

Habitat for Humanity
Department, Inc.
June 5, 1997
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This report is intended for the information of management, St. Charles Parish and the State of Louisiana Legislative Auditor. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

June 5, 1997



Certified Public Accountant

In planning and performing our audit of the general purpose financial statements of Hahaville Volunteer Fire Department, Inc., for the year ended December 31, 1996, we obtained an understanding of the internal control structure. With respect to the internal control structure, we obtained an understanding of the design of relevant policies and procedures and whether they have been placed in operation, and we assessed control risk in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the general purpose financial statements and not to provide an opinion on the internal control structure. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

We noted certain matters involving the internal control structure and its operations that we consider to be reportable conditions under standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control structure that, in our judgment, could adversely affect the entity's ability to record, process, summarize, and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the general purpose financial statements.

Our evaluation of the internal control structure revealed an absence of appropriate segregation of duties consistent with appropriate control objectives. The Department is small and therefore it is not feasible to maintain an adequate segregation of duties among accounting personnel.

A material weakness is a reportable condition in which the design or operation of one or more of its specific internal control structure elements does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that errors or irregularities in amounts that would be material in relation to the general purpose 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.

Our consideration of the internal control structure would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control structure that might be reportable conditions and accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are also considered to be material weaknesses as defined above. However, we believe none of the reportable conditions described above is a material weakness.

HAINVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
NOTES TO GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 1996

(3) SALES TAX REVENUE (CONTINUED)

	Monthly Dues	Percent of Remaining Funds
Bayou Gauche Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc.	\$2,500	3.21%
Des Allemands Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc.	\$2,500	4.83%
East Side St. Charles Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc.	\$2,500	25.57%
Hahnville Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc.	\$2,500	5.82%
Kilham Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc.	\$2,500	1.50%
Luling Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc.	\$2,500	28.80%
North Area Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc.	\$2,500	18.51%
Parish Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc.	\$2,500	4.20%
St. Rose Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc.	\$2,500	17.20%

(4) REVENUE RECEIVABLE

Revenue receivable at December 31, 1996 consists of the Fire Department's share of the 100th cent sales tax for the month of November 1996, collected on or before December 20, 1996, by the St. Charles Parish School Board and remitted by St. Charles Parish in January 1997.

An allowance for uncollectible receivables is not recorded by the Fire Department because it considers all receivables collectible at December 31, 1996.

(4) CHANGES IN GENERAL FIXED ASSETS

	Balance	Purchases	Assets Transferred from	Retirements	Balance
	<u>12/31/95</u>	<u>1996</u>	St. Charles Parish 1996	<u>1996</u>	<u>12/31/96</u>
Fire protection vehicles	\$ 417,857	\$ -	\$29,388	\$ -	\$ 447,245
Equipment	234,533	4,182	84,958	-	319,713
Buildings	236,444	-	-	-	236,444
Land	115,880	-	-	-	115,880
	<u>\$ 904,694</u>	<u>\$ 4,182</u>	<u>\$114,346</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 1,023,222</u>

On March 31, 1994, the St. Charles Parish Council passed an ordinance which transferred to each Department property and equipment purchased by the Parish with a 1990 Capital Improvements Bond issue.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL
STRUCTURE BASED ON AN AUDIT OF GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH
GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

Hahnville Volunteer Fire
Department, Inc.
P.O. Box 313
Hahnville, Louisiana 70857

We have audited the general purpose financial statements of Hahnville Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. for the year ended December 31, 1996, and have issued our report thereon dated June 5, 1997.

We have conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, the Louisiana Governmental Audit Code and Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. These 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.

The management of Hahnville Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. is responsible for establishing and maintaining an internal control structure. In fulfilling this responsibility, estimates and judgments by management are required to assess the expected benefits and related costs of internal control structure policies and procedures. The objectives of an internal control structure are to provide management with reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that assets are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition, and that transactions are executed in accordance with management's authorization and recorded properly to permit the preparation of general purpose financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Because of inherent limitations in any internal control structure, errors or irregularities may nevertheless occur and not be detected. Also, projection of any evaluation of the structure to future periods is subject to the risk that procedures may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or that the effectiveness of the design and operation of policies and procedures may deteriorate.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON COMPLIANCE
BASED ON AN AUDIT OF GENERAL PURPOSE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH
GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS**

Hahnville Volunteer Fire
Department, Inc.
P.O. Box 213
Hahnville, Louisiana 70457

We have audited the general purpose financial statements of Hahnville Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. for the year ended December 31, 1996, and have issued our report thereon dated June 5, 1997.

