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LEGISLATIVE AUDITOR
2000 JUL -5 AMIN: 03

DISTRICT FIVE ROAD AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION

OF ST. LANDRY PARISH

LEBEAU, LOUISIANA

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1999

Under provisions of state law, this report is a public document. A copy of the report has been submitted to the entity and other appropriate public officials. The report is available for public inspection at the Baton Rouge office of the Legislative Auditor and, where appropriate, at the office of the parish clerk of court.

Release Date (X-OT-CO

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Joel Lanclos, Jr., CPA
Russell J. Stelly, CPA
Chizal S. Fontenot, CPA
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G. Kenneth Pavy, II, CPA
Darren J. Cart, CPA
Michael A. Roy, CPA



JOHN S. DOWLING & COMPANY A CORPORATION OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

John S. Dowling, CPA 1904-1984

Retired
Harold Dupre, CPA
1996
John Newton Stout, CPA
1998
Dwight Ledoux, CPA
1998

To the Board of Commissioners
District Five Road and Public Works
Commission of St. Landry Parish
Lebeau, Louisiana

We have audited the accompanying general purpose financial statements of District Five Road and Public Works Commission of St. Landry Parish, a component unit of the St. Landry Parish Police Jury, as of and for the year ended December 31, 1999. These general purpose financial statements are the responsibility of District Five Road and Public Works Commission's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these general purpose financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the general purpose financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the general purpose financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall general purpose financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the general purpose financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of District Five Road and Public Works Commission of St. Landry Parish, as of December 31, 1999 and the results of its operations for the year then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the general purpose financial statements taken as a whole. The Schedule of Prior Year Findings is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the general purpose financial statements of the District Five Road and Public Works Commission of St. Landry Parish. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the general purpose financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly presented in all material respects in relation to the general purpose financial statements taken as a whole.

In accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, we have also issued our report dated June 20, 2000 on our consideration of District Five Road and Public Works Commission's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants.

Opelousas, Louisiana

June 20,2000

P. O. Box 433

DISTRICT FIVE ROAD AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION OF ST. LANDRY PARISH

COMBINED BALANCE SHEET - ALL FUND TYPES AND ACCOUNT GROUPS

<u>DECEMBER 31, 1999</u>

		ACCOUNT GRO	GROUPS		
	GOVERNMENTAL		GENERAL	TOT	TOTALS
	FUND TYPE	GENERAL	LONG-TERM	(MEMORANDUM	IDOM ONLY)
	GENERAL FUND	FIXED ASSETS	DEBT	1999	1998
ASSETS					
Cash on hand and in bank	\$154,881			\$154,881	\$82,880
Ad valorem taxes receivable, net	((0	c c
of allowance for uncollectibles	χ, ν,			מ ער ע	7 0 7
Revenue sharing receivable	15,535			15,53	24,53
Property and equipment		\$238,311		238,311	206,549
Amount to be provided for retirement				•	t
ot general long-term debt			405/72	20417	37,400
<u>Total</u> assets	909,414	238,311	27,455	1,175,191	1,094,196
LIABILITIES AND FUND SQUITY					
LIABILITIES					
Accounts payable	\$9,764			\$9,764	\$23,430
Payroll taxes payable	ω			4,933	3,653
'n	5,211			5,211	6,751
cipation	, 00			O	00,
			\$21,366	36	9,33
gation no			10	6,10	18,06
l liab	279,908	-0-	27,466	307,374	331,234
FUND EQUITY					
Investment in general fixed assets		\$238,311		238,311	206,549
				1	•
Ħ	2,16			2,16	2,16
•	7,34	- 1		7,34	54,25
Total fund equity	629,506	238,311	-0-	867,817	752,962
Total liabilities and fund equity	909,414	238,311	27,456	1,175,191	1,094,195

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

DISTRICT FIVE ROAD AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION OF ST. LANDRY PARISH LEBEAU, LOUISIANA

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES - GENERAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1999

