East Carroll Parish Police Jury Lake Providence, Louisiana

Annual Financial Report As of and for the Year Ended December 31, 2023



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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Jurors of the East Carroll Parish Police Jury Lake Providence, Louisiana

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Adverse and Unmodified Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of East Carroll Parish Police Jury (the Police Jury), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Police Jury's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Adverse Opinion on Aggregate Discretely Presented Component Units

In our opinion, because of the significance of the matter described in the Basis for Adverse Opinion on Aggregate Discretely Presented Component Units paragraph, the financial statements referred to above do not present fairly the financial position of the aggregate discretely presented component units of East Carroll Parish Police Jury as of December 31, 2023, or the changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Unmodified Opinions on Governmental Activities, Business-Type Activities, and Each Major Fund In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities; the business-type activities; the major funds; and the aggregate remaining fund information of the primary government of East Carroll Parish Police Jury as of December 31, 2023, 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 Adverse and Unmodified Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States (GAAS). 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 Police Jury, and to meet our ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our adverse and unmodified audit opinions.

The financial statements referred to above do not include financial data for the Police Jury's legally separate component units. Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require financial data for those component units to be reported with the financial data of the Police Jury's primary government unless the Police Jury also issues financial statements for the financial reporting entity that include the financial data for its component units. The Police Jury has not issued such reporting entity financial statements. Because of this departure from accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the assets, liabilities, net position, revenues, and expenses of the aggregate discretely presented component units are not reasonably obtainable.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the Police Jury'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 GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and Government 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 Police Jury'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 Police Jury'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 management's discussion and analysis beginning on page 11, the budgetary comparison schedules on pages 68 to 72, and the supplementary schedules required by Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 68 on page 65 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is the responsibility of management and 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.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Police Jury's primary government financial statements taken as a whole. The schedules listed in the table of contents as Exhibits 3 through 10 are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the Police Jury's basic financial statements. The accompanying schedule of expenditures of federal awards as required by Title 2 *U.S. Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance), is presented for the purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements.

Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 20, 2024 on our consideration of the Police Jury'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 solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Police Jury's 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 Police Jury's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

A Professional Accounting Corporation

Baton Rouge, LA June 20, 2024

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REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Management's Discussion And Analysis (MD&A)

Our discussion and analysis of East Carroll Parish Police Jury's financial performance provides an overview of the Police Jury's financial activities for the year ended December 31, 2023. Separate financial statements may be obtained from component units not included.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS Our financial statements provide these insights into the results of this year's operations:

The assets and deferred outflows of resources of the Police Jury exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflows of resources at the close of fiscal year 2023 by \$21,886,411 (net position). Of this amount, \$1,750,023 represents unrestricted net position, which may be used to meet the government's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.

The Police Jury's total net position changed \$9,853,277 during 2023. Significant changes in revenues include an increase in operating and capital grants & contributions. During the current fiscal year, the Louisiana Department of Transportation (LDOT) transferred to the Police Jury Route 882. Route 882 is 7.91 miles long, includes two bridges and rights-of-way, and was rehabilitated before it was transferred to the Police Jury. The transfer was recorded as a capital contribution of \$5,064,265. Along with the road transfer, the Police Jury also received from the LDOT an operating contribution of \$3,684,235 which is the amount the State calculated as the cost of maintaining the road in the state highway system for 40 years from the date of the transfer. Significant changes in expenses include an increase in depreciation expense and in retirement expenses related to the changes in the net pension liability (asset) and related deferred outflows and inflows of resources.

At the end of 2023, the Police Jury's governmental funds reported combined fund balances of \$9,156,416, a change of \$3,440,055 in comparison with prior year. \$265,313 or 3% of the combined fund balance is available for spending at the government's discretion (unassigned fund balance). \$285,637 of unassigned fund balance is reported in the General fund.

Total spending for all our governmental activities was \$5,346,625 for the year. Most of the Police Jury's property and sales taxes were used to support the net cost (after deducting restricted grants and fees charged to users) of these six areas: judicial \$267,539 finance and administrative \$317,589, other general government \$476,777, public safety \$371,926, health and welfare \$167,881, and culture and recreation \$323,675.

NEW GASB STANDARDS In the current fiscal year, the Police Jury implemented Statement No. 94 – Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships and Availability Payment Arrangements. This statement provides accounting and financial reporting guidance for public-private and public-public partnerships (PPP) and availability payment arrangements (APA). A PPP is an arrangement in which a government (the transferor) contracts with an operator (a governmental or nongovernmental entity) to provide public services by conveying control of the right to operate or use a nonfinancial asset, such as infrastructure or other capital asset (the underlying PPP asset), for a period of time in an exchange or exchange-like transaction. Some PPPs meet the definition of a service concession arrangement (SCA), which the Board defines in this Statement as a PPP in which (1) the operator collects and is compensated by fees from third parties; (2) the transferor determines or has the ability to modify or approve which services the operator is required to provide, to whom the operator is required to provide the services, and the prices or rates that can be charged for the services; and (3) the transferor is entitled to significant residual interest in the service utility of the underlying PPP asset at the end of the arrangement. An APA is an arrangement in which a government compensates an operator for services that may include designing, constructing, financing, maintaining, or operating an underlying nonfinancial asset for a period of time in an exchange or exchange-like transaction. The adoption of this standard had no impact on the financial reporting for the Police Jury as the Police Jury had no PPPs or APAs.

In the current fiscal year, the Police Jury implemented GASB Statement No. 96 - Subscription-Based Technology Arrangements (SBITAs). This statement provides guidance on the accounting and financial reporting for SBITAs for governments. The statement (1) defines a SBITA; (2) establishes that a SBITA results in a right-to-use subscription asset - an intangible asset - and a corresponding subscription liability; (3) provides the capitalization criteria for outlays other than subscription payments, including implementation costs of a SBITA; and (4) requires note disclosure regarding a SBITA. To the extent relevant, the standards for SBITAs are based on the standards established in Statement No. 87, Leases, as amended. The implementation of this standard had no effect on the Police Jury's financial statements or notes to the financial statements.

USING THIS ANNUAL REPORT The Police Jury's annual report consists of a series of financial statements that show information for the Police Jury as a whole, and its funds. The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities provide information about the activities of the Police Jury as a whole and present a longer-term view of the Police Jury's finances. Our fund financial statements are included later in this report. For our government funds, these statements tell how we financed our services in the short term as well as what remains for future spending. Fund statements also may give you some insights into the Police Jury's overall financial health. Fund financial statements also report the Police Jury's operations in more detail than the government-wide financial statements by providing information about the Police Jury's most significant funds - General, Road Maintenance and Construction, Garbage District No. 1, Library, Drainage Maintenance, and Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery.

Required Supplementary Information

Management's Discussion & Analysis (MD&A)

Basic Financial Statements

Government-wide Financial Statements

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Fund Financial Statements

Notes to the Financial Statements

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Schedule of the Police Jury's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset)
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Budgetary Comparison Schedules

Supplementary Information

Nonmajor Funds Combining Statements
Schedule of Compensation Paid Police Jurors
Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to Agency Head
Justice System Funding Schedule – Receiving Entity
Housing Choice Voucher Financial Data Schedule

Our auditor will provide assurance in the independent auditor's report, which will be located immediately preceding this Management's Discussion and Analysis in the audited financial report, that the basic financial statements, after considering the fact that certain component units are not included, are fairly stated. Varying degrees of assurance will be provided by the auditor regarding the required supplementary information (RSI) and the supplementary information. A user of the audit report should read the independent auditor's report carefully to ascertain the level of assurance being provided by the auditor for each part of this report.

Reporting the Police Jury as a Whole

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities Our analysis of the Police Jury as a whole begins with the government-wide financial statements. One of the most important questions asked about the Police Jury is, "Is the Police Jury as a whole better off or worse off financially as a result of the year's activities?" The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities, which appear first in the Police Jury's financial statements, report information on the Police Jury as a whole and its activities in a way that helps you answer this question. We prepare these statements to include all assets, liabilities, and deferred inflows/outflows of resources, using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector companies. All the current year's revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when cash is received or paid.

These two statements report the Police Jury's net position - the difference between assets plus deferred outflows of resources and liabilities plus deferred inflows of resources, as reported in the Statement of Net Position - as one way to measure the Police Jury's financial health, or financial position. Over time, increases or decreases in the Police Jury's net position, as reported in the Statement of Activities, are one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. The relationship between revenues and expenses is the Police Jury's operating results. However, the Police Jury's goal is to provide services to our citizens, not to generate profits as commercial entities do. One must consider many other nonfinancial factors, such as the quality of health and welfare services provided to parish citizens and the condition of roads, bridges, and drainage systems to assess the overall health of the Police Jury.

In the Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities, we divide the Police Jury into two kinds of activities:

Governmental activities - Most of the Police Jury's services are reported here, including public works and public safety. Property taxes, sales taxes, and state and federal grants finance most of these activities.

Business-type activities - The Police Jury manages the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program and receives an administrative fee for the activities. The Police Jury is the owner of the East Carroll Housing Development Corporation and receives a developer fee for its activities. These programs are reported here.

Reporting the Police Jury's Most Significant Funds

Fund Financial Statements The Police Jury's fund financial statements provide detailed information about the most significant funds - not the Police Jury as a whole. Some funds are required to be established by State law and by bond covenants. However, the Police Jury establishes many other funds to help it control and manage money for particular purposes (like the Road Maintenance and Construction fund) or to show that it is meeting legal responsibilities for using certain taxes, grants, and other money (like grants the Police Jury receives for Section 8). The Police Jury's governmental funds use the following accounting approach:

Governmental funds - Most of the Police Jury's services are reported in governmental funds. Governmental fund reporting focuses on showing how money flows into and out of funds and the balances left at year end

that are available for spending. They are reported using an accounting method called modified accrual accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the Police Jury's operations and the services it provides.

Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the Police Jury's programs. We describe the relationship (or differences) between governmental activities (reported in the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) and governmental funds in the reconciliation on Statements D and F.

Proprietary funds - Proprietary funds are reported in the same way that all activities are reported in the Statement of Net Position and the Statements of Activities. In fact, the Police Jury's Section 8 and East Carroll Housing Development enterprise funds (a component of proprietary funds) is the same as business-type activities we report in the government-wide financial statements but provide more detail and additional information, such as cash flows, for proprietary funds.

THE POLICE JURY AS A WHOLE As noted earlier, net position over time may serve as a useful indicator of a government's financial position. The Police Jury's assets and deferred outflows of resources exceeded liabilities and deferred inflows by \$21,886,411. Our analysis below focuses on the net position (Table 1) and change in net position (Table 2) of the Police Jury's governmental and business-type activities.

Table 1 Net Position December 31.

	Governmental Activities		Business-Ty	pe Activities	Total Primary Government		
	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	
Other assets	\$ 10,997,223	\$ 7,307,078	\$ 142,910	\$ 158,343	\$ 11,106,452	\$ 7,465,421	
Capital assets	13,105,224	6,771,923	1,526	2,544	13,106,750	6,774,467	
Total assets	24,102,447	14,079,001	144,436	160,887	24,213,202	14,239,888	
Deferred outflows of resources	993,704	280,882	33,496	7,737	1,027,200	288,619	
Other liabilities	1,770,349	581,445	11,251	153	1,770,884	581,598	
Long-term liabilities	1,479,045	941,932	24,838	1,052	1,480,918	942,984	
Total liabilities	3,249,394	1,523,377	36,089	1,205	3,251,802	1,524,582	
Deferred inflows of resources	98,857	944,768	3,332	26,023	102,189	970,791	
Net position							
Net investment in capital assets	11,292,903	5,842,883	1,526	2,544	11,294,429	5,845,427	
Restricted	8,834,537	5,081,581	7,422	15,174	8,841,959	5,096,755	
Unrestricted	1,620,460	967,274	129,563	123,678	1,750,023	1,090,952	
Total net position	\$ 21,747,900	\$ 11,891,738	\$ 138,511	\$ 141,396	\$ 21,886,411	\$ 12,033,134	

The largest portion of the Police Jury's combined net position (\$11,294,429 or 52%) reflects its investment in capital assets (e.g., land, buildings, equipment, vehicles, and infrastructure), less accumulated depreciation and any related outstanding debt that was used to acquire those assets. The Police Jury uses these capital assets to provide a variety of services to its citizens. Accordingly, these assets are not available for future spending. Although the Police Jury's investments in capital assets are reported net of related debt, it should be noted that

the resources used to repay this debt must be provided from other sources, since the capital assets themselves cannot be used to liquidate these liabilities.

An additional portion of the Police Jury's combined net position (\$8,841,959 or 40%) represents resources that are subject to external restrictions on how they may be used. The remaining balance of \$1,750,023 is unrestricted net position and may be used to meet the Police Jury's obligations to its citizens and creditors.

At the end of the current fiscal year, the Police Jury is able to report positive balances in all reported categories of net position, both for the government as a whole, as well as for the separate governmental and business-type activities. The same situation held true for the prior fiscal year.

The results of this year's operations for the primary government as a whole are reported in the Statement of Activities. Table 2 takes the information from that Statement and rearranges them slightly so you can see our total revenues for the year.

Table 2
Changes in Net Position
For the Years Ended December 31,

	Governmental Activities			Business-Type Activities			
			Increase			Increase	
Revenues:	2023	2022	(Decrease)	2023	2022	(Decrease)	
Program revenues							
Charges for services	\$ 344,880	\$ 423,523	\$ (78,643)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
Operating grants & contributions	4,638,487	500,467	4,138,020	712,441	680,315	32,126	
Capital grants & contributions	5,869,865	-	5,869,865	-	-	-	
General Revenues							
Ad valorem taxes	2,994,499	2,824,039	170,460	-	-	-	
Sales taxes	819,167	810,820	8,347	-	-	-	
Licenses and permits	161,398	103,414	57,984	-	_	-	
Other general revenues	374,491	271,389	103,102	3,110	533	2,577	
Total revenues	15,202,787	4,933,652	10,269,135	715,551	680,848	34,703	
Functions/Program Expenses:							
General government:							
Legislative	108,947	107,755	1,192	-	-	-	
Judicial	603,467	527,271	76,196	-	-	-	
Elections	57,114	44,720	12,394	-	-	-	
Finance and administrative	318,789	310,292	8,497	-	_	-	
Other general government	476,777	372,550	104,227	-	-	-	
Public safety	433,900	383,668	50,232	-	-	-	
Public works	2,715,211	2,561,587	153,624	-	-	-	
Health and welfare	167,881	134,635	33,246	718,436	686,924	31,512	
Culture and recreation	404,750	318,548	86,202	-	-	-	
Transportation	31,506	31,218	288	-	-	-	
Interest on long-term debt	28,283	35,263	(6,980)	-	-	-	
Total expenses	5,346,625	4,827,507	519,118	718,436	686,924	31,512	
Increase (decrease) in net position	9,856,162	106,145	9,750,017	(2,885)	(6,076)	3,191	
Net position - beginning	11,891,738	11,785,593	106,145	141,396	147,472	(6,076)	
Net position - ending	\$ 21,747,900	\$ 11,891,738	\$9,856,162	\$ 138,511	\$ 141,396	\$ (2,885)	

The Police Jury's overall net position changed \$9,853,277 from the prior year. The reasons for this overall change are discussed in the following sections for governmental activities and business-type activities.

Governmental Activities During the current fiscal year, net position for the governmental activities changed \$9,856,162 from the prior fiscal year for an ending balance of \$21,747,900. The Police Jury's governmental activities experienced an overall increase in revenues of \$10,269,135. Revenues received from operating grants & contributions (\$4,638,487), capital grants & contributions (\$5,869,865), ad valorem taxes (\$2,994,499),), sales taxes (\$819,167), and licenses and permits (\$161,398) and other general revenues (\$374,491) experienced an increase from the amounts reported in the prior fiscal year while charges for services (\$344,880) experienced a decline in revenues. The increase in revenues can mainly be contributed to the transfer of Route 882 from the Louisiana Department of Transportation to the Police Jury. The Police Jury also received \$750,000 from a private corporation to cover the cost of repairing the damage to Oswalt Road caused by the corporation's construction of a natural gas compressor station and installation of pipelines.

Expenses increased from \$4,827,507 reported in prior year to \$5,346,625. This change can mainly be contributed to an increase in depreciation expense from the additions of Route 882 and construction equipment to the current year depreciation schedule and an increase in retirement expenses related to the changes in the net pension liability (asset) and related deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions.

Business-type Activities The Police Jury's business-type activities experienced a change of (\$2,885) in net position from the prior fiscal year for an ending balance of \$138,511. Current year operating grants revenues experienced an increase of \$32,126 due to an increase in HUD funding primarily to cover the cost of the additional housing assistance payments. Expenses increased \$31,512 primarily due to increased housing assistance payments and retirement expenses related to the changes in the net pension liability (asset) and related deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions.

Governmental Activities – Cost of Services As reported in the Statement of Activities, the cost of all of our governmental activities this year was \$5,346,625. However, the amount that our taxpayers ultimately financed for these activities through Police Jury taxes was only \$2,145,658 because some of the cost was paid by those who benefited from the programs \$344,880 or by other governments and organizations who subsidized certain programs with grants and contributions \$2,856,087. The remaining balance of \$7,652,265 received from grants and contributions were used for capital acquisitions or were received from the State as part of a cooperative agreement between the State and the Police Jury for the transfer of Route 882 to the Police Jury.

In Table 3 below, we have presented the cost of each of the Police Jury's six largest governmental activities functions - judicial, finance and administrative, other general government, public safety, public works, and culture and recreation, as well as each program's *net* cost (total cost less revenues generated by the activities). As discussed above, net cost shows the financial burden that was placed on the Police Jury's taxpayers by each of these functions. Providing this information allows our citizens to consider the cost of each function in comparison to the benefits they believe are provided by that function.

Table 3
Costs of Services
For the Years Ended December 31,

	Governmental Activities								
	Total Cost of Services		Net Cost of Services		Total Cost of Services		of Service		
		2023	2023		2022		2022		
Judicial	\$	603,467	\$	267,539	\$	527,271	\$	80,773	
Finance and administrative		318,789		317,589		310,292		306,492	
Other general government		476,777		476,777		372,550		372,550	
Public safety		433,900		371,926		383,668		310,016	
Public works		2,715,211	(7,652,265)		2,561,587		2,215,280	
Culture and Recreation		404,750		323,675		318,548		271,190	
All others		393,731		388,152		353,591		347,216	
Totals	\$	5,346,625	\$ (5,506,607)	\$	4,827,507	\$:	3,903,517	

POLICE JURY'S FUNDS As we noted earlier, the Police Jury uses funds to help it control and manage money for particular purposes. Looking at funds helps you consider whether the Police Jury is being accountable for the resources taxpayers and others provide to it but may also give you more insight into the Police Jury's overall financial health.

<u>Governmental Funds</u> As the Police Jury completed this year, our governmental funds reported a combined fund balance of \$9,156,416 which is a change of \$3,440,055 from prior year. The primary reasons for the changes in fund balances are:

The General fund, our principal operating fund, experienced a change of \$(308,529) to reach an ending fund balance of \$312,705. At the end of the current fiscal year, unassigned fund balance of the general fund was \$285,637 or approximately 21% of total general fund expenditures. Revenues for the current fiscal year increased primarily from collecting more in occupational license fees in the current fiscal year in comparison with the prior year. Expenditures for the current fiscal year increased mainly due to the current year's capital outlay expenditures for the engineering fees for the ongoing Tensas Bayou weir replacement construction project. The General fund also supplements the Criminal Court fund through transfers. The General fund transferred \$130,000 to Criminal Court fund during the current fiscal year, however in the prior year this was done only through the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery fund.

The Road Maintenance and Construction fund accounts for funds used to maintain parish roads and streets. This fund showed a change of \$3,092,943 from the amount reported at the end of the prior fiscal year to \$4,612,108. Significant changes from the prior year include the State's contribution of \$3,684,235 as part of a cooperative agreement between the State and the Police Jury for the transfer of Route 882 to the Police Jury. The State's contribution is restricted to construction, maintenance, and repairing parish roads. In addition, the Police Jury expended \$369,260 in construction equipment, expended \$1,032,654 for the ongoing Oswalt Road asphalt overlay construction project, and \$8,910 for the ongoing LCDBG street improvement project. The Police Jury also received \$750,000 from a private corporation to cover the cost of repairing the damage to Oswalt Road caused by the corporation's construction of a natural gas compressor station and installation of pipelines.

The Garbage District No. 1 accounts for parish garbage collection services. This fund showed a fund balance change of \$204,788, from \$638,536 reported in the prior fiscal year to \$843,324. This change is mainly due to the increase in ad valorem tax collections and insurance recoveries. In the current year, the Police Jury received \$170,070 in insurance recoveries for a garbage truck totaled in an accident. The Police Jury used \$69,994 of the insurance recoveries to pay the garbage truck's outstanding loan balance.

The Library fund accounts for the public library. The Library's fund balance of \$1,123,413 showed an increase of \$136,038 for the current fiscal year. Significant changes from the amounts reported the prior year include an increase in ad valorem collections and a reduction in capital outlay expenditures. The Library's completed construction of its annex building in the current fiscal year with most of the construction costs occurring in the prior year.

The Drainage Maintenance fund accounts for maintenance of the parish drainage system. This fund showed a change of \$158,502 to \$403,605. This change is primarily due to the increase in ad valorem tax collections and a \$100,000 transfer from the Road fund during the current fiscal year.

The Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery fund accounts for federal grants received to respond to the public health emergency, COVID-19 or its negative economic impacts, respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 pandemic by providing premium pay to eligible workers, and to provide government services, to the extent COVID-19 caused a reduction in revenues. Fund balance neither increased nor decreased since it is a cost reimbursement grant.

The Nonmajor Governmental funds are comprised of the special revenue funds (Rural Fire Protection, LSU Cooperative Extension, Health Unit, Criminal Court, and Opioid Settlement), the Fire Bond Debt Service fund and the LCDBG Capital Projects fund. The combined funds showed a change of \$156,313 to \$1,861,261.

Proprietary Funds

The Section 8 Voucher fund accounts for the activity for HUD's Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program. This fund showed a change of \$12,115 from \$116,396 reported in prior year to \$128,511. This increase is mainly due to the \$15,000 transfer from East Carroll Housing Development in the current fiscal year.

The East Carroll Housing Development fund accounts for the activity of the Police Jury's not-for-profit corporation, East Carroll Parish Development Corporation. This corporation was established to assist in providing affordable housing to East Carroll Parish and had an ending net position of \$10,000. During 2023, the Corporation transferred \$15,000 to Section 8.

General Fund Budgetary Highlights Over the course of the year, the Police Jury revises its budget as it attempts to deal with unexpected changes in revenues and expenditures. (A schedule showing the Police Jury's original and final budget amounts compared with amounts actually paid and received is presented later in this report).

The amounts available for appropriations for the General fund's final budget were \$212,534 less than the original budget mainly due to reducing the expected revenues from other local and intergovernmental revenues. The charges to the appropriations for the General Fund's final budget were \$96,599 less than the original budget. These budget reductions were mainly due to a reduction in grant expenditures offset by an increase in transfers out to the cover Criminal Court's shortfalls.

The actual amounts available for appropriations for the General fund were \$186,771 less than the amount budgeted. This is due mainly to receiving less in licenses and permits and federal grants than estimated. The actual charges to appropriations were \$88,163 less than budgeted primarily because the Police Jury expended less for public safety and health and welfare than expected.

CAPITAL ASSET AND DEBT ADMINISTRATION

Capital Assets At December 31, 2023, the Police Jury had \$13,106,750 invested in a broad range of capital assets, including land, buildings, furniture and equipment and infrastructure assets such as roads and bridges. This amount represents a net increase (including additions, deductions, and depreciation) of \$6,332,283, or 93% from last year.

Table 4
Capital Assets at December 31,

	Government	tal Activities	Business-Ty	pe Activities	
	2023 2022		2023	2022	
Land	\$ 375,665	\$ 375,665	\$ -	\$ -	
Construction in progress	1,671,919	29,046	-	-	
Buildings	690,160	720,736	-	-	
Furniture and office equipment	70,041	69,814	1,526	2,544	
Construction equipment	1,334,452	1,202,920	-	-	
Vehicles	701,501	909,254	-	-	
Infrastructure	8,261,486	3,464,488			
Total captial assets	\$13,105,224	\$6,771,923	\$ 1,526	\$ 2,544	

This year's major additions included the additions of Route 882 including the 2 bridges located on the road and the road right-of-way totaling \$5,064,265 and the additions to construction-in-progress of \$1,662,687. The Police Jury completed the Library annex building \$19,814 and placed it into operation during the current fiscal year. The Police Jury has the following ongoing construction-in progress at year end: 1) asphalt overlay of Oswalt Road funded through reimbursement of a private corporation and the State's road transfer funds; 2) Tensas Bayou weir replacement in which the construction is funded though the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery grant and the engineering costs are paid by the General fund; 3) Love Louisiana Outdoors park improvements project in which the construction and engineering costs are funded through a federal grant (COVID-19 CDBG) and the administration fees are paid by the General fund; 4) Street improvements project in which the construction is funded through a federal grant (CDBG) and the engineering and administration fees are paid by the Road fund.

We present more detailed information about our capital assets in Note 7 in the notes to the financial statements.

Debt On April 1, 2020, the Police Jury issued \$450,000 in general obligation bonds to fund constructing and improving buildings, machinery, and equipment to be used in giving fire protection to the citizens of East Carroll Parish. \$338,000 of the private placement general obligation bonds were issued with an interest rate of 3.5% and \$112,000 were issued with an interest rate of 1.75%. The \$421,000 in outstanding bonds are payable over 12 years with the final payment due on March 1, 2035.

The Police Jury has financed the purchase of various equipment through notes payable. Outstanding balance of notes payable at December 31, 2023 is \$308,910.

Other debt consists of accrued vacations (compensated absences). We present more detailed information about our long-term debt in Note 11 of the notes to the financial statements.

Information about the net pension liability (asset) is presented in Note 9 of the notes to the financial statements.

ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGETS AND RATES Our elected and appointed officials and citizens consider many factors when setting the Police Jury's budget and tax rates. One of the most crucial factors affecting the budget is our ad valorem and sales tax collections. We originally budgeted minor changes in next year's budget for ad valorem and sales tax collections. Approximately 67% of total revenue less nonrecurring state and federal grants is from ad valorem and sales taxes. We have projected an increase in net position for the 2024 budget year.

In May 2024, the Police Jury realized that it failed to renew the Police Jury's one percent sales tax that expired on December 31, 2023. The net proceeds of the tax (after necessary costs of collection) were used to construct, operate, and maintain parish public roads, drainage canals, and public bridges, with ten percent of the proceeds used exclusively for insurance premiums. The Police Jury will not be able to hold an election for a new sales tax until November 2024, and if the new tax passes, collections are not expected to begin until the first quarter of 2025. The Police Jury is expecting to lose approximately \$820 thousand in sales tax revenues for 2024.

CONTACTING THE POLICE JURY'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT Our financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, and investors and creditors with a general overview of the Police Jury's finances and to show the Police Jury's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or wish to request additional financial information, contact Natosha Davis, Secretary-Treasurer, at the East Carroll Parish Police Jury, 400 First Street, Lake Providence, Louisiana 71254, telephone number (318) 559-2256.

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BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Government-wide Financial Statements (GWFS)

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EAST CARROLL PARISH POLICE JURY

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION December 31, 2023

Statement A

	PRIMARY GOVERNMENT					
	GOVERNMENTAL	BUSINESS-TYPE				
	ACTIVITIES	ACTIVITIES	TOTAL			
ASSETS						
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 6,670,145	\$ 118,114	\$ 6,788,259			
Investments	791,233	-	791,233			
Cash and cash equivalents - restricted	-	7,422	7,422			
Receivables	3,424,039	5,712	3,429,751			
Internal balances	(1,157)	1,157	<u>-</u>			
Prepaid items	112,963	1,662	114,625			
Capital assets not being depreciated	2,621,085	-	2,621,085			
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	10,484,139	1,526	10,485,665			
TOTAL ASSETS	24,102,447	135,593	24,238,040			
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES						
Deferred outflows related to pensions	993,704	33,496	1,027,200			
TOTAL DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	993,704	33,496	1,027,200			
LIABILITIES						
Accounts, salaries, and other payables	1,255,223	535	1,255,758			
Interest payable	4,755	-	4,755			
Unearned Revenue	510,371	-	510,371			
Long-term liabilities						
Due within one year:						
Long-term debt: Bonds, notes, and compensated absences	91,593	1,873	93,466			
Due in more than one year:						
Long-term debt: Bonds, notes, and compensated absences	650,607	-	650,607			
Net pension liability	736,845	24,838	761,683			
TOTAL LIABILITIES	3,249,394	27,246	3,276,640			
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES						
Deferred inflows related to pensions	98,857	3,332	102,189			
TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	98,857	3,332	102,189			
NET POSITION						
Net investment in capital assets	11,292,903	1,526	11,294,429			
Restricted for:	11,202,000	1,020	11,201,120			
Roads	4,597,090	-	4,597,090			
Garbage	832,009	-	832,009			
Library	1,133,854	-	1,133,854			
Drainage	391,912	-	391,912			
Health Unit	633,923	-	633,923			
Debt service	120,813	-	120,813			
Rural fire protection	696,475	-	696,475			
LSU Cooperative Extension	423,961	-	423,961			
Opioid abatement	4,500	-	4,500			
Housing assistance payments	-	7,422	7,422			
Unrestricted	1,620,460	129,563	1,750,023			
TOTAL NET POSITION	\$ 21,747,900	\$ 138,511	\$ 21,886,411			

			PROGRAM REVENUES								
					0	PERATING		CAPITAL			
			CHA	RGES FOR	GR	ANTS AND	GRANTS AND				
	E	XPENSES	SI	ERVICES	CON	TRIBUTIONS	CONTRIBUTIONS				
FUNCTIONS/PROGRAMS											
Governmental Activities:											
General government:											
Legislative	\$	108,947	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-			
Judicial		603,467		184,848		151,080		-			
Elections		57,114		-		-		-			
Finance and administrative		318,789		-		1,200		-			
Other general government		476,777		-		-		-			
Public safety		433,900		-		61,974		-			
Public works		2,715,211		146,987		4,406,224		5,814,265			
Health and welfare		167,881		-		-		-			
Culture and recreation		404,750		7,466		18,009		55,600			
Transportation		31,506		5,579		-		-			
Interest on long-term debt		28,283		-				<u>-</u>			
Total Governmental Activities		5,346,625		344,880		4,638,487		5,869,865			
Business-Type Activities:				_		_					
Health and welfare		718,436		-		712,441		<u>-</u>			
Total Primary Government	\$	6,065,061	\$	344,880	\$	5,350,928	\$	5,869,865			

General revenues:

Taxes:

Property taxes, levied for general purposes

Property taxes, levied for debt services

Sales taxes, levied for general purposes

Other taxes

Grants and contributions not restricted to specific programs

Licenses and permits

Interest and investment earnings

Miscellaneous

Total general revenues

Changes in net position

Net position - beginning

Net position - ending

Statement B

PRIMARY GOVERNMENT

	NET (EVDENSE) DEVENUE AND CHANCES IN NET DOSITION							
INL	NET (EXPENSE) REVENUE AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION							
GO	VERNMENTAL	BUS	SINESS-TYPE					
	ACTIVITIES		CTIVITIES		TOTAL			
\$	(108,947)	\$	-	\$	(108,947)			
	(267,539)		-		(267,539)			
	(57,114)		-		(57,114)			
	(317,589)		-		(317,589)			
	(476,777)		-		(476,777)			
	(371,926)		-		(371,926)			
	7,652,265		-		7,652,265			
	(167,881)		-		(167,881)			
	(323,675)		-		(323,675)			
	(25,927)		-		(25,927)			
	(28,283)		-		(28,283)			
	5,506,607		-		5,506,607			
			(5,995)		(5,995)			
	5,506,607		(5,995)		5,500,612			
	2,946,912		_		2,946,912			
	47,587				47,587			
	819,167		_		819,167			
	32,670		_		32,670			
	127,547		-		127,547			
	161,398		_		161,398			
	65,179		_		65,179			
	149,095		3,110		152,205			
	4,349,555		3,110		4,352,665			
	9,856,162		(2,885)		9,853,277			
	11,891,738		141,396		12,033,134			
\$	21,747,900	\$	138,511	\$	21,886,411			

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BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Fund Financial Statements (FFS)

EAST CARROLL PARISH POLICE JURY

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS Balance Sheet December 31, 2023

	G	ENERAL		ROAD INTENANCE AND ISTRUCTION	GARBAGE DISTRICT NO. 1
ASSETS				to moonen	 110.1
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	251,856	\$	3,193,704	\$ 207,011
Investments		1,604	·	218,261	148,669
Receivables		536,613		1,197,067	507,264
Interfund receivables		52,700		589,124	-
Prepaid items		27,068		27,708	 23,275
TOTAL ASSETS		869,841		5,225,864	 886,219
LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES, AND FUND BALANCES Liabilities:					
Accounts, salaries, and other payables		94,832		601,066	13,271
Interfund payables		448,243		-	17,664
Unearned revenue		-		-	
Total Liabilities		543,075		601,066	 30,935
Deferred Inflows of Resources:					
Unavailable revenue - property taxes		14,061		12,690	 11,960
Total Deferred inflow of resources		14,061		12,690	 11,960
Fund Balances:					
Nonspendable		27,068		27,708	23,275
Restricted		-		4,584,400	820,049
Unassigned		285,637			
Total Fund Balances		312,705		4,612,108	 843,324
TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF					
RESOURCES, AND FUND BALANCES	\$	869,841	\$	5,225,864	\$ 886,219

Statement C **CORONAVIRUS** DRAINAGE **LOCAL FISCAL NONMAJOR LIBRARY MAINTENANCE** RECOVERY **GOVERNMENTAL TOTAL** \$ 998,471 517,897 \$ 131,365 6,670,145 1,369,841 239,115 70,265 113,319 791,233 395,707 396,676 390,712 3,424,039 16,950 49,444 708,218 2,217 24,383 8,312 112,963 1,154,936 639,639 998,471 1,931,628 11,706,598 1,452 6,069 488,100 50,433 1,255,223 17,413 217,275 8,780 709,375 510,371 510,371 59,213 18,865 223,344 998,471 2,474,969 12,658 12,690 11,154 75,213 12,658 12,690 11,154 75,213 112,963 2,217 24,383 8,312 1,121,196 379,222 1,873,273 8,778,140 (20,324)265,313 1,123,413 403,605 1,861,261 9,156,416 \$ 1,154,936 639,639 \$ 998,471 \$ 1,931,628 \$ 11,706,598

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EAST CARROLL PARISH POLICE JURY

Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Position December 31, 2023

	St	atement D	
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the State	ement of Net Position are different because:		
Total fund balances - governmental funds		\$	9,156,416
The cost of capital assets (land, buildings, furniture and or constructed is reported as an expenditure in government includes those capital assets among the assets of the capital assets is allocated over their estimated useful livarious programs reported as governmental activities in depreciation expense does not affect financial resources.			
Costs of capital assets	\$ 32,359,713		
Accumulated depreciation	(19,254,489)		
			13,105,224
Long-term assets that are not available to pay current per as deferred inflows of resources: unavailable revenue - funds and are reported as revenue in the government-w		75,213	
Deferred outflows of resources related to pensions are reported in the gove			993,704
Deferred inflows of resources related to pensions are no and accordingly are not reported in the governmental fu			(98,857)
Long-term liabilities applicable to the Police Jury's gover payable in the current period and accordingly are not re both current and long term - are reported in the Statement	ported as fund liabilities. All liabilities -		
Balances at year end are: Long-term liabilities			
Bonds payable	(421,000)		
Notes payable	(308,910)		
Compensated absences	(12,290)		
Net pension liability	(736,845)		
Interest payable	(4,755)		
			(1,483,800)

\$ 21,747,900

Net position of governmental activities

EAST CARROLL PARISH POLICE JURY

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances

For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	GENERAL	ROAD MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION	GARBAGE DISTRICT NO. 1		
REVENUES					
Local sources:					
Taxes:					
Ad valorem	\$ 527,721	\$ 476,280	\$ 555,331		
Sales and use	82,917	736,250	-		
Other taxes	14,830	-	-		
Licenses and permits	161,398	-			
Fines and forfeitures	-	-	-		
Fees, charges, and commissions for services	191,980	-	145,019		
Use of money and property	30,826	17,302	8,489		
Other revenues	10,321	772,661	13,634		
Intergovernmental revenues:					
State sources:					
Parish transportation funds	-	150,519	-		
State revenue sharing	9,110	8,222	5,594		
Other	106,845	3,684,235	-		
Federal sources - federal grants	15,373		<u> </u>		
Total Revenues	1,151,321	5,845,469	728,067		
EXPENDITURES					
Current:					
General government:					
Legislative	108,947	_	_		
Judicial	143,136	_	_		
Elections	55,088	_	_		
Finance and administrative	228,782	_	_		
Other general government	434,350	_	_		
Public safety	286,197	_	_		
Public works	-	1,161,440	588,168		
Health and welfare	9,456	 -	, -		
Culture and recreation	1,500	_	_		
Transportation	3,239	-	-		
Capital outlay	59,155	1,410,824	-		
Debt service:	,	, -,-			
Principal retirement	-	67,740	102,390		
Interest and bank charges		12,522	2,791		
Total Expenditures	1,329,850	2,652,526	693,349		
EXCESS (Deficiency) OF REVENUES					
OVER EXPENDITURES	\$ (178,529)	\$ 3,192,943	\$ 34,718		

								St	tatement E	
		_			RONAVIRUS					
			RAINAGE		AL FISCAL		ONMAJOR			
	LIBRARY	MAI	NTENANCE	R	COVERY	GOV	ERNMENTAL		TOTAL	
\$	475,036	\$	476,279	\$	-	\$	452,899	\$	2,963,546	
	-		-		-		-		819,167	
	-		-		-		-		14,830	
	-		-		-		-		161,398	
	-		-		-		180,662		180,662	
	7,466		1,968		-	-			346,433	
	6,475		4,377		_	12,710			80,179	
	20,174		-		-		35,752		852,542	
	-		-		-		-		150,519	
	8,200		8,222		-		3,320		42,668	
	3,232		50,000		-		25,715		3,870,027	
			-		672,670		55,600		743,643	
	520,583		540,846		672,670		766,658		10,225,614	
	_		_				_		108,947	
	_		_		60,000		374,480		577,616	
	_		_		00,000		374,400		55,088	
	-		-		1 200		- 101,676			
	-		-		1,200		101,676		331,658	
	-		-		-		04.000		434,350	
	-		405 744		-		91,009		377,206	
	-		485,741		33,370		-		2,268,719	
	-		-		-		150,175		159,631	
	381,277		-		-		-		382,777	
	-		-		-		-		3,239	
	3,268		-		488,100		70,600		2,031,947	
	_		-		-		29,000		199,130	
	_		_		-		13,405		28,718	
	201 515		10E 711		502 670					
	384,545		485,741		582,670		830,345		6,959,026	
•	400.000	•	FF 105	*	00.005	*	(00.00=)	<u>^</u>	0.000 =00	
\$	136,038	\$	55,105	\$	90,000	\$	(63,687)	\$	3,266,588	

(Continued)

EAST CARROLL PARISH POLICE JURY

GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances

For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	<u>GENERAL</u>				GARBAGE DISTRICT NO. 1	
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)						
Transfers in	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-
Transfers out		(130,000)		(100,000)		-
Insurance recoveries		-				170,070
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)		(130,000)		(100,000)		170,070
Net Change in Fund Balances		(308,529)		3,092,943		204,788
FUND BALANCES - BEGINNING		621,234		1,519,165		638,536
FUND BALANCES - ENDING	\$	312,705	\$	4,612,108	\$	843,324

Statement E **CORONAVIRUS** DRAINAGE **LOCAL FISCAL NONMAJOR** LIBRARY **MAINTENANCE RECOVERY GOVERNMENTAL TOTAL** \$ \$ 100,000 \$ 220,000 320,000 (90,000)(320,000) 3,397 173,467 103,397 (90,000)220,000 173,467 136,038 158,502 156,313 3,440,055 987,375 245,103 1,704,948 5,716,361 403,605 1,123,413 1,861,261 9,156,416

(Concluded)

Reconciliation of the Governmental Funds Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances to the Statement of Activities For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Statement F

		Otatement i	
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Stateme	ent of Activities are different because:		
Total net change in fund balances - governmental funds		\$ 3,440,055	5
Capital outlays are reported in governmental funds as expe Activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their es expense. This is the amount by which capital outlays exce the period.	stimated useful lives as depreciation		
Capital outlay	\$ 7,155,056		
Trade-in gain	10,000		
Depreciation expense	(713,804)		
		6,451,252	2
Capital assets disposed of prior to being fully depreciated r Statement of Activities, however, the loss is not recognized	-	(117,951	1)
Repayment of bond principal and notes payable are an exp but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the State	_	199,130	0
In the Statement of Activities, certain operating expenses-cosick leave) - are measured by the amounts earned during however, expenditures for these items are measured by the (essentially, the amounts actually paid).	the year. In the governmental funds,	602	2
The recognition of pension expense in the Statement of Acti payments discounted to actuarial present value and attribu Pension expenditures in the governmental funds are the a	ited to periods of employee service.	(148,314	4)
Revenues in the Statement of Activities that do not provide or reported as revenues in the governmental funds.	current financial resources are not	30,953	3
Interest on long-term debt in the statement of activities diffe governmental funds because interest is recognized as an due and thus requires the use of current financial resource however, interest expense is recognized as the interest activities.	expenditure in the funds when it is es. In the statement of activities,	435	5_
Change in net position of governmental activities		\$ 9,856,162	2_

PROPRIETARY FUND TYPE - ENTERPRISE FUNDS Statement of Net Position December 31, 2023

Statement G

	SECTION 8 VOUCHER	EAST CARROLL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT	TOTAL
ASSETS			
Current Assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 118,114	\$ -	\$ 118,114
Cash and cash equivalents - restricted	7,422	-	7,422
Receivables Interfund receivables	5,712	10,000	5,712 10,000
Prepaid items	1,662	10,000	1,662
Total Current Assets	132,910	10,000	142,910
Non-Current Assets:			
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	1,526		1,526
Total Non-Current Assets	1,526		1,526
TOTAL ASSETS	134,436	10,000	144,436
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Deferred outflows related to pensions	33,496		33,496
TOTAL DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES	33,496		33,496
LIABILITIES Current Liabilities:			
Accounts payable	535	-	535
Interfund payables	8,843	-	8,843
Compensated absences payable	1,873		1,873
Total Current Liabilities	11,251		11,251
Noncurrent Liabilities: Net pension liability	24,838	_	24,838
Total Noncurrent Liabilities	24,838		24,838
TOTAL LIABILITIES	36,089		36,089
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Deferred outflows related to pensions	3,332	_	3,332
TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	3,332		3,332
NET DOCITION			
NET POSITION Net investment in capital assets	1,526		1,526
Restricted for HAP (Expendable)	7,422	-	7,422
Unrestricted	119,563	10,000	129,563
TOTAL NET POSITION	\$ 128,511	\$ 10,000	\$ 138,511

PROPRIETARY FUND TYPE - ENTERPRISE FUNDS

Statement of Revenues, Expenses, and Changes in Fund Net Position For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Statement H

	SECTION		EAST CARR HOUSING DEVELOPM	G	TOTAL
OPERATING REVENUES					
Federal Grants	\$ 712	,441	\$	_	\$ 712,441
Miscellaneous income	-	,110	•		 3,110
Total operating revenues	715	,551			 715,551
OPERATING EXPENSES					
Administration	100	,111		-	100,111
Housing assistance payments	617	,307		-	617,307
Depreciation	1	,018		-	 1,018
Total operating expenses	718	,436			 718,436
INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE TRANSFERS	(2	,885)		-	(2,885)
TRANSFERS					
Transfers from (to) other funds	15	,000	(15,	000)	
NET CHANGE IN NET POSITION	12	,115	(15,	000)	(2,885)
NET POSITION - BEGINNING OF YEAR	116	,396	25,	000	141,396
NET POSITION - END OF YEAR	\$ 128	,511	\$ 10,	000	\$ 138,511