We conducted our audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, the Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide and Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. These standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

Compliance with laws, regulations, contracts, and grants applicable to Hahnville Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. is the responsibility of Hahnville Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.'s management. As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of Hahnville Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.'s compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations and contracts. However, the objective of our audit of the general purpose financial statements was not to provide an opinion on overall compliance with such provisions. 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 Government Auditing Standards.

This report is intended for the information of management, St. Charles Parish and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

June 4, 1997


Certified Public Accountant

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

HARNVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
NOTES TO GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 1998

(4) CHANGES IN GENERAL FIXED ASSETS (CONTINUED)

In December 1993, the department was informed by the St. Charles Parish Finance Director that their legal counsel had advised him the Parish is prohibited from transferring facilities or land purchased with bond proceeds. Therefore, the assets transferred to the department in 1994 were transferred back to St. Charles Parish.

In 1995, there was a misinterpretation of the directive from the Parish Finance Director in that all assets purchased with the 1994 bond proceeds were transferred back to the parish when only the portion expended for building improvements in the amount of \$3,619 should have been transferred. In 1996, vehicles in the amount of \$250,586.31 and equipment in the amount of \$84,993.70 were transferred to the Department.

(5) CASH

The Fire Department maintains a separate petty cash account. The petty cash account is funded through public functions held by the Fire Department. Expenditures from this petty cash account are for expenses related to the functions. The amount in the petty cash account was not included in the financial statements and was therefore not subjected to the audit procedures of the financial statements.

(6) CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT

At December 31, 1998, the Department was invested in the following certificates of deposit:

Financial Institution	Interest Rate	Date Dec.	Amount
Hibernia National Bank	7.00%	2/16/97	\$ 50,000
Hibernia National Bank	4.50%	1/03/97	10,000
First National Bank of St. Charles	6.00%	7/13/97	<u>40,000</u>
			<u>\$100,000</u>

HAHNVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
NOTES TO GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 1996

(1) SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Revenues (Continued)

A ten year ad valorem tax issue was dedicated to the operations of the Fire Department beginning in 1991. Each department is to receive one-ninth of annual collections. Taxes levied in December of each year are available for expenditures in the subsequent year.

Interest income on investments is recorded when the investments have matured and income is available.

All other revenues are recorded when received.

The majority of the Fire Department's revenues are derived from the one-eighth of one percent sales tax and the ad valorem tax for operations.

Expenditures

Expenditures are generally recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related fund liability is incurred, except for principal and interest on general long-term debt which is not recognized until due.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

The Department is authorized under state law to deposit funds within a fiscal agent bank organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana, the laws of any other state in the Union, and the laws of the United States. The Department may also invest in time certificates of deposit with state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having their principal offices in Louisiana. Under state law, these deposits must be secured by the fiscal agent bank. The market value of such pledged securities and federal deposit insurance must equal or exceed the amount on deposit with the fiscal agent. At December 31, 1996, all deposited funds were secured by federal deposit insurance.

Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

The Fire Department was not required to prepare a budget for the year ended December 31, 1996.

Fixed Assets and Long Term Liabilities

Fixed assets used in governmental fund type operations are accounted for in the general fixed assets account group, rather than in the General Fund. No depreciation has been provided on fixed assets.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

Hahnville Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
P.O. Box 213
Hahnville, Louisiana 70057

We have audited the accompanying general purpose financial statements of the Hahnville Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. as of and for the year ended December 31, 1996, as listed in the foregoing table of contents. These general purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the Hahnville Volunteer Fire Department'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, the Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide and Government Auditing Standards, 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 in the first paragraph present fairly, in all material aspects, the financial position of the Hahnville Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. at December 31, 1996, and the results of its operations for the year then ended, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

June 5, 1997



Certified Public Accountant

HARRISVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
NOTES TO GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DECEMBER 31, 1989

(I) SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Reporting Entity

The Harrisville Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. (Fire Department) receives funding from local and state government sources and must comply with the concomitant requirements of these funding source entities. However, the Fire Department is a "primary government" and is not included as a component unit of any other St. Charles Parish governmental "reporting entity" as defined in GASB pronouncements, since the entity is a non-profit corporation, and the board members have decision making authority, the power to designate management, the ability to significantly influence operations and primary accountability for fiscal matters. The Fire Department includes all activities that are controlled by it as a non-profit corporation organized to provide fire protection to the Parish of St. Charles. The Fire Department has no component units.

