$17,963.

Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.
Natchitoches, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements
As of and for the year ended September 30, 2024

L. Deferred Inflows of Resources

The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. reports increases in net position that relate to future periods as deferred inflows of resources in a separate section of its government-wide statement of net position. The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. will not recognize the related revenues until a future event occurs. The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. did not report any deferred inflows of resources in the government-wide statements, and no deferred inflows of resources affect the governmental funds financial statements.

M. 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 the 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, expenditures, and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

2. Cash, Cash Equivalents, and Investments

At September 30, 2024, the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. had cash and cash equivalents (book balances) totaling \$649,971, including \$200 cash on hand. These deposits are stated at cost, which approximates market. Under state law, these deposits (or the resulting bank balances) must be secured by federal deposit insurance or the pledge of securities owned by the fiscal agent bank. 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.

At September 30, 2024, the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. had \$653,536 in deposits (collected bank balances). These deposits are secured from risk by \$519,962 of federal deposit insurance, and \$625,252 of pledged securities held in a Federal Reserve pledge account. Even though the pledged securities are considered uncollateralized under the provisions of GASB Statement No. 40, Louisiana Revised Statute 30:1229 imposes a statutory requirement on the custodial bank to advertise and sell the pledged securities within 10 days of being notified that the fiscal agent has failed to pay deposited funds upon demand. Louisiana R.S. 39:1224 requires bonds, or other such instruments furnished as security, to be deposited with the depositing authority or with an unaffiliated bank or trust company, Federal Reserve Bank, or any Federal Home Loan Bank or its successor. This security is deemed to be under the control and in the possession of the public entity and deemed to be held in its name. The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. has complied with these requirements of state law.

Cash and investments are categorized to give an indication of the level of risk assumed by the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. at September 30, 2024. Deposits are considered to be exposed to custodial credit risk if they are not covered by depository insurance and the deposits are (a) uncollateralized, (b) collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution, or (c) collateralized with securities held by the the pledging financial institution's trust department or agent but not in the depositor-government's name. The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. has cash and cash equivalents that are covered by \$519,692 of federal depository insurance. The remaining balance is exposed to custodial credit risk because it is uninsured and collateralized with securities held by the pledging financial institution.

At September 30, 2024, the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. had no investments.

Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.
Natchitoches, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements
As of and for the year ended September 30, 2024

3. Receivables

The receivables of \$782,000 at September 30, 2024, are as follows:

Revenue Receivable-NPS '23 Appropriation	\$ 191,000
Revenue Receivable-NPS '24 Appropriation	591,000
Total	<u>\$ 782,000</u>

4. Capital Assets

A summary of changes in capital assets for the year ended September 30, 2024, is as follows:

	Balance, October 01, 2023	Additions	Deletions	Balance, September 30, 2024
Capital assets not depreciated				
Construction in progress	\$	\$ 110,453	\$	\$ 110,453
Total capital assets not being depreciated	-	<u>110,453</u>	-	<u>110,453</u>
Capital assets being depreciated and amortized				
Leasehold improvements	\$ 17,884	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 17,884
Building	496,395	-	-	496,395
Office equipment	42,904	-	-	42,904
Office furniture	21,027	-	-	21,027
Signs	38,606	1,010	-	39,616
Leased assets	17,885	-	-	17,885
Total capital assets being depreciated	<u>\$ 634,700</u>	<u>\$ 1,010</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 635,711</u>
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization				
Leasehold improvements	\$ 7,526	\$ 894	\$	\$ 8,420
Building	24,820	12,410	-	37,230
Office equipment	36,235	2,320	-	38,555
Office furniture	19,884	352	-	20,236
Signs	9,355	6,190	-	15,544
Leased assets	7,452	5,962	-	13,414
Total accumulated depreciation and amortization	<u>105,272</u>	<u>28,127</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>133,399</u>
Capital assets, net	<u>\$ 529,428</u>	<u>\$ 83,336</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 612,765</u>

Depreciation expense for the year ended September 30, 2024 was \$22,165, and amortization expense for leased assets was \$5,962.

Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.
Natchitoches, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements
As of and for the year ended September 30, 2024

5. Payables

The payables of \$36,575 at September 30, 2024, are as follows:

Accounts	\$	36,627
Total	\$	<u>36,627</u>

6. Leases

On July 25, 2022, the CRNHA entered into a lease agreement with Walker Automotive to finance a new 2022 GMC Terrain. Due to the implementation of GASB Statement No. 87 during this audit period, this lease met the criteria of a lease, requiring it to be recorded. This asset will be amortized over the useful life. The following is a summary of the long-term obligation transactions for the year ended September 30, 2024:

Long-term obligation	Balance, October 01, 2023	Additions	Deletions	Balance, September 30, 2024
2022 GMC Terrain	10,433	-	5,962	\$ 4,471
Total	<u>\$ 10,433</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 5,962</u>	<u>\$ 4,471</u>

The following is a summary of the current (due in one year or less) and the long-term (due in more than one year) portions of long-term obligations as of September 30, 2024:

Long-term obligation	Current portion	Long-term portion	Total
2022 GMC Terrain	4,471	-	4,471
Total	<u>\$ 4,471</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 4,471</u>

The following is a summary of the present value of the net minimum lease payments:

Year ending September 30:	Principal
2024	4,471
2025	-
Total minimum lease payments	<u>\$ 4,471</u>

Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.
Natchitoches, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements
As of and for the year ended September 30, 2024

7. Short-Term Obligation

The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. had short-term debt activity for the year ended September 30, 2024. Notes payable represent financing obtained from BOM Bank for the purchase of a new building for the CRNHA headquarters. The note is covered by a pledged certificate of deposit at BOM Bank. The certificate of deposit renews annually and is considered restricted cash.

Short-term obligation	Balance, October 01, 2023	Additions	Deletions	Balance, September 30, 2024
Building, University Avenue	195,592	-	45,037	\$ 150,554
Total	<u>\$ 195,592</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 45,037</u>	<u>\$ 150,554</u>

8. Related Party Transactions

The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. had no identified related party transactions for the year ended September 30, 2024.

9. Grants

During the year ended September 30, 2024, the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. received grant income from the Department of the Interior, National Park Services of \$591,000. This grant is to be used to further the purpose of the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. received additional federal and local grants from the CARI-Community Projects (\$89,500); State of Louisiana-Natchitoches parish Historic Structures (\$72,748); the Natchitoches Historic District Development Commission; (\$45,000); the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (\$46,005); the Alliance of National Heritage Areas for the Spring Meeting (\$42,224); and other small contributions.

10. Compensation Paid to Board Members

The members of the Board of Directors receive no compensation for their service.

11. Litigation and Claims

At September 30, 2024, the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. was not involved in any lawsuits nor is aware of any outstanding claims, which are not covered by insurance.

Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.
Natchitoches, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements
As of and for the year ended September 30, 2024

12. Income Taxes

The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. is a not-for-profit organization that is exempt from income taxes under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and classified by the Internal Revenue Service as other than a private foundation. The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.'s Form 990, Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax, for the years ending September 30, 2024, 2023, and 2022, are subject to examination by the IRS, generally for three years after being filed.

13. Subsequent Events

Management has evaluated subsequent events through the date that the financial statements were available to be issued, March 28, 2025, and determined that no events occurred that require disclosure. No subsequent events occurring after this date have been evaluated for inclusion in these financial statements.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.
Natchitoches, Louisiana

Budgetary Comparison Schedule - Governmental Funds
For the Year Ended September 30, 2024

	Budget - Original	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Revenues			
Federal appropriation	\$ 591,000	\$ 677,000	\$ 86,000
Non-federal appropriation	50,000	206,962	156,962
Miscellaneous	-	-	-
Total revenues	<u>641,000</u>	<u>883,962</u>	<u>242,962</u>
Expenditures			
Administrative and Operations	405,000	468,710	(63,710)
Marketing and Visitor Services	85,000	98,636	(13,636)
Signage	28,000	19,375	8,625
Travel and Training	20,000	17,548	2,452
Planning	55,000	498	54,502
Grants and Projects	43,000	176,616	(133,616)
Capital Outlay	5,000	111,463	(106,463)
Total expenditures	<u>641,000</u>	<u>892,846</u>	<u>(251,846)</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over (under) expenditures	<u>-</u>	<u>(8,884)</u>	<u>(8,884)</u>
Other financing sources (uses)			
Interest earnings	-	-	-
Lease proceeds	-	-	-
Lease expenditures	-	(4,471)	(4,471)
Interest expense	-	(3,404)	(3,404)
Total other financing sources (uses)	<u>-</u>	<u>(7,875)</u>	<u>(7,875)</u>
Net changes in fund balances	<u>-</u>	<u>(16,759)</u>	<u>(16,759)</u>
Fund balances - September 30, 2023	<u>1,253,698</u>	<u>1,253,698</u>	<u>-</u>
Fund balances - September 30, 2024	<u>\$ 1,253,698</u>	<u>\$ 1,236,939</u>	<u>\$ (16,759)</u>