PROPRIETARY FUND TYPE - ENTERPRISE FUND Statement of Cash Flows For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Statement I

	SECTION 8 VOUCHER	EAST CARROLL HOUSING DEVELOPMENT	TOTAL
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	Ф (27.07 г)	c	Ф (27.07 г)
Payments to vendors Payments to employees	\$ (37,075) (52,250)	\$ -	\$ (37,075) (52,250)
Payments to employees Payments to private landlords and others	(617,307)	_	(617,307)
Federal grants	709,163	-	709,163
Miscellaneous receipts	2,585	15,000	17,585
NET CASH PROVIDED (USED) BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	5,116	15,000	20,116
CASH FLOWS FROM NONCAPITAL FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Transfers from (to) other funds	15,000	(15,000)	
NET CASH PROVIDED (USED) BY FINANCING ACTIVITIES	15,000	(15,000)	
NET INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	20,116	-	20,116
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	105,420	. 	105,420
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF YEAR	125,536		125,536
RECONCILIATION TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION:			
Cash and cash equivalents	118,114	-	118,114
Cash and cash equivalents - restricted	7,422		7,422
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF YEAR	125,536		125,536
RECONCILIATION OF OPERATING INCOME (LOSS) TO NET CASH PROVIDED (USED) BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES: Operating income (loss)	(2,885)	-	(2,885)
Adjustments to reconcile operating income to net cash provided			
(used) by operating activities: Depreciation expense	1,018	_	1,018
(Increase) decrease in accounts receivable	(3,278)	-	(3,278)
(Increase) decrease in interfund receivable	(0,2.0)	15,000	15,000
(Increase) decrease in prepaid expenses	(191)	· -	(191)
(Increase) decrease in deferred outflows related to pensions	(25,759)	-	(25,759)
(Increase) decrease in net pension asset/liability	51,562	-	51,562
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable	382	-	382
Increase (decrease) in interfund payable	6,137	-	6,137
Increase (decrease) in compensated absences	821	-	821
Increase (decrease) in deferred inflows related to pensions	(22,691)	· -	(22,691)
NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	\$ 5,116	\$ 15,000	\$ 20,116

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NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES The East Carroll Parish Police Jury (the Police Jury) is the governing authority for East Carroll Parish and is a political subdivision of the state of Louisiana. The Police Jury is governed by five jurors representing the various districts within the parish. The jurors serve four-year terms which expire December 2027.

Louisiana Revised Statute 33:1236 gives the Police Jury various powers in regulating and directing the affairs of the parish and its inhabitants. The more notable of those are the powers to make regulations for their own government, to regulate the construction and maintenance of roads and bridges, to regulate the construction and maintenance of drainage systems, to regulate the sale of alcoholic beverages, and to provide for the health and welfare of the poor, disadvantaged, and unemployed in the parish. Funding to accomplish these tasks is provided by ad valorem taxes, sales taxes, beer and alcoholic beverage permits, state revenue sharing, and various other state and federal grants.

In accomplishing its objectives, the Police Jury also has the authority to create special districts (component units) within the parish. The districts perform specialized functions, such as fire protection, airport facilities, and health care facilities.

A. REPORTING ENTITY As the governing authority of the parish, for reporting purposes, the East Carroll Parish Police Jury is the financial reporting entity for East Carroll 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 the 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.

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) establishes criteria for determining the governmental reporting entity and component units that should be considered part of the East Carroll 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 standards have set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. This criterion 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 and a financial benefit or burden is present.
- 3. Organizations for which the reporting entity's financial statements would be misleading if data of the organization is not included because of the nature or significance of the relationship.

Based on the previous criteria, the Police Jury has determined that the following component units are part of the reporting entity:

	Method of	Fiscal	Criteria
Component Unit	<u>Inclusion</u>	Year End	Used
Included within the reporting entity:			
Sixth Judicial District Criminal Court (East Carroll Parish)	Blended	December 31	2 and 3
LSU Cooperative Extension Service	Blended	December 31	2 and 3
East Carroll Housing Development Corporation	Blended	December 31	1 and 3
Not included within the reporting entity:			
East Carroll Parish:			
Sheriff	Discrete	June 30	3
Assessor	Discrete	December 31	3
Clerk of Court	Discrete	June 30	3
Community Action Agency of East Carroll Parish	Discrete	December 31	2 and 3
Lakeshore Family Homes GP, LLC	Discrete	December 31	2 and 3

The Police Jury has chosen not to include the following component units in the basic financial statements: Sheriff, Assessor, Clerk of Court, and Community Action Agency of East Carroll Parish. Separate financial statements for each of these component units can be obtained by contacting the component unit.

The Police Jury is also responsible for appointing a majority of the members of the boards of the East Carroll Hospital Service District and the East Carroll Parish Housing Authority but the Police Jury's accountability for these organizations does not extend beyond making appointments so these entities should not be included in the financial reporting entity. The East Carroll Recreation District financial statements are not material to the financial statements of the Police Jury.

Additionally, it was determined that the East Carroll Parish Library is not a component unit of the East Carroll Parish Police Jury reporting entity because they do not have separate corporate powers that would distinguish it as being legally separate from the primary government, primarily due to the fact that East Carroll Parish Library does not have the right to buy, sell, lease, and mortgage property in its own name. Furthermore, it was determined that the East Carroll Parish Police Jury holds East Carroll Parish Library's corporate powers and that the East Carroll Parish Library financial statements should be included in the financial statements of the East Carroll Parish Police Jury as a special revenue fund.

East Carroll Housing Development Corporation (Corporation) is a legally separate entity, which is a not-for-profit corporation and has a December 31st year end. Per the Bylaws, the Board of Directors of the Corporation is the same individuals that serve as the East Carroll Parish Police Jury members. This provides the Police Jury with a voting majority of the governing body of the Corporation. Additionally, the Corporation imposes a financial benefit and burden on the Police Jury. Based on the above, the Corporation is considered to be a component unit of the Police Jury and should be included under blended presentation.

In 2018, Lakeshore Family Homes GP II, LLC (GP II) was created as a legally separate entity, which is a Louisiana limited liability company. The operating agreement for GP II lists East Carroll Housing Development Corporation as having 100% membership and the managing member. The Corporation has the power to bind and the power to impose its will on GP II as well as the Board of GP II is made up of the members of the Police Jury. Therefore, GP II is considered to be a component unit of the Police Jury and should be included under blended presentation. The GP II financial statements are not material to the financial statements of the Police Jury.

In 2018, Lakeshore Family Homes GP, LLC was created as a legally separate entity, which is a Louisiana limited liability company. In the operating agreement for Lakeshore Family Homes GP, LLC, lists Lakeshore Family Homes GP II, LLC as having 51% membership; however, GP II is not the managing partner. The GP II has the power to bind and the power to impose its will on Lakeshore Family Homes GP, LLC. Therefore, Lakeshore Family Homes GP, LLC is considered to be a component unit of the Police Jury under discrete presentation.

B. FUNDS The accounts of the Police Jury are organized and operated on the basis of funds. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain government functions or activities.

Governmental Funds: The governmental funds are divided into separate "fund types." Governmental funds are used to account for government's general activities, where the focus of attention is on the providing of services to the public as opposed to proprietary funds where the focus of attention is on recovering the cost of providing services to the public or other agencies through service charges or user fees. The major governmental funds of the Police Jury are described as follows:

General - The General fund is the general operating fund of the Police Jury. It accounts for all activities except those required to be accounted for in other funds.

Road Maintenance and Construction - This fund accounts for the maintenance of parish highways, streets, and bridges. Major means of financing are provided by a one percent sales tax and by ad valorem taxes.

Garbage District No. 1 - This fund accounts for parish garbage collection services. The main source of revenue is ad valorem tax and collection fees.

Library - This fund accounts for the operations of the parish library. The primary source of financing is provided by ad valorem taxes.

Drainage Maintenance - This fund accounts for the maintenance of the parish drainage system. Financing is provided by ad valorem taxes.

Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery - This fund accounts for federal grants received to respond to the public health emergency, COVID-19 or its negative economic impacts, respond to workers performing essential work during the COVID-19 pandemic by providing premium pay to eligible workers, and to provide government services, to the extent COVID-19 caused a reduction in revenues.

Proprietary Fund - The proprietary fund accounts for activities similar to those found in the private sector where the determination of net income is necessary or useful to sound financial administration. The proprietary fund differs from a governmental fund in that its focus is on income measurement which, together with the maintenance of equity, is an important financial indicator.

Section 8 Voucher - This fund accounts for the activity for HUD's Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program. The purpose is to assist low-income families in obtaining affordable housing.

East Carroll Housing Development - This fund accounts for the activity of the Police Jury's not-for-profit corporation, East Carroll Parish Development Corporation. This corporation was established to assist tax credit partnerships in providing affordable housing in East Carroll Parish.

C. MEASUREMENT FOCUS AND BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

Government-Wide Financial Statements (GWFS) The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities displays information about the reporting government as a whole. The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities was prepared using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets, liabilities, and deferred inflows/outflows of resources resulting from exchange and exchange-like transactions are recognized when the exchange takes place. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets, liabilities, and deferred inflows/outflows of resources resulting from nonexchange transactions are recognized in accordance with the requirements of GASB Statement No. 33 "Accounting and Financial Reporting for Nonexchange Transactions." Fiduciary funds are not included in the government-wide financial statements.

<u>Program revenues</u> Program revenues included in the Statement of Activities derive directly from the program itself or from parties outside the Police Jury's taxpayers or citizenry, as a whole; program revenues reduce the cost of the function to be financed from the Police Jury's general revenues.

Allocation of indirect expenses

The Police Jury reports all direct expenses by function in the Statement of Activities. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a function. Depreciation expense is specifically identified by function and is included in the direct expense of each function. Interest on long-term debt is considered an indirect expense and is reported separately on the Statement of Activities.

Fund Financial Statements (FFS)

Governmental Funds The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. Governmental fund types use the flow of current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting revenues are recognized when susceptible to accrual (i.e., when they are "measurable and available"). "Measurable" means the amount of the transaction can be determined and "available" means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. The government considers all revenues available if they are collected within 60 days after year end. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for unmatured principal and interest on long-term debt which is recognized when due, and certain compensated absences and claims and judgments which are recognized when the obligations are expected to be liquidated with expendable available financial resources.

With this measurement focus, only current assets, current liabilities, and current inflows/outflows of resources are generally included on the balance sheet. Operating statements of these funds present increases and decreases in net current assets. The governmental funds use the following practices in recording revenues and expenditures:

Revenues Ad valorem taxes and the related state revenue sharing are recorded in the year the taxes are due and payable. Ad valorem taxes are assessed on a calendar-year basis and attach as an enforceable lien and become due and payable on the date the tax rolls are filed with the recorder of mortgages. Louisiana Revised Statute 47:1993 requires that the tax roll be filed on or before November 15 of each year. Ad valorem taxes become delinquent if not paid by December 31. The taxes are normally collected in December of the current year and January and February of the ensuing year.

Sales taxes are susceptible to accrual.

Federal and state grants are recognized when the Police Jury is entitled to the funds.

Fines, forfeitures, and court costs are recognized in the year they are received by the parish tax collector.

Interest income on time deposits is recognized when the time deposits have matured, and the interest is available.

Substantially all other revenues are recognized when they become available to the Police Jury.

Based on the above criteria, ad valorem taxes, sales taxes, federal and state grants, fines, forfeitures, and court costs have been treated as susceptible to accrual.

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 long-term obligations, which are recognized when due.

Other Financing Sources (Uses) Sale of capital assets, increases in long-term debt, insurance recoveries, and transfers between funds that are not expected to be repaid are accounted for as other financing sources (uses) and are recognized when the underlying events occur.

Proprietary Funds

Operating Revenues and Expenses Proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from nonoperating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services in connection with the fund's principal ongoing operations, which is providing affordable housing. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as nonoperating revenues and expenses.

D. ENCUMBRANCES Outstanding encumbrances lapse at year end. Authorization for the eventual expenditure will be included in the following year's budget appropriations. Encumbrance accounting is not employed in governmental funds.

Encumbrance accounting (e.g., purchase orders, contracts) is not recognized within the accounting records for budgetary control purposes.

- **E.** CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS Cash includes amounts in demand deposits and interest-bearing demand deposits, and time deposit accounts. Cash equivalents include amounts in time deposits and those investments with original maturities of 90 days or less. Under state law, the Police Jury may deposit funds in demand deposits, interest-bearing demand deposits, or time deposits with state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having their principal offices in Louisiana.
- **F. INVESTMENTS** Investments are limited by R.S. 33:2955 and the Police Jury's investment policy. If the original maturities of investments exceed 90 days they are classified as investments; however, if the original maturities are 90 days or less, they are classified as cash equivalents.

The investments are reflected at fair value except for the following which are required/permitted as per GASB Statement No. 31:

- 1. Investments in <u>nonparticipating</u> interest-earning contracts, such as nonnegotiable certificates of deposit with redemption terms that do not consider market rates, are reported using a cost-based measure.
- 2. The Police Jury reported at amortized cost money market investments and <u>participating</u> interestearning investment contracts that have a remaining maturity at time of purchase of one year or less.

Definitions:

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.

The Police Jury participates in the Louisiana Asset Management Pool, Inc., (LAMP) which is an external investment pool that is not SEC-registered. Because the LAMP is an arrangement sponsored by a type of governmental entity, it is exempt by statute from regulation by the SEC.

LAMP is administered by LAMP, Inc., a non-profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana. Only local government entities having contracted to participate in LAMP have an investment interest in its pool of assets. The primary objective of LAMP is to provide a safe environment for the placement of public funds in short-term, high-quality investments. The LAMP portfolio includes only securities and other obligations in which local governments in Louisiana are authorized to invest in accordance with LA-R.S. 33:2955.

The investments in LAMP are stated at fair value. The fair value is determined on a weekly basis by LAMP and the value of the position in the external investment pool is the same as the net asset value of the pool shares.

LAMP, Inc. is subject to the regulatory oversight of the state treasurer and the board of directors. LAMP is not registered with the SEC as an investment company. An annual audit of LAMP is conducted by the Louisiana Legislative Auditor and can be obtained by writing: LAMP, Inc., 650 Poydras Street, Suite 2220, New Orleans, LA 70130 or at www.lamppool.com or at www.lla.la.gov.