The accounting and reporting policies of the Fire Department conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governmental units.

Fund Accounting

The accounts of the Fire Department are organized on the basis of a fund (General Fund) and account groups. A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. An account group, on the other hand, is a financial reporting device designed 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.

Basis of Accounting

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 basis applied.

The Fire Department records are maintained on a cash basis of accounting. However, the General Fund reported in the accompanying financial statements has been converted to a modified accrual basis of accounting, utilizing the following practices in recording revenues and expenditures:

Revenues

Sales taxes are recorded in the month the taxes are collected by the St. Charles Parish School Board. Sales taxes become payable to the St. Charles Parish School Board on the first day of the month and become delinquent on the 31st day of the month following incurrence of the taxes by businesses.

Exhibit "B"
HAIRYVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1996

	<u>1996</u>	<u>Total (Memorandum Only) 1995</u>
REVENUES:		
Sales tax - 1% rent	\$ 60,035	\$ 67,190
Operations and capital improvements millage	70,853	85,735
Fire insurance rebate	8,501	8,478
Other revenues	<u>8,791</u>	<u>11,023</u>
Total revenues	<u>148,180</u>	<u>152,426</u>
EXPENDITURES:		
Utilities and telephone	6,351	6,884
Equipment:		
Maintenance	8,895	11,023
Fuel	1,543	1,709
Insurance	8,215	7,775
Expendable equipment	<u>22,362</u>	<u>21,487</u>
Buildings:		
Maintenance	654	1,389
Insurance	5,058	4,567
Personnel:		
Insurance	1,495	1,547
Training	1,736	1,735
Travel	368	435
Miscellaneous:		
Auditing and Legal	1,601	1,235
Fire fighting supplies	1,683	3,548
Fire protection	4,958	4,403
Meetings and other expenses	6,894	4,450
Account group activity:		
Equipment and land purchases	<u>4,182</u>	<u>232,485</u>
Total expenditures	<u>72,789</u>	<u>294,858</u>
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER (EXPENDITURES)	84,391	(142,432)
BEGINNING FUND BALANCE, JANUARY 1	<u>128,895</u>	<u>271,287</u>
ENDING FUND BALANCE, DECEMBER 31	<u>\$ 213,286</u>	<u>\$ 128,855</u>

SEE ACCOMPANYING NOTES TO GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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HAINVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 1978

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

Release Date JUN 25 1997

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IRAHVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC.
NOTES TO GENERAL PURPOSE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 1996

4) SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Fixed Assets and Long-Term Liabilities (Continued)

Fixed assets are valued at historical cost or estimated historical cost if historical cost is not available. The Department has established a capitalization policy of \$400 for equipment having a useful life over one year.

Depreciated fixed assets are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date of donation.

Long-term liabilities expected to be financed from the General Fund are accounted for in the general long-term liabilities account group.

The two account groups are not "funds". They are concerned only with the measurement of financial position and do not involve measurement of results of operations.

Total Columns

Total columns on the financial statements are captioned "reconciliation 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.

Comparative Data

Comparative totals for the prior year have been presented in the accompanying financial statements in order to provide an understanding of changes in the Fire Department's financial position and operations. However, presentation of prior year totals by fund type have not been presented in each of the statements since their inclusion would make the statements unduly complex and difficult to read.

5) SALES TAX REVENUE:

Effective March 1, 1988, sales taxes in the amount of one-eighth of one percent is collected by the St. Charles Parish School Board and administered by the Parish President. The sales tax is to be used for fire protection of the Parish of St. Charles. The funds are distributed monthly by the Parish President to the individual fire departments of the St. Charles Parish Firemen's Association, Inc. Effective September 1, 1994, the sales tax is distributed on the following basis: