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Financial Report

Lafourche Parish Drainage District No. 1

Galliano, Louisiana

December 31, 1998

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Release Date JUN 0 9 1999

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December 31, 1998

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board of Commissioners, Lafourche Parish Drainage District No. 1, Galliano, Louisiana.

We have audited the accompanying general-purpose financial statements of Lafourche Parish Drainage District No. 1, (the District), a component unit of the Lafourche Parish Council, State of Louisiana, as of and for the year ended December 31, 1998, as listed in the table of contents. These general-purpose financial statements are the responsibility of the District'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 financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall 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 the Lafourche Parish Drainage District No. 1, as of December 31, 1998, and the results of its operations for the year then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

In accordance with <u>Government Auditing Standards</u>, we have also issued our report dated February 23, 1999 on our consideration of the Lafourche Parish Drainage District No. 1's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts and grants.

Brugesia Bennett, L.C.

Certified Public Accountants.

Thibodaux, La., February 23, 1999.

COMBINED BALANCE SHEET GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES AND ACCOUNT GROUP

Lafourche Parish Drainage District No. 1

December 31, 1998

	Governmental Fund Types		
	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service
ASSETS AND OTHER DEBITS			
Assets			
Cash	\$ 119,238	\$ 58,459	\$ 90,923
Investments	375,000	_	-
Receivables - taxes	5,238	-	5,238
Due from other governmental units	89,694	-	74,855
Other Debits			
Amounts available in debt service fund	_	-	_
Amounts to be provided for retirement of			
general long-term debt			
Total assets and other debits	\$ 589,170	\$ 58,459	\$ 171,016
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY			
Liabilities Bonds payable			
Equity			
Fund balances:			
Reserved for debt service	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 171,016
Unreserved	589,170	58,459	
Total equity	589,170	58,459	171,016
Total liabilities and equity	\$ 589,170	\$ 58,459	\$ 171,016

See notes to financial statements.

Account Group General Long-Term Debt	Total (Memorandum Only)
\$ - - -	\$ 268,620 375,000 10,476 164,549
171,016 8,984	171,016 8,984
\$ 180,000	\$ 998,645
\$ 180,000	\$ 180,000
	171,016 647,629
\$ 180,000	\$ 998,645

COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES

Lafourche Parish Drainage District No. 1

For the year ended December 31, 1998

	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Total (Memorandum Only)
Revenues				
Taxes	\$ 82,739	\$ -	\$ 82,962	\$ 165,701
Intergovernmental:				
State of Louisiana: State revenue sharing	14,840		_	14,840
Miscellaneous - interest	15,304	1,003	1,682	17,989
14113conditioods intolost			1,002	
Total revenues	112,883	1,003	84,644	198,530
Expenditures				
Current;				
General government:				
Ad valorem tax adjustments	2,129		2,128	4,257
Ad valorem tax deductions	2,442		2,442	4,884
Total general government	4,571		4,570	9,141
Public works:				
Personal services	13,151			13,151
Supplies and materials	108			108
Other services and charges	14,287			14,287
Repairs and maintenance	1,211			1,211
Capital expenditures	2,000			2,000
Total public works	30,757			30,757
Debt service:				
Principal retirement			40,000	40,000
Interest and fiscal charges			11,487	11,487
Total debt service			51,487	51,487
Total expenditures	35,328		56,057	91,385
Excess of revenues over				
expenditures (carry forward)	77,555	1,003	28,587	107,145

	General	Special Revenue	Debt Service	Total (Memorandum Only)
Excess of revenues over expenditures (carry forward)	77,555	1,003	28,587	107,145
Other Financing Source Proceeds of general fixed asset dispositions	<u> </u>	10,000	<u>-</u>	10,000
Excess of Revenues and Other Financing Source Over Expenditures	77,555	11,003	28,587	117,145
Fund Balances Beginning of year	511,615	47,456	142,429	701,500
End of year	\$ 589,170	\$ 58,459	\$ 171,016	\$ 818,645

See notes to financial statements.

COMBINED STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES - BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GOVERNMENTAL FUND TYPES

Lafourche Parish Drainage District No. 1

For the year ended December 31, 1998

	General Fund		
Revenues	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable (Unfavorable)
Taxes	\$ 50,010	\$ 82,739	\$ 32,729
Intergovernmental:	Ψ 50,010	Ψ 02,757	Φ 32,727
State of Louisiana:			
State revenue sharing	15,000	14,840	(160)
Miscellaneous:			
Interest	15,400	15,304	(96)
Total revenues	80,410	112,883	32,473
Expenditures			
Current:			
General government:			
Ad valorem tax adjustments	2,000	2,129	(129)
Ad valorem tax deductions	1,900	2,442	(542)
Total general government	3,900	4,571	(671)
Public works:			
Personal services	14,700	13,151	1,549
Supplies and materials	110	108	2
Other services and charges	13,140	14,287	(1,147)
Repairs and maintenance	3,500	1,211	2,289
Capital expenditures		2,000	(2,000)
Total public works	31,450	30,757	693
Total expenditures	35,350	35,328	22
Excess of revenues over expenditures	45,060	77,555	32,495
Other Financing Source Proceeds of general fixed asset dispositions	-		-
Excess of Revenues and Other Financing Source Over Expenditures	\$ 45,060	77,555	\$ 32,495
Fund Balances Beginning of year		511,615	
End of year		\$ 589,170	

See notes to financial statements.

Special Revenue Fund

Budget		Budget Actual		Favo	iance rable orable)
\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
	-		-		_
1,	,000	1	,003		3
1,	,000_	1	,003		3

1,000	1,003	3
10,000	10,000	
\$ 11,000	11,003	\$ 3
	47,456	
	\$ 58,459	

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Lafourche Parish Drainage District No. 1

December 31, 1998

Note 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The accounting policies of the Lafourche Parish Drainage District No. 1 (the District) conform to generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. The following is a summary of significant accounting policies:

a) Reporting Entity

The District is a component unit of the Lafourche Parish Council. The District has reviewed all of its activities and determined that there are no potential component units which should be included in its financial statements.

b) Fund Accounting

The District uses funds and an account group 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 related to certain government functions or activities.

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.

Governmental Funds

Governmental Funds are those through which most governmental functions of the District are financed. The acquisition, use and balances of the District's expendable financial resources and the related liabilities are accounted for through Governmental Funds. The measurement focus is upon determination of changes in financial position, rather than upon net income determination. The following are the Governmental Funds of the District:

Note 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

b) Fund Accounting (Continued)

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

Special Revenue Fund - The Special Revenue Fund is used to account for the proceeds of specific revenue sources (other than capital projects) that are legally restricted to expenditures for specified purposes.

Debt Service Fund - The Debt Service Fund is used to account for the accumulation of resources for, and the payment of, general long-term debt principal, interest and related costs.

Account Group

An account group is used to establish accounting control and accountability. The District's Account Group is as follows:

General Long-Term Debt Account Group - This account group is used to account for general long-term debt and certain other liabilities that are not specific liabilities of proprietary or trust funds.

c) Basis of Accounting

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures are recognized in the accounts 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 Funds are accounted for using the modified accrual basis of accounting. Their revenues are recognized when they become measurable and available as net current assets. Ad valorem taxes and the related state revenue sharing (Intergovernmental revenues) are considered "measurable" at the time of levy. Miscellaneous revenues are recorded as revenues when received in cash by the District because they are generally not measurable until actually received.

Expenditures are generally recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related fund liability is incurred. An exception to this general rule is principal and interest on general long-term debt which is recognized when due.