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



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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**

Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.
Natchitoches, Louisiana

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities and each major fund of the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc., as of and for the year ended September 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.'s basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated March 28, 2025.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.'s internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.'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 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. However, material weaknesses may exist that have not been identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.'s financial statements are free of 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 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 result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with Government Auditing Standards in considering the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.'s internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

Kenneth D. Folden & Co., CPAs, LLC

Jonesboro, Louisiana
March 28, 2025

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.
Natchitoches, Louisiana

Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs
For the year ended September 30, 2024

We have audited the basic financial statements of the Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. as of and for the year ended September 30, 2024 and have issued our report thereon dated March 28, 2025. 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 Governmental Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our audit of the financial statements as of September 30, 2024 resulted in an unqualified opinion.

A. Summary of Auditor's Report

Report on Internal Control and Compliance Material to Financial Statements

Internal Control

Material Weakness Yes X No Significant Deficiencies Yes X No

Compliance

Compliance Material to Financial Statements Yes X No

B. Findings - Financial Statements Audit

Current Year

No current year findings.

Prior Year

No prior year findings.

Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.
Natchitoches, Louisiana

Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to Agency Head
For the year ended September 30, 2024

Rebecca Blankenbaker President		
Salary	\$	77,532
Benefits - Retirement		22,604
Benefits - Payroll taxes		1,036
Benefits - Insurance		9,394
Reimbursements		762
	\$	<u>111,327</u>



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Independent Accountant's Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures

To the Board Members of Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.
Natchitoches, Louisiana
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 October 01, 2023 through September 30, 2024. Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.'s management is responsible for those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs.

Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. 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 October 01, 2023 through September 30, 2024. Additionally, LLA has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate for its purposes. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of this report and may not meet the needs of all users of this report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes.

The procedures and associated findings are as follows:

1) Written Policies and Procedures

A. Obtain and inspect the entity's written policies and procedures and observe whether they address each of the following categories and subcategories if applicable to public funds and the entity's operations:

- i. Budgeting, including preparing, adopting, monitoring, and amending the budget.
- ii. Purchasing, including (1) how purchases are initiated, (2) how vendors are added to the vendor list, (3) the preparation and approval process of purchase requisitions and purchase orders, (4) controls to ensure compliance with the Public Bid Law, and (5) documentation required to be maintained for all bids and price quotes.
- iii. Disbursements, including processing, reviewing, and approving,
- iv. Receipts/Collections, including receiving, recording, and preparing deposits. Also, policies and procedures should include management's actions to determine the completeness of all collections for each type of revenue or agency fund additions (e.g., periodic confirmation with outside parties, reconciliation to utility billing after cutoff procedures, reconciliation of traffic ticket number sequences, agency fund forfeiture monies confirmation).