		TOTAL (Memorandum Only)
	1999	1998
REVENUES		
Taxes	\$736,749	\$745,031
Property taxes	4,34,742	Q,15,051
Intergovernmental	23,626	24,147
State revenue sharing	23,020	25,680
Grants		25,000
Interest	168	194
On property taxes	1,748	1,089
On investments	4 ,,,,	-,002
Miscellaneous Sale of assets		3,200
Morrow Community Center - rental	45 <u>8</u>	-,
Total revenues	762,749	799,341
100ar 1 cverides		
EXPENDITURES		
Current operating		
Labor cost		
Direct to roads	197,774	210,671
Office	29,741	28,074
Summer temps	16,900	10,840
Payroll taxes	18,871	21,708
Road supplies		
Aggregate	19,428	18,611
Culverts	18,095	26,906
Pothole repair	36,809	65,187
Herbicides	738	1,462
Dirt	1,005	980
Other road supplies	10,650	
Beaver control	46,249	46,214
Insurance	68,689	53,514
Property and equipment		
Rental.	48,171	48,574
Repairs and maintenance	48,440	62,934
Tires/tubes	7,977	5,507
Diesel	17,716	13,728
Gasoline	12,609	13,403
Oil and filters	3,959	6,707
Office and supplies	31,904	30,688
Capital outlay	31,761	32,863
Debt service		_
Principal retirement	13,236	12,702
Interest	<u>8,934</u>	<u>10,653</u>
<u>Total expenditures</u>	<u>689,656</u>	<u>721,926</u>

Continued on next page.

DISTRICT FIVE ROAD AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION OF ST. LANDRY PARISH LEBEAU, LOUISIANA

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES ALL GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES - GENERAL FUND (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1999

	1999	TOTAL (Memorandum Only) 1998
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	\$73,093	\$77,415
FUND BALANCE, beginning of year	<u>556,413</u>	478,998
FUND BALANCE, end of year	<u>629,506</u>	556,413

. . . -

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

DISTRICT FIVE ROAD AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION OF ST. LANDRY PARISH LEBEAU, LOUISIANA

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES BUDGET (CASH BASIS) AND ACTUAL -

GENERAL FUND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1999

	1999			
	BUDGET	ACTUAL.	VARIANCE FAVORABLE (UNFAVORABLE)	
REVENUES				
Taxes				
Property taxes	\$667,963	\$740,587	\$72,624	
Intergovernmental				
State revenue sharing	25,667	32,622	6,955	
Interest				
On property taxes		168	168	
On investments		1,748	1,748	
Miscellaneous				
Morrow Community Center - rental		458	<u>458</u>	
Total revenues	<u>693,630</u>	<u>775,583</u>	81,953	
EXPENDITURES				
Current operating				
Office and supplies	50,000	32,061	17,939	
Labor	250,000	263,429	(13,429)	
Fuel	36,000	32,375	3,625	
Insurance	52,032	72,700	(20,668)	
Beaver control	45,000	47,041	(2,041)	
Repairs	65,000	57,910	7,090	
Road supplies	88,000	87,566	434	
Equipment rental	50,000	48,171	1,829	
Tires and tubes	7,500	7,671	(171)	
Capital outlay		32,371	(32,371)	
Debt service				
Principal retirement	274,069	273,236	833	
Interest	9,048	10,474	(1,426)	
<u>Potal expenditures</u>	926,649	965,005	(<u>38,356</u>)	
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES				
OVER (UNDER) EXPENDITURES	(233,019)	(189,422)	43,597	
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES				
Note proceeds	260,000	260,000		
EXCESS OF REVENUES AND OTHER				
SOURCES OVER EXPENDITURES	<u> 26,981</u>	70,578	<u>43,597</u>	
FUND BALANCE, beginning of year		<u>80,689</u>		
FUND BALANCE, end of year		<u>151,267</u>		

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

District Five Road and Public Works Commission of St. Landry Parish (the Commission), is a political subdivision of the State of Louisiana and possesses all the powers necessary to construct, acquire, operate, and maintain roads, bridges, and road drainage facilities as well as the rights, powers, and authority enumerated for road districts in Part II of Chapter 2 of Title 48. The Commission was created by Louisiana Revised Statute 48:600.1.

The Commission is governed by 13 commissioners appointed by the St. Landry Parish Police Jury. Presently, the commissioners receive no compensation for their service.

A. BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The accompanying financial statements of District Five Road and Public Works Commission of St. Landry Parish 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 standards-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles.

B. REPORTING ENTITY

As the governing authority of the parish, for reporting purposes, the St. Landry Parish Police Jury is the financial reporting entity for St. Landry Parish. The financial reporting entity consists of (a) the primary government (police jury), (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 Police Jury 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 police jury 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 police jury.
- 2. Organizations for which the police jury does not appoint a voting majority but are fiscally dependent on the police jury.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - Continued

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

Because the police jury appoints the commissioners of District Five Road and Public Works Commission and the function of the Commission serves as a substantial contribution to similar services provided by the police jury, the Commission was determined to be a component unit of the St. Landry Parish Police Jury, the financial reporting entity. The accompanying financial statements present information only on the funds maintained by the Commission and do not present information on the police jury, the general government services provided by that governmental unit, or the other governmental units that comprise the financial reporting entity.

C. FUND ACCOUNTING

The Commission uses funds and account groups to report on its financial position and the results of its operations. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions relating to certain government functions or activities.

A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. On the other hand, an account group is a financial reporting device designated to provide accountability for certain assets and liabilities that are not recorded in the funds because they do not directly affect net expendable available financial resources.

Funds of the Commission are classified as governmental funds. Governmental funds account for the Commission's general activities, including the collection and disbursement of specific or legally restricted monies, the acquisition or construction of general fixed assets, and the servicing of general long-term debt. The Commission uses one governmental fund as follows:

General Fund - the general operating fund of the Commission which accounts for all financial resources.

The Commission uses two account groups as follows:

General Fixed Assets Account Group - established to account for all fixed assets used in governmental fund type operations.

General Long-term Debt Account Group - established to account for all long-term obligations.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - Continued

D. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. The governmental funds are accounted for using a current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets and current liabilities generally are included on the balance sheet. Operating statements of these funds present increases (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) in net current assets.

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures are recognized and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied.

All governmental fund types are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. The revenues are recognized when they become measurable and available. Available means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, if measurable.

Revenues from local sources consist primarily of property taxes. Property tax revenues and revenue sharing 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.

Purchase 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 material, are recorded as assets. Expenditures for insurance and similar services which extend over more than one accounting period are accounted for as expenditures of the period of acquisition.

E. BUDGETS

The Commission legally adopted a budget for the General Fund for the year ended December 31, 1999. The budget for the General Fund is prepared on a cash basis. At year-end all appropriations lapse. The budget amounts shown in the financial statements are the final authorized amounts as revised for the year. The level of budgetary control is by total appropriations; however, for report purposes, the budgetary information has been expanded.

F. ENCUMBRANCES

The Commission does not employ the encumbrance system of accounting.

1. <u>SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES</u> - Continued

G. INVESTMENTS IN CASH

Investments are stated at cost or amortized cost, which approximates market.

Louisiana statutes authorize the District to invest in United States bonds, treasury notes or certificates, time certificates of deposit in state and national banks, or any other federally insured investment.

H. FIXED ASSETS AND LONG-TERM DEBT

Fixed assets of governmental funds are recorded as expenditures at the time they are purchased or constructed, and the related assets are capitalized (reported) in the General Fixed Assets Account Group.

The Commission has elected not to capitalize public domain (infrastructure) fixed assets consisting of certain improvements other than buildings, including roads, bridges, and drainage systems. No depreciation has been provided on general fixed assets. Interest costs during construction are not capitalized. All fixed assets are valued at historical cost.

Long-term liabilities expected to be financed from governmental fund types are accounted for in the General Long-term Debt Account Group, not in the governmental funds.

The account group is not a "fund." It is concerned only with the measurement of financial position. It is not involved with measurement of results of operations.

Because of their spending measurement focus, expenditure recognition for governmental fund types excludes amounts represented by noncurrent liabilities. Since they do not affect net current assets, such long-term amounts are not recognized as governmental fund type expenditures or fund liabilities. They are instead reported as liabilities in the General Long-term Debt Account Group.

1. REVENUE ANTICIPATION NOTES PAYABLE

Revenue anticipation notes payable are shown in the General Fund's balance sheet because they are short-term liabilities. The due dates of these notes are March of the following year and are repaid when property tax revenues are received.