- **G. SHORT-TERM INTERFUND RECEIVABLES/PAYABLES (FFS)** During the course of operations, numerous transactions occur between individual funds for services rendered. These receivables and payables are classified as interfund receivables/payables on the balance sheet. Short-term interfund loans are also classified as interfund receivables/payables.
- **H. ELIMINATION AND RECLASSIFICATIONS** In the process of aggregating data for the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities some amounts reported as interfund activity and balances in the funds were eliminated or reclassified. Interfund receivables and payables were eliminated to minimize the "grossing up" effect on assets and liabilities within the governmental activities' column.
- **I. PREPAID ITEMS** Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in both the government-wide and fund financial statements. The cost of prepaid items is recorded as expenditures/expenses when consumed rather than when purchased.
- **J. CAPITAL ASSETS** Capital assets exceeding \$1,000 are recorded at either historical cost or estimated historical cost and depreciated over their estimated useful lives (excluding salvage value). Donated capital assets are recorded at their acquisition value at the date of donation. General and infrastructure assets (e.g., roads, bridges, and other assets that are immovable and of value only to the government) are capitalized and valued at historical cost or estimated historical cost. Estimated useful life is management's estimate of how long the asset is expected to meet service demands.

Straight line depreciation is used based on the following estimated useful lives:

Drainage

Buildings	40 years
Portable buildings	10 to 20 years
Office equipment	6 or 10 years
Furniture and fixtures	6 or 10 years
Construction equipment	4 to 10 years
Vehicles	4 or 9 years
Books, periodicals, and law books	10 years
Infrastructure:	
Airport hangars	40 years
Road surface	25 years
Bridges	40 to 50 years

K. COMPENSATED ABSENCES All full-time employees of the Police Jury earn annual leave at rates varying from ten to 20 days per year, depending on length of service. Employees may accumulate and carry forward no more than five days of annual leave. All full-time permanent employees earn one sick day per month of continuous employment. Sick leave can be accumulated up to 30 days. Employees are not compensated for sick leave at termination or retirement.

25 years

Full-time employees of the East Carroll Parish Library earn from ten to 15 days of vacation leave, depending on their length of service and position with the library. Part-time employees earn six days of vacation leave each year. Vacation leave cannot be accumulated. All 12-month employees earn ten days of sick leave each year. Sick leave can be accumulated for up to 20 days. Part-time employees earn six days of sick leave each year. Sick leave lapses upon termination of employment.

The cost of leave privileges, computed in accordance with the previous codification, is recognized as a current-year expenditure within the various funds when leave is actually taken or when employees are paid for accrued vacation leave upon retirement.

The Police Jury's recognition and measurement criterion for compensated absences follows:

GASB Statement No. 16 provides that vacation leave and other compensated absences with similar characteristics should be accrued as a liability as the benefits are earned by the employees if both of the following conditions are met:

The employees' right to receive compensation is attributable to services already rendered.

It is probable that the employer will compensate the employees for the benefits through paid time off or some other means, such as cash payments at termination or retirement.

GASB Statement No. 16 provides that a liability for sick leave should be accrued using one of the following termination approaches:

An accrual for earned sick leave should be made only to the extent it is probable that the benefits will result in termination payments, rather than be taken as absences due to illness or other contingencies, such as medical appointments and funerals.

Alternatively, a governmental entity should estimate its accrued sick leave liability based on the sick leave accumulated at the balance sheet date by those employees who currently are eligible to receive termination payments as well as other employees who are expected to become eligible in the future to receive such payments.

Employees are not compensated for sick leave at termination or retirement; therefore, sick leave is not accrued.

L. LIABILITIES For government-wide reporting, debt issuance costs, with the exception of any portion related to prepaid insurance costs, is recognized as an expense in the period incurred.

For fund financial reporting, bond premiums and discounts, as well as issuance costs, are recognized in the period the bonds are issued. Bond proceeds are reported as another financing source net of the applicable premium or discount. Issuance costs, even if withheld from the actual net proceeds received, are reported as debt service expenditures.

M. DEFERRED OUTFLOWS/INFLOWS OF RESOURCES In addition to assets, the Statement of Net Position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *deferred outflows of resources*, represents a consumption of net assets that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an outflow or resources (expense/expenditure) until then. The Police Jury has one item, deferred outflows related to pensions that qualifies in this category and is reported only in the governmental activities.

In addition to liabilities, the Statement of Net Position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *deferred inflows of resources*, represents an acquisition of net assets that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources until that time. The Police Jury has one type of item, which arises only under a modified accrual basis of accounting that qualifies for reporting in this category. Accordingly, the item, *unavailable* revenue, is reported only in the governmental funds balance sheet as unavailable property taxes. These amounts are deferred and recognized as an inflow of resources in the period that the amounts become available. The Police Jury also has one item, deferred inflows related to pensions that qualifies in this category and is reported only in the governmental activities.

- **N. PENSION PLAN** For purposes measuring the net pension liability (asset), deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the retirement systems and additions to/deductions from the retirements systems fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the retirement systems. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.
- **O. RESTRICTED NET POSITION** For the government-wide statement of net position, net position is reported as restricted when constraints placed on net position use are either:

Externally imposed by creditors (such as debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments.

Imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation. All of the Police Jury's restricted net position are restricted by enabling legislation except for net position restricted for housing assistance payments and opioid abatement.

It is the Police Jury's policy to first apply restricted resources when an expense is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position are available.

P. FUND BALANCES OF FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Fund balance amounts are reported within the fund balance categories as follows:

Non-spendable: Fund balance that is not in spendable form or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. This category includes items that are not easily converted to cash such as inventories and prepaid items.

<u>Restricted</u>: Fund balance that can be spent only for the specific purposes stipulated by the constitution, external resource providers, or through enabling legislation.

<u>Committed</u>: Fund balance that can only be used for specific purposes determined by the Police Jury's highest level of decision-making authority. Committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the Police Jury removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action it employed to previously commit the funds. Committed fund balance is the result of resolutions passed at a Jury meeting committing the funds.

<u>Assigned</u>: Fund balance that is constrained by the Police Jury's intent to be used for specific purposes but is neither restricted nor committed. Intent should be expressed by the Jury or a committee of the Jury.

<u>Unassigned</u>: Fund balance that is the residual classification for the general fund or a deficit fund balance in other funds.

The Police Jury reduces committed amounts, followed by assigned amounts and then unassigned amounts when an expenditure is incurred for purposes for which amounts in any of those unrestricted fund balance classifications could be used. The Police Jury considers restricted amounts to have been spent when an expenditure is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available.

Q. INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS Quasi-external transactions are accounted for as revenues, expenditures, or expenses. Transactions that constitute reimbursements to a fund for expenditures/expenses initially made from it that are properly applicable to another fund are recorded as expenditures/expenses in the reimbursing fund and as reductions of expenditures/expenses in the fund that is reimbursed.

All other interfund transactions, except quasi-external transactions and reimbursements, are reported as transfers. Nonrecurring or non-routine permanent transfers of equity are reported as residual equity transfers. All other interfund transfers are reported as operating transfers.

- **R. SALES TAXES** The Police Jury has a one percent sales and use tax, which was originally passed by the voters on October 16, 1993, for a period of five years and has been subsequently renewed. The taxing period for the current renewal is effective from January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2023. The net proceeds of the tax (after necessary costs of collection) are to be used to construct, operate, and maintain parish public roads, drainage canals, and public bridges, with ten percent of the proceeds used exclusively for insurance premiums.
- **S. UNEARNED REVENUES** Unearned revenues arise when resources are received by the Police Jury before it has a legal claim to them, as when grant monies are received prior to the incurrence of qualifying expenditures. In subsequent periods, when the Police Jury has a legal claim to the resources, the liability for unearned revenue is removed from the combined balance sheet and the revenue is recognized.
- **T. USE OF ESTIMATES** The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires 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 statement and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

NOTE 2 - STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

A. Excess of Actual Expenditures Over Budgeted Expenditures in Individual Funds The following funds had actual expenditures which exceeded budgeted expenditures for the year ended December 31, 2023:

Fund	Final Budget		Final Budget Actual		V	ariance
Garbage District No. 1	\$	638,939	\$	654,956	\$	(16,017)
Library		366,390		384,038		(17,648)
Drainage Maintenance		479,479		482,623		(3,144)

The negative budget variances are a result of expenditures exceeding the budget in the last month of the year.

B. Deficit Fund Balance The following fund had a deficit fund balance at December 31, 2023:

Fund	Defic	Deficit Amount	
Criminal Court	\$	(20,324)	

NOTE 3 - LEVIED TAXES The Police Jury levies taxes on real and business personal property located within East Carroll Parish's boundaries. Property taxes are levied by the Police Jury on property values assessed by the East Carroll Parish Tax Assessor and approved by the State of Louisiana Tax Commission.

The East Carroll Parish sheriff's office bills and collects property taxes for the Police Jury. Collections are remitted to the Police Jury monthly.

Property Tax Calendar

Millage rates adopted	June 7, 2023
Tax bills mailed	November 2023
Due date	December 31, 2023
Lien date	January 1, 2024
Tax sale – 2022 delinquent property	May 10, 2023

Assessed values are established by the East Carroll Parish Tax Assessor each year on a uniform basis at the following ratios of assessed value to fair market value.

10% land 15% machinery

10% residential improvements 15% commercial improvements

15% industrial improvements 25% public service properties, excluding land

A revaluation of all property is required after 1978 to be completed no less than every four years. The last revaluation was completed in 2020. Louisiana state law exempts the first \$75,000 of the assessed value of a taxpayer's primary residence from parish property taxes. For calendar year 2023, the total assessed value was \$63,980,110 and the homestead exemption was \$5,372,795 of the assessed value.

State law requires the sheriff to collect property taxes in the calendar year in which the assessment is made. Property taxes become delinquent January 1 of the following year. If taxes are not paid by the due date, taxes bear interest at the rate of 1.25% per month until the taxes are paid. After notice is given to the delinquent taxpayers, the sheriff is required by the *Constitution of the State of Louisiana* to sell the least quantity of property necessary to settle the taxes and interest owed.

All property taxes are recorded in the General fund, Road Maintenance and Construction special revenue fund, Drainage Maintenance special revenue fund, Garbage District No. 1 special revenue fund, Library special revenue fund, Rural Fire special revenue fund, LSU Cooperative Extension Service special revenue fund, Health

Unit special revenue fund, and the Fire Bond Debt Service fund. Revenues in such funds are recognized in the accounting period in which they become measurable and available. Property taxes are considered measurable in the calendar year of the tax levy. Estimated uncollectible taxes are those taxes based on past experience which will not be collected in the subsequent year and are primarily due to subsequent adjustments to the tax roll. Available means due, or past due, and receivable within the current period and collected within the current period or expected to be collected soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. The remaining property tax receivables are considered available because they are substantially collected within 60 days subsequent to year end.

The tax roll is prepared by the parish tax assessor in November of each year; therefore, the amount of 2023 property taxes to be collected occurs in December and January and February of the next year. Historically, virtually all ad valorem taxes receivable were collected since they are secured by property; therefore, there is no allowance for uncollectible taxes.

The following is a summary of authorized and levied ad valorem taxes for the year ended December 31, 2023:

	Maximum		
	Allowed	Levied	Expiration
	<u>Millage</u>	<u>Millage</u>	<u>Date</u>
Parish-wide taxes:			
General fund	6.60	6.60	Indefinite
Courthouse maintenance	2.53	2.53	2024
Roads and bridges	8.24	8.24	2032
Drainage maintenance	8.24	8.24	2032
Library and bookmobile	8.22	8.22	2024
Health unit	2.00	2.00	2027
Cooperative extension program	2.74	2.74	2024
District taxes:			
Rural fire protection	2.76	2.76	2028
Rural fire protection debt service	Variable	1.00	2034
Garbage collection and disposal	11.67	11.67	2025

NOTE 4 - DEPOSITS At December 31, 2023, the Police Jury had cash and cash equivalents (book balances) as follows:

Demand deposits (cash and cash equivalents per Statement A)	\$ 6,788,259
Demand deposits (cash and cash equivalents - restricted per Statement A)	7,422
Time deposits (reported as investments)	113,028
Total	\$ 6,908,709

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. These securities are held in the name of the pledging fiscal agent bank in a holding or custodial bank that is mutually acceptable to both parties.

Custodial Credit Risk-Deposits. At year end, the Police Jury had a bank balance of \$7,611,359 of which \$450,929 was covered by federal depository insurance and \$7,160,430 was secured by collateral held by the Police Jury's agent but not in the Police Jury's name. The Police Jury's policy does not address custodial credit risk.

Interest Rate Risk-Deposits. The Police Jury's policy does not address interest rate risk.

NOTE 5 - INVESTMENTS The Police Jury categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset. Level 1 inputs are quoted process in active markets for identical assets; Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs; Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs.

The investments in LAMP are stated at fair value. The fair value is determined on a weekly basis by LAMP and the value of the position in the external investment pool is the same as the net asset value of the pool shares (Level 2). The nonnegotiable certificate of deposit is measured at cost. At year end, the Police Jury investment balances were as follows:

	Carryi	ng Amount
Type of investment	Fa	ir Value
Certificate of deposit	\$	113,028
LAMP		678,205
Total	\$	791,233

LAMP is an investment pool that, to the extent practical, invests in a manner consistent with GASB Statement No. 79. The following facts are relevant for investment pools:

Credit risk: Lamp is rated AAAm by Standard & Poor's.

Custodial credit risk: LAMP participants' investments in the pool are evidenced by shares of the pool. Investments in pools should be disclosed, but not categorized because they are not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book-entry form. The public entity's investment is with the pool, not the securities that make up the pool; therefore, no disclosure is required.

Concentration of credit risk: Pooled investments are excluded from the 5 percent disclosure requirement.

Interest rate risk: LAMP is designed to be highly liquid to give its participants immediate access to their account balances. LAMP prepares its own interest rate risk disclosure using the weighted average maturity (WAM) method. The WAM of LAMP assets is restricted to not more than 90 days and consists of no securities with a maturity in excess of 397 days or 762 days for U.S. Government floating/variable rate investments.

Foreign currency risk: Not applicable.

NOTE 6 - RECEIVABLES The following is a summary of receivables at December 31, 2023:

	Ad Valorem		Other Taxes		Intergovernmental		Other		Total
General	\$	436,492	\$	7,706	\$	29,448	\$	62,967	\$ 536,613
Road Maintenance and Construction		393,942		50,391		2,734		750,000	1,197,067
Garbage District No. 1		469,206		-		1,857		36,201	507,264
Library		392,980		-		2,727		-	395,707
Drainage Maintenance		393,942		-		2,734		-	396,676
Nonmajor Governmental		377,789		-		1,104		11,819	390,712
Section 8 Voucher				-		5,712			5,712
Total	\$	2,464,351	\$	58,097	\$	46,316	\$	860,987	\$ 3,429,751

Historically, virtually all ad valorem tax receivables were collected since they are secured by property; therefore, no allowance for doubtful accounts has been established for ad valorem taxes. The remaining balances of accounts receivable are expected to be collected in full.