Note 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

d) Use of Estimates

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

e) Operating Budgetary Data

As required by the Louisiana Revised Statutes 39:1303, the Board of Commissioners (the Board) adopted a budget for the District's General Fund and Special Revenue Fund. The Board, as allowed by state law, does not obtain public participation in the budget process. Any amendment involving the transfer of monies from one function to another or increases in expenditures must be approved by the Board. The District amended its General Fund and Special Revenue Fund budgets once during the year. All budgeted amounts which are not expended, or obligated through contracts, lapse at year end.

Both the General Fund and Special Revenue Fund budgets are adopted on a basis materially consistent with generally accepted accounting principles.

f) Accounts Receivable

The financial statements for the District contain no allowance for uncollectible accounts. Uncollectible amounts due for ad valorem taxes and other receivables are recognized as bad debts at the time information becomes available which would indicate the uncollectibility of the particular receivable. These amounts are not considered to be material in relation to the financial position or operations of the funds.

g) Investments

Investments consist of certificates of deposit which are stated at cost and approximate market value.

h) Long-Term Debt

The accounting and reporting treatment applied to the long-term debt associated with a fund is determined by its measurement focus. All governmental funds are accounted for on a spending or "financial flow" measurement focus. This means that only current assets and current liabilities are generally included on their balance sheets.

Note 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (Continued)

h) Long-Term Debt (Continued)

Their reported fund balance (net current assets) is considered a measure of "available spendable resources". Governmental fund operating statements present increases (revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (expenditures and other financing uses) in net current assets. Accordingly, they are said to present a summary of sources and uses of "available spendable resources" during a period.

Long-term debt expected to be financed from governmental funds is accounted for in the General Long-Term Debt Account Group, not in the governmental funds.

The Long-Term Debt Account Group is not a "fund". It is concerned only with the measurement of financial position. It is not involved with the measurement of results of operations.

i) Vacation and Sick Leave

The District has no full-time employees. There is no accumulated unpaid vacation and sick leave at December 31, 1998.

j) Encumbrances

Encumbrance accounting, under which purchase orders, contracts and other commitments are recorded in the fund general ledgers, is not utilized by the District.

k) Memorandum Only - Total Columns

The total columns on the general-purpose financial statements are captioned "Memorandum Only" because they do not represent consolidated financial information and are presented only to facilitate financial analysis. The columns do not present information that reflects financial position or results of operations in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Interfund eliminations have not been made in the aggregation of this data.

Note 2 - DEPOSITS

Louisiana state law allows all political subdivisions to invest excess funds in obligations of the United States, certificates of deposit of state or national banks having their principal office in Louisiana or any other federally insured investment.

Note 2 - DEPOSITS (Continued)

State law requires deposits (cash and certificates of deposit) of all political subdivisions be fully collateralized at all times. Acceptable collateralization includes FDIC insurance and the market value of securities purchased and pledged to the political subdivision. Obligations of the United States, the State of Louisiana and certain political subdivisions are allowed as security for deposits. Obligations furnished as security must be held by the political subdivision or with an unaffiliated bank or trust company for the account of the political subdivision.

Cash and deposits are categorized into three categories of credit risk.

Category 1 includes deposits covered by federal depository insurance or by collateral held by the District or its agent in the District's name.

Category 2 includes deposits covered by collateral held by the pledging financial institution's trust department or its agent in the District's name.

Category 3 includes deposits covered by collateral held by the pledging financial institution or its trust department or agents but not in the District's name and deposits which are uninsured or uncollateralized.

The year end bank balances and carrying amounts as shown on the combined balance sheet are as follows:

	Bank Balances Category			Book
	1	2	3	Balance
Cash Investments:	\$100,000	\$ -	\$171,216	\$268,620
Certificates of deposit	100,000		275,000	375,000
Totals	<u>\$200,000</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$446,216</u>	<u>\$643,620</u>

At December 31, 1998, cash and certificates of deposit in excess of the FDIC insurance were collateralized by securities held by unaffiliated banks for the account of the District. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB), which promulgates the standards for accounting and financial reporting for state and local governments, considers these securities uncollateralized. Even though the pledged securities are considered uncollateralized under the provisions of GASB Statement 3, Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1229 imposes a statutory

Note 2 - DEPOSITS (Continued)

requirement on the custodial bank to advertise and sell the pledged securities within 10 days of being notified by the depositor that the fiscal agent has failed to pay deposited funds upon demand.