J. COMPENSATED ABSENCES

Annual leave is accrued based on years of service to the Commission and can only be used in the calendar year earned or in the first quarter of the following year. Any annual leave not taken at this time is put into a reserve for use as sick leave due to a long-term illness when the employee will recover and return to work. Upon termination, accrued annual leave accumulated in the previous year only will be paid to the employee.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES - Continued

Sick leave is accrued at the rate of 1 ½ hours biweekly. Upon termination, accrued sick leave will be paid to the employee.

Employees also accumulate compensatory time which is to be used for doctor's appointments, funerals, etc. Hours accumulated in 12 months may stay on books for 6 months after the end of the year and alternatively will be put in reserve to be used as sick leave on the 31st of December of each year.

K. TOTAL COLUMNS ON COMBINED STATEMENTS

Total columns on the combined statements are captioned "memorandum only" to indicate that they are presented only to facilitate financial analysis. Data in these columns do not present financial position, results of operations, or changes in financial position, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. Neither is such data comparable to a consolidation. Interfund eliminations have not been made in the aggregation of this data.

2. CASH

At December 31, 1999 the bank and book balances of cash in interest-bearing and noninterest-bearing checking accounts were as follows:

	Bank <u>Balance</u>	Book <u>Balance</u>
Interest-bearing Noninterest-bearing	\$123,877 	\$123,877 31,004
<u>Total</u>	<u>162,713</u>	154,881

At year-end, approximately \$138,836 of the bank balance was covered by FDIC insurance and \$23,877 was covered by securities held by the pledging financial institution.

3. <u>AD VALOREM TAXES</u>

District Five Road and Public Works Commission of St. Landry Parish, Louisiana levies a special tax of fifteen (15) mills on all taxable property. This tax, which was approved at a special election held on October 16, 1993, will be assessed for a period of 10 years, beginning with the year 1994 and ending with the year 2003, for the purpose of constructing, acquiring, operating and maintaining the roads, bridges and road drainage facilities of the Commission and acquiring the necessary equipment therefor.

The Commission's ad valorem property tax is levied each October 1 on the assessed value listed as of the prior January 1 for all real and business personal property located in the District. Property taxes are due on October 1 and become delinquent by January 1 of the following year. The St. Landry Parish Sheriff bills, collects, and distributes the property taxes for the District using the assessed values determined by the Tax Assessor of St. Landry Parish.

The Commission is required to remit a percentage of the total ad valorem taxes per the tax roll to a State Pension Fund. This amount is determined by the legislative auditor each year. Since the Sheriff collects all taxes for the parish, the tax collected in the first month is reduced by the Sheriff for the pension fund amount owed and the remainder is remitted to the taxing district. Therefore, the ad valorem tax receivable and revenue are shown net of Pension Fund distributions. A breakdown of tax receivable is as follows:

	Total Per Tax Roll	Pension Fund Requirements	Allowance for Uncollectible Taxes	Tax Received In <u>December</u>	Tax <u>Receivable</u>
1999	\$772,013	\$22,767	\$4,082	\$6,166	\$738,998

4. CHANGES IN GENERAL FIXED ASSETS

A summary of changes in General Fixed Assets for the year 1999 are as follows:

	Balance Beginning			Balance End
	of Year	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deletions</u>	of Year
Furniture and fixtures	\$10,993	\$539		\$11,532
Equipment	137,576	22,578		160,154
Autos	28,435	8,644		37,079
Building	9,060			9,060
Land	<u>20,486</u>		• 	20,486
<u>Total</u>	206,550	31,761	<u>- 0 -</u>	238,311

5. REVENUE ANTICIPATION NOTES

On April 1, 1999, the Commission issued Revenue Anticipation Notes in the amount of \$260,000, bearing interest at the rate of 6.0 percent and having a maturity date of March 1, 2000. The notes were secured by a pledge and dedication of the Commission's 15 mill property tax.

6. <u>LONG-TERM DEBT</u>

The Commission issued \$40,000 of Certificates of Indebtedness, Series 1994 bearing interest at the rate of 5 percent and having a final maturity of March 1, 1999. The certificates are secured by a pledge and dedication of the Commission's 15 mill property tax. These certificates were issued for the purpose of purchasing equipment.

On February 29, 1996, the Commission issued \$25,000 of Certificates of Indebtedness, Series 1995 bearing interest at the rate of 7.75 percent and having a final maturity of March 1, 2000. The certificates are secured by a pledge and dedication of the Commission's 15 mill property tax and were issued for the purpose of purchasing and improving property.

Changes in long-term liabilities during the year ended December 31, 1999 are as follows:

	Compensated <u>Absences</u>	<u>Certificates o</u> <u>Series 1994</u>	of Indebtedness Series 1995	<u>Total</u>
Balance - 1/1/99 Payments in 1999	\$18,064	\$9,000 9,000	\$10,336 4,236	\$37,400 13,236
Increases in 1999	3,302			3,302
Balance - 12/31/99	<u>21,366</u>	- 0 -	6,100	27,466

Annual debt service requirements to maturity on the Certificates of Indebtedness are as follows:

For	the	year	ended	December	31,	Interest	<u>Principal</u>	<u>Total</u>
		2000				\$427	\$6,100	\$6,527

7. GRANTS

During the year ended December 31, 1998, District Five Road and Public Works Commission of St. Landry Parish was awarded two grants for the purpose of purchasing and upgrading the Morrow Community Center. The grants awarded were the Rural Development Grant in the amount of \$15,680 and a grant from the Governor's Office of Urban Affairs and Development for \$10,000. The Commission expended \$23,517 of the total grants received during the year ended December 31, 1998. The unexpended portion of the grants, amounting to \$2,163, is reflected in fund balance as a reserve.

8. OPERATING LEASE

On September 30, 1998, District Five Road and Public Works Commission entered into an operating lease for a Kobelco tractor. The lease is for a period of five years and requires monthly payments of \$1,511. Rental expenditures for 1999 were \$18,132. The payment schedule is as follows:

2000	\$18,132
2001	18,132
2002	18,132
2003	13,599

9. FUND BALANCE

The General Fund does not have a deficit fund balance for the year ended December 31, 1999.

10. BOARD MEMBERS

Board members do not get paid for serving on the board. A list of board members follows:

Lester Cormier
Donald R. Oliney
Anthony G. Whaley
Cornelius Firmin
Brett A. Clark

Marvin Dumes
Caroline Johnson
Brian Ortego
Thomas A. Pickett
Brian Cannatella
Joseph Lane Campbell
Paul Dupont

11. BUDGET RECONCILEMENT

A reconcilement of the figures shown on pages 3 and 4 to the cash basis figures shown on page 5 follows:

	<u>1999</u>
Revenues	
Revenues - page 3	\$762,749
Add: Prior year property tax	742,836
Prior year state revenue sharing	24,531
Less: Current year property tax	(738,998)
Current year state revenue sharing	<u>(15,535</u>)
Revenues - page 5	<u>775,583</u>

11. <u>BUDGET RECONCILEMENT</u> (Continued)

	<u> 1999</u>
<u>Expenditures</u>	
Expenditures - page 3	\$689,656
Add: Prior year accounts payable	23,430
Prior year payroll taxes accrued	1,462
Prior year accrued expenditures	6,751
Prior year notes payable	260,000
Less: Current year accounts payable	(9,764)
Current year payroll taxes accrued	(1,319)
Current year accrued expenditures	<u>(5,211</u>)
Expenditures - page 5	<u>965,005</u>
<u>Fund Balance</u>	
Fund balance - page 4	\$629,506
Add: Current year payables	276,294
Less: Current year receivable	(<u>754,533</u>)
Fund balance - page 5	<u> 151,267</u>

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REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING BASED ON AN AUDIT OF GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS

To the Board of Commissioners
District Five Road and Public Works
Commission of St. Landry Parish
Lebeau, Louisiana

We have audited the general purpose financial statements of District Five Road and Public Works Commission of St. Landry Parish, as of and for the year ended December 31, 1999, and have issued our report thereon dated June 20, 2000. We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

Compliance

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether District Five Road and Public Works Commission of St. Landry Parish's general purpose financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants, 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 that are required to be reported under <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit, we considered District Five Road and Public Works Commission of St. Landry Parish's internal control over financial reporting in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the general purpose financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control over financial reporting. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control over financial reporting that might be material weaknesses.

To the District Five Road and Public Works Commission of St. Landry Parish Page 2

A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that misstatements in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. We noted no matters involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, we noted other matters involving the internal control over financial reporting that we have reported to management of District Five Road and Public Works Commission of St. Landry Parish, in a separate letter dated June 20, 2000.