NOTE 7 - CAPITAL ASSETS

The following schedule presents changes in capital assets for the Police Jury's governmental activities:

	Balance Beginning	Additions	Deletions	Balance Ending
Governmental activities				
Nondepreciable capital assets:				
Land	\$ 274,665	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 274,665
Airport land	101,000	-	-	101,000
Infrastructure: Road right-of-way	558,234	15,267	-	573,501
Construction in progress	29,046	1,662,687	19,814	1,671,919
Total non-depreciable capital assets	962,945	1,677,954	19,814	2,621,085
Depreciable capital assets:				
Buildings	2,780,483	19,814	-	2,800,297
Furniture & office equipment	461,009	25,888	_	486,897
Construction equipment	3,325,746	379,260	107,950	3,597,056
Vehicles	4,176,702	32,956	235,903	3,973,755
Infrastructure:				
Airport	1,155,666	-	-	1,155,666
Road surface	9,140,845	4,607,313	-	13,748,158
Bridges	1,759,091	441,685	_	2,200,776
Drainage	1,776,023			1,776,023
Total depreciable capital assets	24,575,565	5,506,916	343,853	29,738,628
Less accumulated depreciation:				
Buildings	2,059,747	50,390	-	2,110,137
Furniture & equipment	391,195	25,661	-	416,856
Construction equipment	2,122,826	247,728	107,950	2,262,604
Vehicles	3,267,448	122,758	117,952	3,272,254
Infrastructure:				
Airport	484,440	28,266	-	512,706
Road surface	8,753,287	127,741	-	8,881,028
Bridges	1,404,577	40,219	_	1,444,796
Drainage	283,067	71,041	-	354,108
Total accumulated depreciation	18,766,587	713,804	225,902	19,254,489
Total depreciable capital assets, net	5,808,978	4,793,112	117,951	10,484,139
Governmental activities				
Capital assets, net	\$ 6,771,923	\$ 6,471,066	\$ 137,765	\$ 13,105,224

Depreciation expense was charged to governmental activities for the Police Jury as follows:

Elections	\$ 2,026
Finance and administration	4,347
Other general government	5,676
Public Safety	91,672
Public Works	549,246
Health & Welfare	26,152
Culture & Recreation	6,418
Transportation	 28,267
Total	\$ 713,804

The following schedule presents changes in capital assets for the business-type activities.

	В	alance					В	alance
	Be	ginning	Additions		Deletions		Ending	
Business-type activities		_						_
Depreciable capital assets								
Furniture & office equipment	\$	8,219	\$	-	\$	-	\$	8,219
Vehicles		28,873				12,365		16,508
Total		37,092				12,365		24,727
Less accumulated depreciation								
Furniture & equipment		5,675		1,018		-		6,693
Vehicles		28,873		-		12,365		16,508
Total		34,548		1,018		12,365		23,201
Business-type activites	-		-	-				
capital assets, net	\$	2,544	\$	(1,018)	\$		\$	1,526

NOTE 8 - INTERFUND TRANSACTIONS (FFS LEVEL ONLY)

Interfund receivable/payable:

Receivable Fund	Payable Fund	<u>Amount</u>
General	Garbage District No. 1	\$ 17,664
General	Library	17,413
General	Nonmajor Governmental	8,780
Road Maintenance and Construction	General	371,849
Road Maintenance and Construction	Drainage Maintenance	217,275
Drainage Maintenance	General	16,950
Nonmajor Governmental	General	49,444
General	Section 8 Voucher	8,843
East Carroll Housing Development	General	10,000
Total		\$ 718,218

Interfund balances result from fund reimbursements not made before year end. The General fund and Drainage fund interfund payables to the Road fund will not be paid within one year.

Interfund transfers:

Transfers In	<u>Transfers Out</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Drainage Maintenance	Road Maintenance and Construction	\$ 100,000
Nonmajor Governmental	General	130,000
Nonmajor Governmental	Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery	90,000
Section 8 Voucher	East Carroll Housing Development	15,000
Total		\$ 335,000

The Road fund transferred to the Drainage Maintenance fund to provide funding to cover the Drainage fund's cash shortfall. The General fund and the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery fund transferred funds to the Nonmajor Governmental fund to provide funding for the Criminal Court's shortfall. The East Carroll Housing Development transferred to Section 8 Voucher to assist the Section 8 program with administrative expenses.

NOTE 9 - PENSION PLAN The Police Jury is a participating employer in a statewide, public employee retirement system, the Parochial Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana (System). The System has a separate board of trustees and administers a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit pension plan. The System is composed of two plans, Plan A and Plan B, with separate asset and benefit provisions. All employees of the Police Jury are members of Plan A. The authority to establish and amend the benefit terms of the System was granted to the Board of Trustees and the Louisiana Legislature by Title 11 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes. The System issues a public report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. Copies of the report for the System may be obtained at www.persla.org.

General Information about the Pension Plan

Plan Descriptions/Benefits Provided

The System administers a plan to provide retirement, disability, and survivor's benefits to employees of taxing districts of a parish or any branch or section of a parish within the state which does not have their own retirement system, and which elect to become members of the System. The age and years of creditable service (service) required in order for a member to receive retirement benefits are established by R.S. 11:1901 and vary depending on the member's hire date.

A member who joined the System prior to January 1, 2007 is eligible for normal retirement if the member has at least 30 years of creditable service regardless of age, 25 years of creditable service and is at least age 55, 10 years of creditable service and is at least age 60, or 7 years of creditable service and is at least age 65. A member who joined the System on or after January 1, 2007 is eligible for normal retirement if the member has at least 30 years of creditable service and is at least age 55, 10 years of creditable service and is at least age 62, or 7 years of creditable service and is at least age 67.

Generally, the monthly amount of the retirement allowance shall consist of an amount equal to 3% of the member's final average compensation multiplied by the member's years of creditable service. However, under certain conditions as outlined in the statutes the benefits are limited to specified amounts.

A member hired prior to January 1, 2007 is eligible to retire and receive disability benefits if the member has at least 5 years of creditable service, is not eligible for normal retirement and has become totally and permanently disabled and is certified as disabled by the State Medical Disability Board. A member who joins the System on or after January 1, 2007, must have at least 7 years of service to qualify for disability benefits.

Upon the death of a member with five or more years of creditable service who is not eligible for retirement, the plan provides benefits for surviving spouses and minor children, as outlined in the statutes.

Deferred Retirement Option Plan

In lieu of terminating employment and accepting a service retirement, any member who is eligible to retire may elect to participate in the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) in which they are enrolled for 3 years and defer the receipt of benefits. During participation in the plan, employer contributions are payable, but employee contributions cease. The monthly retirement benefits that would be payable, had the person elected to cease employment and receive a service retirement allowance, are paid into the DROP fund. Upon termination of employment prior to or at the end of the specified period of participation, a participant in the DROP may receive, at the participant's option, a lump sum from the account equal to the payments into the account, a true annuity based upon the account balance in that fund or roll over the fund to an individual retirement account. Interest is accrued on the DROP benefits for the period between the end of DROP participation and the member's retirement date.

Cost of Living Adjustments

The Board is authorized to provide a cost-of-living allowance for those retirees who retired prior to July 1973. The adjustment cannot exceed 2% of the retiree's original benefit for each full calendar year since retirement and may only be granted if sufficient funds are available from investment income in excess of normal requirements. In addition, the Board may provide an additional cost of living increase to all retirees and beneficiaries who are over age 65 equal to 2% of the member's benefit paid on October 1, 1977, (or the member's retirement date, if later). Also, the Board may provide a cost of living increase up to 2.5% for retirees 62 and older (RS 11:1937). Lastly, Act 270 of 2009 provided for further reduced actuarial payments to provide an annual 2.5% cost of living adjustment commencing at age 55. These ad hoc COLAs are not considered to be substantively automatic.

Contributions

Contributions for all members are established by statute at 9.5% of compensation and are deducted from the member's salary and remitted by the participating employer. According to state statute, contributions for all employers are actuarially determined each year. For the year ended December 31, 2023, the actuarially determined contribution rate was 7.49% of member's compensation. However, the actual rate for fiscal year ending December 31, 2023 was 11.50% or \$148,119. According to state statute, the System also receives ¼ of 1% of ad valorem taxes collected within the respective parishes except for Orleans and East Baton Rouge parishes. The System also receives revenue sharing funds each year as appropriated by the Legislature. Tax monies and revenue sharing monies are apportioned between Plan A and Plan B in proportion to the member's compensation. These additional sources of income are used as additional employer contributions and are considered support from non-contributing entities. The Police Jury's proportionate share of non-employer contributions was \$18,441 and was recognized as revenue by the Police Jury.

<u>Pension Liability (Asset), Pension Expense, and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions</u>

At December 31, 2023, the Police Jury reported a net pension liability (asset) of \$761,683, \$736,845 for governmental activities and \$24,838 for business-type activities, for its proportionate share of the net pension liability (asset) (NPL). The NPL will be liquidated through contributions to the pension plan from the governmental fund in which the related salary was paid. The NPL was measured as of December 31, 2022, and the total pension liability (assets) used to calculate the NPL were determined by actuarial valuations as of that date. The allocation method used in determining each employer's proportion was based on each employer's contributions to the plan during the fiscal year December 31, 2022 as compared to the total of all employers' contributions received by the plan during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2022. As of December 31, 2022, the most recent measurement date, the Police Jury's proportions and the changes in proportion from the prior measurement date was 0.197902%, or a decrease of 0.013740%.

For the year ended December 31, 2023, the Police Jury recognized a total pension expense of \$317,986, \$307,617 for governmental activities and \$10,369 for business-type activities. The Police Jury reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions as components of unrestricted net position from the following sources:

	Governmental Activities			Business-Type Activities				Total				
	Deferred Outflows				Deferred Outflows		Deferred Inflows		Deferred Outflows		Deferred Inflows	
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$	27,243	\$	81,183	\$	918	\$	2,736	\$	28,161	\$	83,919
Changes in assumptions		23,515		-		793		-		24,308		-
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments		777,872		-		26,221		-		804,093		-
Changes in proportion and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions		21,785		17,674		734		596		22,519		18,270
Employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date		143,289		-		4,830				148,119		_
Total	\$	993,704	\$	98,857	\$	33,496	\$	3,332	\$1	,027,200	\$	102,189

Deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from the Police Jury's contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the NPL in the year ended December 31, 2024. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

	Gove	ernmental	Busi	ness-Type	
	A	ctivities	Ac	ctivities	Total
2024	\$	21,651	\$	730	\$ 22,381
2025		130,160		4,387	134,547
2026		251,030		8,462	259,492
2027		348,717		11,755	360,472

Actuarial Assumptions

A summary of the actuarial methods and assumptions used in determining the total pension liability as of December 31, 2022 are as follows:

Valuation Date December 31, 2022
Actuarial Cost Method Entry Age Normal Cost

Expected Remaining Service Lives 4 years

Investment Rate of Return 6.40%, net of investment expense, including inflation

Inflation Rate 2.30%

Mortality For annuitant and beneficiary mortality, the Pub-2010

Public Retirement Plans Mortality Table for General Healthy Retirees was used. For employees, the Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Mortality Table for General Employees was used. For disabled annuitants, the Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Mortality Table for General Disabled Retirees was used. These mortality tables were multiplied by 130% for males and 125% for females, each with full generational projection using the MP2018 scale.

Termination, Disability, Retirement Projected based on a 5 year (January 1, 2013 - December 31,

2017) experience study

Projected Salary Increases 4.75% (2.45% merit / 2.30% inflation)

Cost of Living Adjustments Not substantively automatic

Discount Rate: The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 6.40%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from plan members will be made at the current contribution rates and that contributions from participating employers and non-employer contributing entities will be made at the actuarially determined contribution rates, which are calculated in accordance with relevant statutes and approved by the Board of Trustees and the Public Retirement Systems' Actuarial Committee. Based on those assumptions, the pension plan's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a triangulation method which integrated the capital asset pricing model (top-down), a treasury yield curve approach (bottom-up) and an equity building-block model (bottom-up). Risk return and correlations are projected on a forward-looking basis in equilibrium, in which best-estimates of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These rates are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation of 2.10% and an adjustment for the effect of rebalancing/diversification. The resulting expected long-term rate of return is 7.70% for the year ended December 31, 2022.

Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in the System's target asset allocation as of December 31, 2022 are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Allocation	Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return
Fixed income	33%	1.17%
Equity	51%	3.58%
Alternatives	14%	0.73%
Real assets	2%	0.12%
Totals	100%	5.60%
Inflation		2.10%
Expected arithmetic nominal	return	7.70%

Sensitivity of the proportionate share of the NPL to changes in the discount rate. The following presents the Police Jury's proportionate share of the NPL using the current discount rate as well as what the Police Jury's proportionate share of the NPL would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage-point lower or one percentage-point higher than the current rate:

		(Current		
1.09	% Decrease	Disc	ount Rate	1.09	6 Increase
	5.40%		6.40%		7.40%
\$	1,883,669	\$	761,683	\$	(178,958)

Pension plan fiduciary net position: Detailed information about fiduciary net position is available in the separately issued financial report referenced above.

Payables to the Pension Plan: At December 31, 2023, the Police Jury did not have any payables for employee and employer legally required contributions.

Changes in the net pension liability (asset): As of December 31, 2022, the net pension liability (asset) was \$(996,926) and as of December 31, 2023, the net pension liability (asset) was \$761,683 which is a change of \$1,758,609.

NOTE 10 - ACCOUNTS, SALARIES, AND OTHER PAYABLES Payables at December 31, 2023 are as follows:

	Accounts Payable		_	Salaries Payable	 nstruction Payable	Total
General	\$	76,227	\$	-	\$ 18,605	\$ 94,832
Road Maintenance and Construction		31,060		-	570,006	601,066
Garbage District No. 1		8,834		4,437	-	13,271
Library		1,452		-	-	1,452
Drainage Maintenance		6,069		-	-	6,069
Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery		-		-	488,100	488,100
Nonmajor Governmental		44,233		500	5,700	50,433
Section 8 Voucher		535			 	 535
Total	\$	168,410	\$	4,937	\$ 1,082,411	\$ 1,255,758

NOTE 11 - LONG-TERM DEBT The following is a summary of the long-term debt transactions and balances for the year ended December 31, 2023:

Governmental Activities

	_									nounts
	В	eginning					l	Ending	Due	Within
	I	Balance	Ac	lditions	D	eletions	Balance		One year	
Governmental Activities:										
Direct Placement: Bonds payab	le:									
General obligation debt	\$	450,000	\$	-	\$	29,000	\$	421,000	\$	30,000
Other Debt:										
Notes payable		479,040		-		170,130		308,910		49,303
Compensated absences		12,892		48,307		48,909	-	12,290		12,290
Total Governmental Activities										
Long-term debt	\$	941,932	\$	48,307	\$	248,039	\$	742,200	\$	91,593

Payments on the general obligation bonds payable that pertain to the Police Jury's governmental activities are made by the Debt Service fund. The compensated absences liability attributable to the governmental activities will be liquidated by the fund in which the salary is paid. Notes payables were paid from the Road Maintenance and Construction fund and the Garbage District No. 1 fund.