Note 3 - PROPERTY TAXES

Property taxes are levied each November 1 on the assessed value listed as of the prior January 1 for all real property, merchandise and movable property located in the Parish. Assessed values are established by the Lafourche Parish Assessor's Office and the State Tax Commission at percentages of actual value as specified by Louisiana law. A reevaluation of all property is required to be completed no less than every four years. The last reevaluation was completed for the list of January 1, 1996. Taxes are due and payable December 31 with interest being charged on payments after January 1. Taxes can be paid through the tax sale date, which is the last Wednesday in June. Properties for which the taxes have not been paid are sold for the amount of the taxes. The tax rate for the year ended December 31, 1998 was \$.90 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation on property within Drainage District No. 1 for the purpose of maintaining and operating drainage works within the District and \$.90 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation on property for the purpose of payment of general long-term debt principal, interest and related costs.

Note 4 - DUE FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTAL UNITS

Amounts due from other governmental units at December 31, 1998 consisted of the following:

	<u>General</u>	Debt <u>Service</u>
State of Louisiana - State revenue sharing	\$14,839	\$ -
Lafourche Parish Tax Collector - December, 1998 collections remitted to the District in January, 1999: Ad valorem taxes	74,855	<u>74,855</u>
Totals	<u>\$89,694</u>	<u>\$74,855</u>

Note 5 - FIXED ASSETS

All fixed assets are purchased for the use of the Lafourche Parish Council and are considered property of the Council. The Lafourche Parish Council is responsible for all maintenance on these assets.

Note 6 - LONG-TERM DEBT

At December 31, 1998, the District had an outstanding public improvement bond totaling \$180,000 which is repayable from ad valorem tax revenues.

The following is a summary of bond transactions of the District for the year ended December 31, 1998:

Bonds payable at January 1, 1998	\$220,000
Bonds retired	40,000
Bonds payable at December 31, 1998	\$180,000

Long-term debt is represented by the following individual issue:

Public Improvement Bonds	Author- ized and <u>Issued</u>	Annual <u>Installments</u>	Interest Rate (%)	MaturityDate	Out- standing
4/1/77	\$600,000	\$10,000-\$50,000	4.625-6.50	4/1/02	<u>\$180,000</u>

The annual requirements to amortize all long-term debt outstanding at December 31, 1998 are as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Principal</u> <u>Interest</u>		Total	
1999	\$ 40,000	\$ 8,583	\$ 48,583	
2000	45,000	6,160	51,160	
2001	45,000	3,595	48,595	
2002	<u>50,000</u>	<u>1,156</u>	<u>51,156</u>	
Totals	<u>\$180,000</u>	<u>\$19,494</u>	<u>\$199,494</u>	

Note 7 - COMPENSATION OF BOARD MEMBERS

The District did not pay per diem to any of its Board Members.

Note 8 - RISK MANAGEMENT

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; and natural disasters for which the District carries commercial insurance. No settlements were made during the year that exceeded the District's insurance coverage.

SPECIAL REPORTS OF CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS					



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, Lafourche Parish Drainage District No. 1, Galliano, Louisiana.

We have audited the general-purpose financial statements of the Lafourche Parish Drainage District No. 1 (the District), a component unit of the Lafourche Parish Council, as of and for the year ended December 31, 1998, and have issued our report thereon dated February 23, 1999. 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 the District'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 the District'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. However, we noted a certain matter involving the internal control over financial reporting and its operation that we consider to be a reportable condition. Reportable conditions involve matters coming to our attention relating to significant deficiencies in the design or operation of the internal control over financial reporting that, in our judgement, could adversely

affect the District's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial data consistent with the assertions of management in the financial statements. The reportable condition is described in the accompanying schedule of findings as item 98-1.

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. Our consideration of the internal control over financial reporting would not necessarily disclose all matters in the internal control that might be reportable conditions and, accordingly, would not necessarily disclose all reportable conditions that are also considered to be material weaknesses. However, the reportable condition described above, we consider item 98-1 to be a material weakness.

This report is intended for the information of the Board of Commissioners, management, the State of Louisiana and the Legislative Auditor for the State of Louisiana and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Certified Public Accountants.

Bruzeoir Bennett, LL.C.

Thibodaux, La., February 23, 1999.

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS

Lafourche Parish Drainage District No. 1

For the year ended December 31, 1998

Section	I Summary of Auditor's Results					
a) Fir	nancial Statements					
Ту	pe of auditor's report issued: unqualified					
	Internal control over financial reporting:					
	 Material weakness(es) identified? Reportable condition(s) identified that are not 	X yes	no			
	considered to be material weaknesses?	yes	X none reporte	d		
	Noncompliance material to financial statements noted?	yes	X no			
b) Fe	deral Awards					
	fourche Parish Drainage District No. 1 did not receive fed cember 31, 1998.	deral awards	during the year ende	:d		
ection	II Financial Statement Findings					
98-1	Criteria - Internal controls should be in place that provide reasonable assurance that altransactions are being properly recorded in the accounting records.					
	Condition - All accounting functions of the District Treasurer. The Secretary/Treasurer also co-signs check	^	ned by the Secretar	y/		
	Questioned Costs - None					
	Context - Not applicable					
	Effect - Lack of segregation of duties.					

SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS (Continued)

Lafourche Parish Drainage District No. 1

For the year ended December 31, 1998

Section II Financial Statement Findings (Continued)

98-1 (Continued)

Cause - Secretary/Treasurer performs conflicting duties.

Recommendation - We recommend that a second board member be involved in the financial affairs of the District by co-signing checks, reviewing bank statements and cancelled checks and approving other significant financial matters.

Management's Response - The Secretary/Treasurer reports to the Board quarterly on all financial activities. All significant financial matters are approved by the Board prior to disbursement of funds.

Section III Federal Award Findings and Questioned Costs

Not applicable.

REPORTS BY MANAGEMENT

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS

Lafourche Parish Drainage District No. 1

For the year ended December 31, 1998

Section I Internal Control and Compliance Material to the General-Purpose Financial Statements

Internal Control

97 - 1 Recommendation - We recommended that a second board member be involved in the financial affairs of the District by co-signing checks, review of bank statements and cancelled checks, and approving other significant financial matters.

Management's Response - Unresolved, see finding 98-1 in the accompanying schedule of findings.

Compliance

No compliance findings material to the general-purpose financial statements were noted during the audit for the year ended December 31, 1997.

Section II Internal Control and Compliance Material to Federal Awards

Lafourche Parish Drainage District No. 1 did not receive federal awards during the year ended December 31, 1997.

Section III Management Letter

A management letter was not issued in connection with the audit for the year ended December 31, 1997.

MANAGEMENT'S CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN

Lafourche Parish Drainage District No. 1

For the year ended December 31, 1998

Section I Internal Control and Compliance Material to the General-Purpose Financial Statements

Internal Control

98 - 1 Recommendation - We recommend that a second board member be involved in the financial affairs of the District by co-signing checks, reviewing bank statements and cancelled checks and approving other significant financial matters.

Management's Corrective Action - The Secretary/Treasurer reports to the Board quarterly on all financial activities. All significant financial matters are approved by the Board prior to disbursement of funds.

Compliance

No compliance findings material to the general-purpose financial statements were noted during the audit for the year ended December 31, 1998.

Section II Internal Control and Compliance Material to Federal Awards

Lafourche Parish Drainage District No. 1 did not receive federal awards during the year ended December 31, 1998.

Section III Management Letter

A management letter was not issued in connection with the audit for the year ended December 31, 1998.