- v. Payroll/Personnel, including (1) payroll processing, (2) reviewing and approving time and attendance records, including leave and overtime worked, and (3) approval process for employee rates of pay or approval and maintenance of pay rate schedules.
- vi. Contracting, including (1) types of services requiring written contracts, (2) standard terms and conditions, (3) legal review, (4) approval process, and (5) monitoring process.
- vii. Travel and expense reimbursement, including (1) allowable expenses, (2) dollar thresholds by category of expense, (3) documentation requirements, and (4) required approvers.
- viii. Credit Cards (and debit cards, fuel cards, purchase cards, if applicable), including (1) how cards are to be controlled, (2) allowable business uses, (3) documentation requirements, (4) required approvers of statements, and (5) monitoring card usage (e.g., determining the reasonableness of fuel card purchases).
- ix. Ethics, including (1) the prohibitions as defined in Louisiana Revised Statute (R.S.) 42:1111-1121, (2) actions to be taken if an ethics violation takes place, (3) system to monitor possible ethics violations, and (4) a requirement that documentation is maintained to demonstrate that all employees and officials were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy.
- x. Debt Service, including (1) debt issuance approval, (2) continuing disclosure/EMMA reporting requirements, (3) debt reserve requirements, and (4) debt service requirements.
- xi. Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity, including (1) identification of critical data and frequency of data backups, (2) storage of backups in a separate physical location isolated from the network, (3) periodic testing/verification that backups can be restored, (4) use of antivirus software on all systems, (5) timely application of all available system and software patches/updates, and (6) identification of personnel, processes, and tools needed to recover operations after a critical event.
- xii. Prevention of Sexual Harassment, including R.S. 42:342-344 requirements for (1) agency responsibilities and prohibitions, (2) annual employee training, and (3) annual reporting.

Procedure Results: We noted no exceptions.

2) Board or Finance Committee

- A. Obtain and inspect the board/finance committee minutes for the fiscal period, as well as the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or equivalent document in effect during the fiscal period, and:
 - i. Observe that the board/finance committee met with a quorum at least monthly, or on a frequency in accordance with the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or other equivalent document.
 - ii. For those entities reporting on the governmental accounting model, review the minutes from all regularly scheduled board/finance committee meetings held during the fiscal year and observe whether the minutes from at least one meeting each month referenced or included monthly budget-to-actual comparisons on the general fund, quarterly budget-to-actual, at a minimum, on all proprietary funds, and semi-annual budget-to-actual comparisons, at a minimum, on all special revenue funds. Alternately, for those entities reporting on the not-for-profit accounting model, observe that the minutes referenced or included financial activity relating to public funds if those public funds comprised more than 10% of the entity's collections during the fiscal period.
 - iii. For governmental entities, obtain the prior year audit report and observe the unassigned fund balance in the general fund. If the general fund had a negative ending unassigned fund balance in the prior year audit report, observe that the minutes for at least one meeting during the fiscal period referenced or included a formal plan to eliminate the negative unassigned fund balance in the general fund.
 - iv. Observe whether the board/finance committee received written updates of the progress of resolving audit finding(s), according to management's corrective action plan at each meeting until the findings are considered fully resolved.

Procedure Results: We noted no exceptions.

3) Bank Reconciliations

A. Obtain a listing of entity bank accounts for the fiscal period from management and management's representation that the listing is complete. Ask management to identify the entity's main operating account. Select the entity's main operating account and randomly select 4 additional accounts (or all accounts if less than 5). Randomly select one month from the fiscal period, obtain and inspect the corresponding bank statement and reconciliation for each selected account, and observe that:

- i. Bank reconciliations include evidence that they were prepared within 2 months of the related statement closing date (e.g., initialed and dated or electronically logged);
- ii. Bank reconciliations include written evidence that a member of management or a board member who does not handle cash, post ledgers, or issue checks has reviewed each bank reconciliation (e.g., initialed and dated, electronically logged); and
- iii. Management has documentation reflecting it has researched reconciling items that have been outstanding for more than 12 months from the statement closing date, if applicable.

Procedure Results: We noted exceptions. See Items 1-2.

4) Collections

A. Obtain a listing of deposit sites for the fiscal period where deposits for cash/checks/money orders (cash) are prepared and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 deposit sites (or all deposit sites if less than 5).

B. For each deposit site selected, obtain a listing of collection locations and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select one collection location for each deposit site (e.g., 5 collection locations for 5 deposit sites), obtain and inspect written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if there are no written policies or procedures, then inquire of employees about their job duties) at each collection location, and observe that job duties are properly segregated at each collection location such that:

- i. Employees responsible for cash collections do not share cash drawers/registers;
- ii. Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not also responsible for preparing/making bank deposits, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling collection documentation (e.g., pre-numbered receipts) to the deposit;
- iii. Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not also responsible for posting collection entries to the general ledger or subsidiary ledgers, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling ledger postings to each other and to the deposit; and
- iv. The employee(s) responsible for reconciling cash collections to the general ledger and/or subsidiary ledgers, by revenue source and/or agency fund additions, is (are) not also responsible for collecting cash, unless another employee/official verifies the reconciliation.