Information about the changes in the net pension liability (asset) is contained in Note 9.

The general obligation bond payable at December 31, 2023 consists of the following issue:

			Final		
	Original	Interest	Payment	Interest to	Principal
Series	Amount	Rates	Due	Maturity	Outstanding
2020	\$ 450,000	1.75% - 3.50%	March 1, 2035	\$ 87,815	\$ 421,000

All principal and interest requirements on the general obligation debt are funded in accordance with Louisiana law by the annual ad valorem tax levy on taxable property within the parish. In accordance with Louisiana Revised Statute 39:562, the Police Jury and its component units are legally restricted from incurring long-term bonded debt in excess of ten percent of the assessed value of taxable property in the parish or district. At December 31, 2023, the statutory limit is \$6,398,011 and the debt service fund balance is \$124,543.

Notes payable at December 31, 2023 consists of the following:

	Original	Interest	Final Payment	Interest to	Principal
Issued	Amount	Rate	Due	Maturity	Outstanding
2019	\$ 235,903	4.450%	March 29, 2025	\$ 33,054	\$ 308,910

The bonds and notes payable are due as follows:

	BONDS P	<u>AYABLE</u>	NOTES P	AYABLE	<u>TOTAL</u>			
	Principal	<u>Interest</u>	Principal	<u>Interest</u>	Principal	<u>Interest</u>		
2024	\$ 30,000	\$ 12,618	\$ 49,303	\$ 10,169	\$ 79,303	\$ 22,787		
2025	31,000	11,795	51,082	8,390	82,082	20,185		
2026	31,000	10,955	52,925	6,547	83,925	17,502		
2027	32,000	10,097	54,835	4,637	86,835	14,734		
2028	33,000	9,205	56,813	2,659	89,813	11,864		
2029-2033	182,000	30,240	43,952	652	225,952	30,892		
2034-2035	82,000	2,905			82,000	2,905		
	\$ 421,000	\$ 87,815	\$ 308,910	\$ 33,054	\$ 729,910	\$ 120,869		

Business-Type Activities

	_	inning llance	Ad	ditions	De	letions	nding alance	Due	ounts Within e year
Business-type Activities:							 		
Other debt:									
Compensated absences	\$	1,052	\$	3,278	\$	2,457	\$ 1,873	\$	1,873
Total Business-type Activities				_		_	_		
Long-term debt	\$	1,052	\$	3,278	\$	2,457	\$ 1,873	\$	1,873

NOTE 12 – **COMPENSATED ABSENCES** At December 31, 2023, employees of the Police Jury have accumulated and vested \$14,163 of employee leave benefits, which includes \$202 of employee related benefits. These benefits were computed in accordance with GASB Codification Section C60.

NOTE 13 - LITIGATION, CLAIMS, AND COMMITMENTS

<u>Litigation</u> The Police Jury is a defendant in ongoing litigation. Management and legal counsel for the Policy Jury believe that the potential claim against the Police Jury not covered by insurance would not materially affect the Police Jury's financial position.

<u>Grant Disallowances</u> The Police Jury participates in a number of state and federally assisted grant programs. The programs are subject to compliance audits under the single audit approach. Such audits could lead to requests for reimbursement by the grantor agency for expenditures disallowed under the terms of the grant.

Construction Commitments The Police Jury has several ongoing construction projects as of December 31, 2023, which include the Tensas Bayou Weir Replacement project, the Oswalt Road asphalt overlay project, the LCDBG Love Louisiana Outdoors Park Improvements project, and a LCDBG Street Improvement project. As of December 31, 2023, the Police Jury had approximately \$165 thousand remaining on the Tensas Bayou Weir Replacement construction contract and \$674 thousand remaining on the LCDBG Love Louisiana Outdoors Park Improvements project construction contract (the contract was signed in 2023 with construction beginning after year end).

NOTE 14 - RISK MANAGEMENT The Police Jury is at risk for property damage, liability and theft which are covered by commercial insurance through the Louisianan Rural Parish Insurance Cooperative, a self-insurance fund. This self-insurance program is a public entity risk pool which was approved by the State of Louisiana Insurance Commission. The cooperative operates like any other commercial insurance company.

Three insurance companies currently share the excess coverage insurance. The first \$100,000 of all coverage is self-funded by the combined contributions of the members. No additional assessments can be made against the Police Jury. The Police Jury is responsible only for the payment of premiums. Settlement amounts have not exceeded insurance coverage for any of the past three years.

NOTE 15 - OPIOID SETTLEMENT The State of Louisiana and participating local governments have reached settlement agreements with certain opioid pharmaceutical manufacturers and distributors that resolved opioid litigation brought by states, local political subdivisions, and special districts against opioid pharmaceutical supply chain participants. As provided under the settlement agreements, the amounts distributed are net of amounts attributable to prior settlements between the defendants and certain states/subdivisions, including amounts for attorneys' fees and costs.

Louisiana settlement proceeds are to be distributed directly to parish governments and sheriffs. The Louisiana Opioid Litigation Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) established guidelines and details regarding the limitations on expenditures and amounts to be received by each entity. According to the MOU, East Carroll Parish is to receive 0.08% of current and future settlement amounts over an 18-year projected settlement period. East Carroll Parish Police Jury received \$34,179 in fiscal year 2023 for the first 3 years of collected settlements. Future settlement amounts are contingent upon the solvency of the settling defendants.

NOTE 16 - FUND BALANCE CLASSIFICATION DETAILS

			Road								
		Mai	ntenance	Garbage							
			and	District			D	rainage	N	Ionmajor	
	General	Con	struction	No. 1	L	ibrary	Mai	intenance	Gov	vernmental	 Total
Nonspendable:							`				
Prepaids	\$ 27,068	\$	27,708	\$ 23,275	\$	2,217	\$	24,383	\$	8,312	\$ 112,963
Restricted for:											
Road Maintenance											
and Construction	-	4	4,584,400	-		-		-		-	4,584,400
Garbage	-		-	820,049		-		-		-	820,049
Library	-		-	-	1,	121,196		-		-	1,121,196
Drainage Maintenance	-		-	-		-		379,222		-	379,222
Debt Service	-		-	-		-		-		124,543	124,543
Rural Fire Protection	-		-	-		-		-		693,646	693,646
LSU Cooperative Extension	-		-	-		-		-		419,741	419,741
Health Unit	-		-	-		-		-		630,843	630,843
Opioid Abatement	-		-	-		-		-		4,500	4,500
Unassigned	285,637		_			_		_		(20,324)	 265,313
Total	\$ 312,705	\$ 4	4,612,108	\$ 843,324	\$1,	123,413	\$	403,605	\$	1,861,261	\$ 9,156,416

NOTE 17 - SUBSEQUENT EVENTS In May 2024, the Police Jury realized that it failed to renew the Police Jury's one percent sales tax that expired on December 31, 2023. The net proceeds of the tax (after necessary costs of collection) were used to construct, operate, and maintain parish public roads, drainage canals, and public bridges, with ten percent of the proceeds used exclusively for insurance premiums. The Police Jury will not be able to hold an election for a new sales tax until November 2024, and if the new tax passes, collections are not expected to begin until the first quarter of 2025. The Police Jury is expecting to lose approximately \$820 thousand in sales tax revenues for 2024.

NOTE 18 - NEW GASB STANDARDS In the current fiscal year, the Police Jury implemented Statement No. 94 —Public-Private and Public-Public Partnerships and Availability Payment Arrangements. This statement provides accounting and financial reporting guidance for public-private and public-public partnerships (PPP) and availability payment arrangements (APA). A PPP is an arrangement in which a government (the transferor) contracts with an operator (a governmental or nongovernmental entity) to provide public services by conveying control of the right to operate or use a nonfinancial asset, such as infrastructure or other capital asset (the underlying PPP asset), for a period of time in an exchange or exchange-like transaction. Some PPPs meet the definition of a service concession arrangement (SCA), which the Board defines in this Statement as a PPP in which (1) the operator collects and is compensated by fees from third parties; (2) the transferor determines or has the ability to modify or approve which services the operator is required to provide, to whom the operator is required to provide the services, and the prices or rates that can be charged for the services; and (3) the transferor is entitled to significant residual interest in the service utility of the underlying PPP asset at the end of the arrangement. An APA is an arrangement in which a government compensates an operator for services that may include designing, constructing, financing, maintaining, or operating an underlying nonfinancial asset for a period of time in an exchange or exchange-like transaction. The adoption of this standard had no impact on the financial reporting for the Police Jury as the Police Jury had no PPPs or APAs.

In the current fiscal year, the Police Jury implemented GASB Statement No. 96 - Subscription-Based Technology Arrangements (SBITAs). This statement provides guidance on the accounting and financial reporting for SBITAs for governments. The statement (1) defines a SBITA; (2) establishes that a SBITA results in a right-to-use subscription asset - an intangible asset - and a corresponding subscription liability; (3) provides the capitalization criteria for outlays other than subscription payments, including implementation costs of a SBITA; and (4) requires note disclosure regarding a SBITA. To the extent relevant, the standards for SBITAs are based on the standards established in Statement No. 87, Leases, as amended. The implementation of this standard had no effect on the Police Jury's financial statements or notes to the financial statements.

East Carroll Parish Police Jury
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
REQUIRED SUIT LEWENTART INFORMATION

Schedule of the Police Jury's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) Last Nine Fiscal Years

Exhibit 1-1

						Police Jury's	
		Pol	ice Jury's			Proportionate Share	
	Police Jury's	Prop	portionate			of the Net Pension	Plan Fiduciary
	Proportion of	Sha	are of the			Liability (Asset) as a	Net Position as a
	the Net	Net	t Pension			Percentage of its	Percentage of the
	Pension	I	iability	Po	lice Jury's	Covered Employee	Total Pension
Fiscal Year	Liability	((Asset)	Cov	ered Payroll	Payroll	Liability
2015	0.216628%	\$	60,666	\$	1,080,876	5.6%	99.15%
2016	0.209121%		550,467		1,180,476	46.6%	92.23%
2017	0.207826%		428,020		1,211,777	35.3%	94.15%
2018	0.201541%		(149,593)		1,198,208	-12.5%	101.98%
2019	0.217903%		967,132		1,210,391	79.9%	88.86%
2020	0.209337%		9,854		1,286,870	0.8%	99.89%
2021	0.184811%		(324,050)		1,308,302	-24.8%	104.00%
2022	0.211642%		(996,926)		1,285,019	-77.6%	110.46%
2023	0.197902%		761,683		1,341,233	56.8%	91.74%

Notes:

The amounts presented have a measurement date of the previous fiscal year end.

This schedule is presented to illustrate the requirement to show information for 10 years. However, until a full 10 year trend is compiled, only information for those years for which information is available is presented.

Schedule of the Police Jury's Contributions to the Pension Plan Last Nine Fiscal Years

Exhibit 1-2

									Contributions
			Cont	ributions in					as a
			Re	lation to					Percentage of
	Con	ıtractually	Cor	itractually	Contril	oution			Covered
	R	equired	R	equired	Defici	iency	Po	lice Jury's	Employee
Fiscal Year	Coı	ntribution	Con	tributions	(Exce	ess)	Cov	ered Payroll	Payroll
2015	\$	171,169	\$	171,169	\$	-	\$	1,180,476	14.50%
2016		157,531		157,531		-		1,211,777	13.00%
2017		149,776		149,776		-		1,198,208	12.50%
2018		139,195		139,195		-		1,210,391	11.50%
2019		147,990		147,990		-		1,286,870	11.50%
2020		160,267		160,267		-		1,308,302	12.25%
2021		157,415		157,415		-		1,285,019	12.25%
2022		154,242		154,242		-		1,341,233	11.50%
2023		148,119		148,119		-		1,287,988	11.50%

Notes:

The amounts presented were determined as of the fiscal year end.

This schedule is presented to illustrate the requirement to show information for 10 years. However, until a full 10 year trend is compiled, only information for those years for which information is available is presented.

Notes to Required Supplementary Information for Pensions

Changes in Benefit Terms A 2.5% COLA effective January 1, 2015, provided by State statutes. This COLA is reflected in amounts reported after 2015.

Change in Assumptions: The following is a detail description of the changes in assumptions:

Report Date Decen	Valuation Date nber 31,	Investment Rate of Return	Inflation Rate	Mortality Rate - Annuitant and Beneficiary	Mortality Rate - Employees	Mortality Rate - Disabled Annuitants	Salary Increases
2015	2014	7.25%	3.00%	RP-2000 Healthy Annuitant Mortality Table set back 1 year for males and RP-2000 Combined Healthy Female Table for females	RP-2000 Employee Mortality Table set back 1 year for males and females	RP-2000 Disabled Lives Mortality Table	5.75%
2016 & 2017	2015 & 2016	7.00%	2.50%	RP-2000 Healthy Annuitant Sex Distinct Tables set forward 2 years for males and set forward 1 year for females projected to 2031 using Scale AA	RP-2000 Employees Sex Distinct Tables set back 4 years for males and 3 years for females	RP-2000 Disabled Lives Mortality Table set back 5 years for males and 3 years for females	5.25%
2018	2017	6.75%	2.50%	RP-2000 Healthy Annuitant Sex Distinct Tables set forward 2 years for males and set forward 1 year for females projected to 2031 using Scale AA	RP-2000 Employees Sex Distinct Tables set back 4 years for males and 3 years for females	RP-2000 Disabled Lives Mortality Table set back 5 years for males and 3 years for females	5.25%
2019 & 2020	2018 & 2019	6.50%	2.40%	Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Mortality Table for General Healthy Retirees multiplied by 130% for males and 125% for females, each with full generational projection using the MP2018 scale	Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Mortality Table for General Employees multiplied by 130% for males and 125% for females, each with full generational projection using the MP2018 scale	Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Mortality Table for General Disabled Retirees multiplied by 130% for males and 125% for females, each with full generational projection using the MP2018 scale	4.75%
2021, 2022, & 2023	2020, 2021, & 2022	6.40%	2.30%	Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Mortality Table for General Healthy Retirees multiplied by 130% for males and 125% for females, each with full generational projection using the MP2018 scale	Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Mortality Table for General Employees multiplied by 130% for males and 125% for females, each with full generational projection using the MP2018 scale	Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Mortality Table for General Disabled Retirees multiplied by 130% for males and 125% for females, each with full generational projection using the MP2018 scale	4.75%

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Budgetary Comparison Schedules

General Fund and Major Special Revenue Funds with Legally Adopted Annual Budgets

GENERAL The General fund is the general operating fund of the Police Jury. This accounts for all activities of the Police Jury except those that are accounted for in other funds.