This report is intended for the information of District Five Road and Public Works Commission of St. Landry Parish, its Commissioners and the appropriate regulatory agency and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

John S. Dowling and Company.
Opelousas, Louisiana

June 20, 2000

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

DISTRICT FIVE ROAD AND PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION OF ST. LANDRY PARISH LEBEAU, LOUISIANA SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS DECEMBER 31, 1999

SECTION I - <u>INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE MATERIAL TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS</u>

N/A

SECTION 11 - INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE MATERIAL TO FEDERAL AWARDS

N/A

SECTION III - MANAGEMENT LETTER

1998-1. Transactions not recorded in proper general ledger accounts. Resolved.

1998-2. Accounting adjustments made to months already finalized and printed out.
Resolved.

Suggestion 1998-3 Revenue Anticipation Loans

Unresolved - REPEAT COMMENT

Joel Lanclos, Jr., CPA
Russell J. Stelly, CPA
Chizal S. Fontenot, CPA
James L. Nicholson, Jr., CPA
G. Kenneth Pavy, II, CPA
Darren J. Cart, CPA
Michael A. Roy, CPA



John S. Dowling, CPA 1904-1984

Retired
Harold Dupre, CPA
1996
John Newton Stout, CPA
1998
Dwight Ledoux, CPA

1998

To the Board of Commissioners
District Five Road and Public Works
Commission of St. Landry Parish
Lebeau, Louisiana

We have audited the financial statements of District Five Road and Public Works Commission of St. Landry Parish as of and for the year ended December 31, 1999, and have issued our report thereon dated June 20, 2000. We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards applicable to financial audits contained in <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States.

As part of our examination, we have issued our report on the financial statements dated June 20, 2000, and our report on internal control and compliance with laws, regulations, and contracts, dated June 20, 2000.

During the course of our examination, we became aware of the following matters which represent immaterial deviations of compliance or suggestions for improved internal controls.

Suggestion 1999-1. Revenue Anticipation Loans

Condition: The District should reduce its dependance on the use of revenue anticipation loans.

Criteria: The District should employ better cash management procedures to reduce the amount of revenue anticipation loans made each year.

Effect: The uncertainty surrounding property tax collections could prevent the District from being able to meet the demand of the anticipation loan.

REPEAT COMMENT

We recommend management address the foregoing issues as an improvement to operations and administration of public programs. We are available to further explain the suggestions or help implement the recommendations.

John S. Dowling & Company Opelousas, Louisiana

June 20, 2000

P. O. Box 433

Telephone 318-948-4848

Telefax 318-948-6109

District Five Road and Public Works Commission of St. Landry Parish

P.O. Box 86 Lebeau, LA 71345-0086



(337) 585-6637 (800) 260-0667 (337) 585-6228 FAX

June 26, 2000

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

Louisiana Legislative Auditor Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804

District Five Road and Public Works Commission of St. Landry Parish respectfully submits the following "corrective plan" for the year ending December 31, 1999.

Name and address of independent public accounting firm: John S. Dowling & Company, P.O. Box 433, Opelousas, Louisiana 70571-0433.

Audit Period: Year ending December 31, 1999.

The findings from the 1999 schedule of findings and questioned costs are discussed below. The findings are numbered consistently with the numbers assigned in the schedule.

FINDINGS-FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT

Noncompliance

N/A

FINDINGS-FEDERAL AWARD PROGRAMS AUDIT

N/A

FINDINGS-MANAGEMENT LETTER

1999-1 Revenue Anticipation Loans

Action Taken: The Board of Commissioners are debating to go back to the public andask for extention on present millage, no increase, but this would give an amount of moneythat could be bonded and used for permanent hard-surfacing, which would cut maintenance cost. All revenues (at the present time) are used for upgrading roads with no reduction planned until needed roads can be hard-surfaced.

Better Roads Ogrough Citizen Participation!!!

CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

Page #2

We have actually been building roads, that were in deplorable shape with maintenance revenues. The Board felt that this practice was acceptable. R.S.48:600.1, Paragraph #D1C; 2; and 4.

Sincerely,

Thomas A. Pickett

Chairman

TAP/jas

cc: Legislative Audit FY 1999

Thomas a. Pickett