C. Obtain from management a copy of the bond or insurance policy for theft covering all employees who have access to cash. Observe the bond or insurance policy for theft was in force during the fiscal period.

D. Randomly select two deposit dates for each of the 5 bank accounts selected for Bank Reconciliations procedure #3a (select the next deposit date chronologically if no deposits were made on the dates randomly selected and randomly select a deposit if multiple deposits are made on the same day). 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. Obtain supporting documentation for each of the 10 deposits and:

- i. Observe that receipts are sequentially pre-numbered.
- ii. Trace sequentially pre-numbered receipts, system reports, and other related collection documentation to the deposit slip.

- iii. Trace the deposit slip total to the actual deposit per the bank statement.
- iv. Observe that the deposit was made within one business day of receipt at the collection location (within one week if the depository is more than 10 miles from the collection location or the deposit is less than \$100 and the cash is stored securely in a locked safe or drawer).
- v. Trace the actual deposit per the bank statement to the general ledger.

Procedure Results: We noted no exceptions.

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

A. Obtain a listing of locations that process payments for the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 locations (or all locations if less than 5).

B. For each location selected under procedure #5a above, obtain a listing of those employees involved with non-payroll purchasing and payment functions. Obtain written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if the agency has no written policies and procedures, then inquire of employees about their job duties), and observe that job duties are properly segregated such that:

- i. At least two employees are involved in initiating a purchase request, approving a purchase, and placing an order or making the purchase;
- ii. At least two employees are involved in processing and approving payments to vendors;
- iii. The employee responsible for processing payments is prohibited from adding/modifying vendor files, unless another employee is responsible for periodically reviewing changes to vendor files;
- iv. Either the employee/official responsible for signing checks mails the payment or gives the signed checks to an employee to mail who is not responsible for processing payments; and
- v. Only employees/officials authorized to sign checks approve the electronic disbursement (release) of funds, whether through automated clearinghouse (ACH), electronic funds transfer (EFT), wire transfer, or some other electronic means.

C. For each location selected under #5a above, obtain the entity's non-payroll disbursement transaction population (excluding cards and travel reimbursements) and obtain management's representation that the population is complete. Randomly select 5 disbursements for each location, obtain supporting documentation for each transaction, and:

- i. Observe whether the disbursement, whether by paper or electronic means, matched the related original itemized invoice and supporting documentation indicates that deliverables included on the invoice were received by the entity, and
- ii. Observe whether the disbursement documentation included evidence (e.g., initial/date, electronic logging) of segregation of duties tested under #5b above, as applicable.

D. Using the entity's main operating account and the month selected in Bank Reconciliations procedure #3a, randomly select 5 non-payroll-related electronic disbursements (or all electronic disbursements if less than 5) and observe that each electronic disbursement was (a) approved by only those persons authorized to disburse funds (e.g., sign checks) per the entity's policy, and (b) approved by the required number of authorized signers per the entity's policy. 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: We noted exceptions. See Items 3.

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

A. Obtain from management a listing of all active credit cards, bank debit cards, fuel cards, and purchase cards (cards) for the fiscal period, including the card numbers and the names of the persons who maintained possession of the cards. Obtain management's representation that the listing is complete.

B. Using the listing prepared by management, randomly select 5 cards (or all cards if less than 5) that were used during the fiscal period. Randomly select one monthly statement or combined statement for each card (for a debit card, randomly select one monthly bank statement). Obtain supporting documentation, and

i. Observe whether there is evidence that the monthly statement or combined statement and supporting documentation (e.g., original receipts for credit/debit card purchases, exception reports for excessive fuel card usage) was reviewed and approved, in writing, (or electronically approved), by someone other than the authorized card holder.

ii. Observe that finance charges and late fees were not assessed on the selected statements.

C. Using the monthly statements or combined statements selected under procedure #7b above, excluding fuel cards, randomly select 10 transactions (or all transactions if less than 10) from each statement, and obtain supporting documentation for the transactions (e.g., each card should have 10 transactions subject to inspection). For each transaction, observe that it is supported by (1) an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased, (2) written documentation of the business/public purpose, and (3) documentation of the individuals participating in meals (for meal charges only). For missing receipts, the practitioner should describe the nature of the transaction and observe whether management had a compensating control to address missing receipts, such as a "missing receipt statement" that is subject to increased scrutiny.

Procedure Results: We noted no exceptions.

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

A. Obtain from management a listing of all travel and travel-related expense reimbursements during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing or general ledger is complete. Randomly select 5 reimbursements and obtain the related expense reimbursement forms/prepaid expense documentation of each selected reimbursement, as well as the supporting documentation. For each of the 5 reimbursements selected

i. If reimbursed using a per diem, observe the approved reimbursement rate is no more than those rates established either by the State of Louisiana or the U.S. General Services Administration (www.gsa.gov);

ii. If reimbursed using actual costs, observe that the reimbursement is supported by an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased;

iii. Observe that each reimbursement is supported by documentation of the business/public purpose (for meal charges, observe that the documentation includes the names of those individuals participating) and other documentation required by Written Policy and Procedures procedure #1a(vii); and

iv. Observe that each reimbursement was reviewed and approved, in writing, by someone other than the person receiving reimbursement.

Procedure Results: We noted no exceptions.

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.

Alternately, the practitioner may use an equivalent selection source, such as an active vendor list. Obtain management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 contracts (or all contracts if less than 5) from the listing, excluding the practitioner's contract, and

- i. Observe whether the contract was bid in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law (e.g., solicited quotes or bids, advertised), if required by law;
- ii. Observe whether the contract was approved by the governing body/board, if required by policy or law (e.g., Lawrason Act, Home Rule Charter);
- iii. If the contract was amended (e.g., change order), observe that the original contract terms provided for such an amendment and that amendments were made in compliance with the contract terms (e.g., if approval is required for any amendment, the documented approval); and
- 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.

Procedure Results: We noted no exceptions.

9) Payroll and Personnel

- A. Obtain a listing of employees and officials employed during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 employees or officials, obtain related paid salaries and personnel files, and agree paid salaries to authorized salaries/pay rates in the personnel files.
- B. Randomly select one pay period during the fiscal period. For the 5 employees or officials selected under #9a above, obtain attendance records and leave documentation for the pay period, and
 - i. Observe all selected employees or officials documented their daily attendance and leave (e.g., vacation, sick, compensatory);
 - ii. Observe whether supervisors approved the attendance and leave of the selected employees or officials;
 - iii. Observe that any leave accrued or taken during the pay period is reflected in the entity's cumulative leave records; and
 - iv. Observe the rate paid to the employees or officials agrees to the authorized salary/pay rate found within the personnel file.
- C. Obtain a listing of those employees or officials that received termination payments during the fiscal period and management's representation that the list is complete. Randomly select two employees or officials and obtain related documentation of the hours and pay rates used in management's termination payment calculations and the entity's policy on termination payments. Agree the hours to the employee's or official's cumulative leave records, agree the pay rates in the employee's or official's authorized pay rates in the employee's or official's personnel files, and agree the termination payment to entity policy.
- D. Obtain management's representation that employer and employee portions of third-party payroll related amounts (e.g., payroll taxes, retirement contributions, health insurance premiums, garnishments, workers' compensation premiums, etc.) have been paid, and any associated forms have been filed, by required deadlines.

Procedure Results: We noted no exceptions.

10) Ethics

- A. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #9a obtain ethics documentation from management, and
 - i. Observe whether the documentation demonstrates that each employee/official completed one hour of ethics training during the calendar year as required by R.S. 42:1170; and
 - ii. Observe whether the entity maintains documentation which demonstrates that each employee and official were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy during the fiscal period, as applicable.
- B. Inquire and/or observe whether the agency has appointed an ethics designee as required by R.S. 42:1170.

Procedure Results: We noted exceptions. See Item 4.

11) Debt Service

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

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

Procedure Results: We noted exceptions.

12) Fraud Notice

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

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

Procedure Results: We noted exceptions.

13) Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity

A. Perform the following procedures, verbally discuss the results with management, and report "We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management."

i. Obtain and inspect the entity's most recent documentation that it has backed up its critical data (if there is no written documentation, then inquire of personnel responsible for testing/verifying backing up restoration) and observe evidence that such backup (a) occurred within the past week, (b) was not stored on the government's local server or network, and (c) was encrypted.

ii. Obtain and inspect the entity's most recent documentation that it has tested/verified that its backups can be restored (if there is no written documentation, then inquire of personnel responsible for testing/verifying backup restoration) and observe evidence that the test/verification was successfully performed within the past 3 months.

iii. Obtain a listing of the entity's computers currently in use and their related locations, and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 computers and observe while management demonstrates that the selected computers have current and active antivirus software and that the operating system and accounting system software in use are currently supported by the vendor.

B. Randomly select 5 terminated employees (or all terminated employees if less than 5) using the list of terminated employees obtained in procedure #9c. Observe evidence that the selected terminated employees have been removed or disabled from the network.

Procedure Results: We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management.

14) Prevention of Sexual Harassment

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

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

C. Obtain the entity's annual sexual harassment report for the current fiscal period, observe that the report was dated on or before February 1, and observe that the report includes the applicable requirements of R.S. 42:344:

- i. Number and percentage of public servants in the agency who have completed the training requirements;
- ii. Number of sexual harassment complaints received by the agency;
- iii. Number of complaints which resulted in a finding that sexual harassment occurred;
- iv. Number of complaints in which the finding of sexual harassment resulted in discipline or corrective action; and
- v. Amount of time it took to resolve each complaint.

Procedure Results: We noted exceptions. See Items 5-6.

We were engaged by Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. 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 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 Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to our agreed-upon procedures engagement.

This report is intended solely to describe the scope of testing performed on those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs, and the result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on control or compliance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the LLA as a public document.

Kenneth D. Folden & Co., CPAs, LLC

Kenneth D. Folden & Co., CPAs, LLC

Jonesboro, Louisiana

March 28, 2025

Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc.
Natchitoches, Louisiana

Management's Responses to Exceptions to the
Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures
For the year ended September 30, 2024

Item 1: Exception: Bank reconciliations do not include evidence that they were prepared within 2 months of the statement closing date.

Response - Management has implemented a new procedure to ensure that all bank reconciliations will be prepared and reviewed within two months of the statement closing date. Going forward, a log will be maintained to document the completion and review dates for all reconciliations.

Item 2: Exception: Bank reconciliations do not include written evidence that a member of management or board member reviewed each bank reconciliation within 1 month of preparation.

Response - To address this issue, management will ensure that all bank reconciliations are reviewed and signed off by a designated member of management or the board within 1 month of preparation. A formal review process will be implemented to track and document these reviews.

Item 3: Exception: Three out of twenty-five disbursements reviewed did not include evidence that it was received by the entity and did not include evidence of segregation of duties.

Response - Management will implement stronger controls to ensure all disbursements are properly documented with receipt evidence and that segregation of duties is consistently followed. A new internal checklist will be required for every disbursement, verifying that all steps are completed and properly documented before payment is made.

Item 4: Exception: One out of five employees reviewed did not complete the required ethics training during the fiscal period.

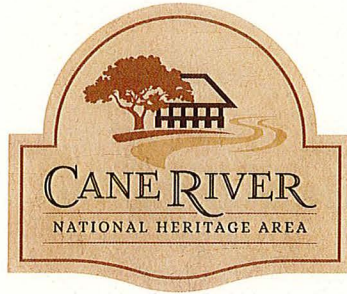
Response - CRNHA will ensure that all employees, including part-time heritage aides, are enrolled in ethics training and that completion is tracked and verified on an annual basis. A new tracking system will be implemented to monitor employee compliance with required training.

Item 5: Exception: One out of five employees reviewed did not complete the required sexual harassment training during the fiscal period.

Response - Management will ensure that all employees complete sexual harassment training within the required period. A tracking mechanism will be put in place to ensure timely completion and prevent any future lapses.

Item 6: Exception: The Cane River National Heritage Area, Inc. completed the annual sexual harassment report; however, not on or before February 1st.

Response - CRNHA has established a new internal deadline to ensure the annual sexual harassment report is completed and submitted before the February deadline. This deadline will be tracked by management to ensure timely compliance moving forward.



Kenneth D. Folden & Co., CPAs, LLC
302 8th Street
Jonesboro, LA 71251

In connection with your engagement to apply agreed-upon procedures to certain control and compliance (C/C) areas identified in the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures (SAUPs), for the fiscal period October 01, 2023 through September 30, 2024, we confirm to the best of our knowledge and belief, the following representations made to you during your engagement.

1. We acknowledge that we are responsible for the C/C areas identified in the SAUPs, including written policies and procedures; board or finance committee; bank reconciliations; collections; non-payroll disbursements; credit/debit/fuel/purchasing cards; travel and travel related expense reimbursement; contracts; payroll and personnel; ethics; debt service; and other areas (as applicable).
Yes ☒ No ☐
2. For the fiscal period October 01, 2023 through September 30, 2024, the C/C areas were administered in accordance with the best practice criteria presented in the SAUPs.
Yes ☒ No ☐
3. We are responsible for selecting the criteria and procedures and for determining that such criteria and procedures are appropriate for our purposes.
Yes ☒ No ☐
4. We have provided you with access to all records that we believe are relevant to the C/C areas and the agreed-upon procedures.
Yes ☒ No ☐
5. We have disclosed to you all known matters contradicting the results of the procedures performed in C/C areas.
Yes ☒ No ☐
6. We have disclosed to you any communications from regulatory agencies, internal auditors, other independent practitioners or consultants, and others affecting the C/C areas, including communications received between September 30, 2024, and .
Yes ☒ No ☐

7. We represent that the listing of bank accounts for the fiscal period that we provided to you is complete. We also represent that we have identified and disclosed to you our main operating account.
- Yes ☒ No ☐
8. We represent that the listing of deposit sites for the fiscal period that we provided to you is complete.
- Yes ☒ No ☐
9. We represent that the listing of collection locations for the fiscal period that we provided to you is complete.
- Yes ☒ No ☐
10. We represent that the listing of locations that process payments for the fiscal period that we provided to you is complete.
- Yes ☒ No ☐
11. We represent that the non-payroll disbursement transaction population for each location that processes payments for the fiscal period that we provided to you is complete.
- Yes ☒ No ☐
12. We represent that the 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, that we provided to you is complete.
- Yes ☒ No ☐
13. We represent that the listing of all travel and travel-related expense reimbursements during the fiscal period that we provided to you is complete.
- Yes ☒ No ☐
14. We represent that the listing of all agreements/contracts (or active vendors) for professional services, materials and supplies, leases, and construction activities that were initiated or renewed during the fiscal period that we provided to you is complete.
- Yes ☒ No ☐
15. We represent that the listing of employees/elected officials employed during the fiscal period that we provided to you is complete.
- Yes ☒ No ☐
16. We represent that the listing of employees/officials that received termination payments during the fiscal period that we provided to you is complete.
- Yes ☒ No ☐
17. We represent that the employer and employee portions of payroll taxes, retirement contributions, health insurance premiums, and workers' compensation premiums have been paid, and associated forms have been filed, by required deadlines during the fiscal period.
- Yes ☒ No ☐
18. We represent that the listing of bonds/notes issued during the fiscal period that we provided to you is complete.
- Yes ☒ No ☐

19. We represent that the listing of bonds/notes outstanding at the end of the fiscal period that we provided to you is complete.

Yes ☒ No ☐

20. We represent that the listing of misappropriations of public funds and assets during the fiscal period that we provided to you is complete.

Yes ☒ No ☐

21. We are not aware of any material misstatements in the C/C areas identified in the SAUPs.

Yes ☒ No ☐

22. We have disclosed to you any other matters as we have deemed appropriate.

Yes ☒ No ☐

23. We have responded fully to all inquiries made by you during the engagement.

Yes ☒ No ☐

24. We have disclosed to you all known events that have occurred subsequent to September 30, 2024, that would have a material effect on the C/C areas identified in the SAUPs, or would require adjustment to or modification of the results of the agreed-upon procedures.

Yes ☒ No ☐

The previous responses have been made to the best of our belief and knowledge.

Signature [Signature]

Date

3/28/25

Title Executive Director

Signature [Signature]

Date

3/28/25

Title Board Member