ROAD MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION This fund accounts for the maintenance of parish highways, streets, and bridges. Major means of financing are provided by a one percent sales tax and by ad valorem taxes.

GARBAGE DISTRICT NO. 1 This fund accounts for parish garbage collection services. The main source of revenue is ad valorem tax and collection fees.

<u>LIBRARY</u> This accounts for the operations of the parish library. The primary source of financing is provided by ad valorem taxes.

DRAINAGE MAINTENANCE This accounts for the maintenance of the parish drainage system. Financing is provided by ad valorem taxes.

GENERAL Budgetary Comparison Schedule For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Exhibit 2-1

		BUDGETED	AMC	N INTO	ACTUAL MOUNTS	FIN	IANCE WITH AL BUDGET POSITIVE
	0	RIGINAL	AIVIC	FINAL	 SETARY BASIS)		EGATIVE)
BUDGETARY FUND BALANCES, BEGINNING	\$	44,949	\$	186,054	\$ 186,054	\$	-
Resources (inflows)							
Local sources:							
Taxes:							
Ad valorem		507,272		507,272	498,484		(8,788)
Sales and use		60,000		60,000	82,696		22,696
Other taxes		29,254		26,654	17,323		(9,331)
Licenses and permits		221,056		221,770	130,220		(91,550)
Fees, charges, and commissions							
for services		191,201		192,126	191,980		(146)
Use of money and property		27,106		39,191	30,826		(8,365)
Other revenues		114,150		5,287	10,321		5,034
Intergovernmental revenues:							
State sources:							
State revenue sharing		30,477		30,477	9,121		(21,356)
Other		364,530		108,630	108,423		(207)
Federal sources - federal grants		75,584		75,584	 826		(74,758)
Amounts available for appropriations		1,665,579		1,453,045	 1,266,274		(186,771)
Charges to appropriations (outflows)							
Current:							
General government:							
Legislative		110,984		109,565	109,558		7
Judicial		158,400		148,914	143,826		5,088
Elections		35,500		48,990	49,089		(99)
Finance and administrative		226,677		247,541	234,622		12,919
Other general government		450,210		448,059	443,926		4,133
Public safety		281,499		280,024	243,686		36,338
Public works		245,500		7,600	599		7,001
Health and welfare		9,500		29,978	255		29,723
Culture and recreation		3,200		1,500	1,500		-
Economic development and assistance		6,325		-	-		-
Transportation		3,925		3,000	2,947		53
Capital outlay		-		29,950	36,950		(7,000)
Transfers out		50,000		130,000	 130,000		
Total charges to appropriations		1,581,720		1,485,121	 1,396,958		88,163
BUDGETARY FUND BALANCES, ENDING	\$	83,859	\$	(32,076)	\$ (130,684)	\$	(98,608)

ROAD MAINTENANCE AND CONSTRUCTION

Budgetary Comparison Schedule For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Exhibit 2-2

		BUDGETED	AMO	OUNTS		ACTUAL MOUNTS	FINA	ANCE WITH LL BUDGET OSITIVE
	ORIGINAL			FINAL		GET ARY BASIS)		GATIVE)
BUDGETARY FUND BALANCES, BEGINNING	\$	847,712	\$	1,079,253	\$	1,079,253	\$	-
Resources (inflows)								
Local sources:								
Taxes:								
Ad valorem		455,568		455,568		449,893		(5,675)
Sales and use		660,000		744,255		744,259		4
Use of money and property		5,848		17,301		17,302		1
Other revenues		500		500		22,661		22,161
Intergovernmental revenues:								
State sources:								
Parish transportation funds		161,000		161,000		162,281		1,281
State revenue sharing		-		-		8,232		8,232
Other				3,684,235		3,684,235		
Amounts available for appropriations		2,130,628		6,142,112		6,168,116		26,004
Charges to appropriations (outflows)								
Current:								
Public works		1,442,672		1,258,301		1,223,439		34,862
Capital outlay		-		866,355		844,365		21,990
Transfers out		-		100,000		100,000		-
Total abanca ta annuaciationa		4 440 070		0.004.050		0.407.004		50.050
Total charges to appropriations		1,442,672		2,224,656	-	2,167,804		56,852
BUDGETARY FUND BALANCES, ENDING	\$	687,956	\$	3,917,456	\$	4,000,312	\$	82,856

GARBAGE DISTRICT NO. 1

Budgetary Comparison Schedule For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Exhibit 2-3

							VARI	ANCE WITH	
					1	ACTUAL	FIN/	AL BUDGET	
	BUDGETED AMOUNTS			AMOUNTS		POSITIVE			
	С	RIGINAL		FINAL	(BUDGETARY BASIS)		(N	(NEGATIVE)	
BUDGETARY FUND BALANCES, BEGINNING	\$	209,667	\$	231,874	\$	231,874	\$	-	
Resources (inflows)									
Local sources:									
Taxes:									
Ad valorem		521,632		519,278		519,278		-	
Fees, charges, and commissions for services		144,645		156,984		145,019		(11,965)	
Use of money and property		4,024		8,489		8,489		-	
Other revenues		-		-		13,634		13,634	
Intergovernmental revenues:									
State sources:									
State revenue sharing		-		-		5,606		5,606	
Insurance recoveries		-		105,076		105,076			
Amounts available for appropriations		879,968		1,021,701		1,028,976		7,275	
Charges to appropriations (outflows)									
Current:									
Public works		657,429		638,939		654,956		(16,017)	
Total charges to appropriations		657,429		638,939		654,956		(16,017)	
BUDGETARY FUND BALANCES, ENDING	\$	222,539	\$	382,762	\$	374,020	\$	(8,742)	

LIBRARY Budgetary Comparison Schedule For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Exhibit 2-4

							VARI	ANCE WITH	
					1	ACTUAL	FINA	L BUDGET	
	BUDGETED AMOUNTS			AMOUNTS		POSITIVE			
	(ORIGINAL		FINAL	(BUDGETARY BASIS)		(NE	(NEGATIVE)	
BUDGETARY FUND BALANCES, BEGINNING	\$	629,288	\$	629,289	\$	629,289	\$	-	
Resources (inflows)									
Local sources:									
Taxes:									
Ad valorem		454,453		448,798		448,791		(7)	
Fees, charges, and commissions for services		8,106		7,466		7,466		-	
Use of money and property		2,490		6,475		6,475		-	
Other revenues		1,011		15,234		20,174		4,940	
Intergovernmental revenues:									
State sources:									
State revenue sharing		7,096		8,210		8,210		-	
Other				3,232		3,232			
Amounts available for appropriations		1,102,444		1,118,704	_	1,123,637		4,933	
Charges to appropriations (outflows) Current:									
Culture and recreation		360,362		363,122		382,955		(19,833)	
Capital outlay				3,268		1,083		2,185	
Total charges to appropriations		360,362		366,390		384,038		(17,648)	
BUDGETARY FUND BALANCES, ENDING	\$	742,082	\$	752,314	\$	739,599	\$	(12,715)	

DRAINAGE MAINTENANCE

Budgetary Comparison Schedule For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Exhibit 2-5

							VARI	ANCE WITH
						ACTUAL	FINA	L BUDGET
	BUDGETED AMOUNTS			AMOUNTS		P	OSITIVE	
	C	RIGINAL		FINAL	(BUDGETARY BASIS)		(NE	GATIVE)
BUDGETARY FUND BALANCES, BEGINNING	\$	(103,567)	\$	(133,939)	\$	(133,939)	\$	-
Resources (inflows)								
Local sources:								
Taxes:								
Ad valorem		455,568		455,568		449,893		(5,675)
Fees, charges, and commissions for services		2,000		2,000		1,968		(32)
Use of money and property		2,215		4,378		4,377		(1)
Intergovernmental revenues:								
State sources:								
State revenue sharing		-		2,744		8,232		5,488
Other		-		-		50,000		50,000
Transfers in		-		100,000		100,000		-
Insurance recoveries				3,398		3,397		(1)
Amounts available for appropriations		356,216		434,149		483,928		49,779
Charges to appropriations (outflows)								
Current:								
Public works		395,167		463,654		466,798		(3,144)
Capital outlay		10,000		15,825		15,825		(0,111)
		,		,		,		
Total charges to appropriations		405,167		479,479		482,623		(3,144)
BUDGETARY FUND BALANCES, ENDING	\$	(48,951)	\$	(45,330)	\$	1,305	\$	46,635

Notes to Budgetary Comparison Schedules For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

A. BUDGETS

General Budget Policies Preliminary budgets for the ensuing year are prepared by the secretary-treasurer prior to December 31 of each year. The availability of the proposed budgets for public inspection and the date of the public hearing on the proposed budgets are then advertised in the official journal. During its regular December meeting, the Police Jury holds a public hearing on the proposed budgets in order to receive comments from residents of the parish. Changes are made to the proposed budgets based on the public hearing and the desires of the Police Jury as a whole. The budgets are then adopted during the Police Jury's regular December meeting, and a notice of the adoption is then published in the official journal.

The secretary-treasurer presents necessary budget amendments to the Police Jury during the year when, in her judgment, actual operations are differing materially from those anticipated in the original budget. During a regular meeting, the Police Jury reviews the proposed amendments, makes changes as it deems necessary, and formally adopts the amendments. The adoption of the amendments is included in Police Jury minutes published in the official journal.

The Police Jury exercises budgetary control at the functional level. Within functions the secretary-treasurer has the discretion to make changes as she deems necessary for proper control. Unexpended appropriations lapse at year end and must be re-appropriated in the next year's budget to be expended. Formal budgetary integration is employed as a management control device.

For the year ended December 31, 2023, cash basis budgets were adopted for the General fund and all special revenue funds, except for the Criminal Court and the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery special revenue funds which are exempt from the requirements per Louisiana Revised Statutes 39:1301-1314 (Local Government Budget Act).

Encumbrances Encumbrance accounting is not recognized within the accounting records for budgetary control purposes. Authorization for the eventual expenditure will be included in the following year's budget appropriations.

Budgeted amounts are as originally adopted or as amended by the Jury. Legally, the Jury must adopt a balanced budget; that is, total budgeted revenues and other financing sources including fund balance must equal or exceed total budgeted expenditures and other financing uses. State statutes require the Jury to amend its budgets when revenues plus projected revenues within a fund are expected to be less than budgeted revenues by five percent or more and/or expenditures within a fund are expected to exceed budgeted expenditures by five percent or more.

B. UNFAVORABLE BUDGET VARIANCE

The following funds had actual appropriations exceed budgeted appropriations:

Fund	Fin	Final Budget		Actual		Variance	
Garbage District No. 1	\$	638,939	\$	654,956	\$	(16,017)	
Library		366,390		384,038		(17,648)	
Drainage Maintenance		479,479		482,623		(3,144)	

The negative budget variance is a result of expenditures exceeding the budget in the last month of the year.

Notes to Budgetary Comparison Schedules For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

C. BUDGET TO GAAP RECONCILIATION – EXPLANATION OF DIFFERENCES BETWEEN BUDGETARY INFLOWS AND OUTFLOWS AND GAAP REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

	General	Road Maintenance and Construction	Garbage District No. 1	Library	Drainage Maintenance
Sources/inflows of resources:					
Actual amounts (budgetary basis) "available for appropriation" from the Budgetary Comparison Schedule	\$ 1,266,274	\$ 6,168,116	\$ 1,028,976	\$ 1,123,637	\$ 483,928
The fund balance at the beginning of the year is a budgetary resource but is not a current-year revenue for financial reporting purposes	(186,054)	(1,079,253)	(231,874)	(629,289)	133,939
Insurance recoveries from other funds are inflows of budgetary resources but are not revenues for financial reporting purposes	-	-	(105,076)	-	(3,397)
Adjustments for conversion from cash basis to modified accrual for financial reporting purposes	71,101	756,606	36,041	26,235	(73,624)
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds	\$ 1,151,321	\$ 5,845,469	\$ 728,067	\$ 520,583	\$ 540,846
Uses/Outflows of resources:					
Actual amounts (budgetary basis) "Total charges to appropriations" from the Budgetary Comparison Schedule	\$ 1,396,958	\$ 2,167,804	\$ 654,956	\$ 384,038	\$ 482,623
Adjustments for conversion from cash basis to modified accrual for financial reporting purposes	62,892	584,722	38,393	507	3,118
Transfers to other funds are outflows of budgetary resources but are not expenditures for financial reporting purposes	(130,000)	(100,000)			
Total expenditures as reported on the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds	\$ 1,329,850	\$ 2,652,526	\$ 693,349	\$ 384,545	\$ 485,741

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

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COMBINING NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS -BY FUND TYPE

NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS Combining Balance Sheet - By Fund Type December 31, 2023

Exhibit 3

	SPECIAL REVENUE	FIRE BOND DEBT SERVICE	LCDBG CAPITAL PROJECTS	TOTAL
ASSETS Cash and cash equivalents Investments Receivables Interfund receivables Prepaid items	\$ 1,278,713 113,319 350,505 49,444 8,312	\$ 85,428 - 40,207 -	\$ 5,700 - - - -	\$ 1,369,841 113,319 390,712 49,444 8,312
TOTAL ASSETS	1,800,293	125,635	5,700	1,931,628
LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES, AND FUND BALANCES Liabilities: Accounts, salaries, and other payables Interfund payables Total Liabilities	44,733 8,713 53,446	67 67	5,700 - 5,700	50,433 8,780 59,213
Deferred Inflows of Resources: Unavailable revenue - property taxes	10,129	1,025	-	11,154
Total Deferred inflow of resources	10,129	1,025		11,154
Fund Balances: Nonspendable Restricted Unrestricted Total Fund Balances	8,312 1,748,730 (20,324) 1,736,718	124,543 - 124,543	- - - -	8,312 1,873,273 (20,324) 1,861,261
TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES, AND FUND BALANCES	\$ 1,800,293	\$ 125,635	\$ 5,700	\$ 1,931,628

NONMAJOR GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances - By Fund Type For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

							Exhibit 4
	,	DECLAI	FI	RE BOND		LCDBG	
		SPECIAL REVENUE		DEBT SERVICE		APITAL ROJECTS	TOTAL
REVENUES		KLV LINOL		DELVIOL	111	001010	 TOTAL
Local sources:							
Taxes:							
Ad valorem	\$	405,312	\$	47,587	\$	-	\$ 452,899
Fines and forfeitures		180,662		-		-	180,662
Use of money and property		12,267		443		-	12,710
Other revenues		35,752		-		-	35,752
Intergovernmental revenues:							
State sources:							
State revenue sharing		3,320		-		-	3,320
Other		25,715		-		-	25,715
Federal sources - federal grants						55,600	 55,600
Total Revenues		663,028		48,030		55,600	 766,658
EXPENDITURES							
Current:							
General government:							
Judicial		374,480		-		-	374,480
Finance and administrative		100,060		1,616		-	101,676
Public Safety		91,009		-		-	91,009
Health and welfare		150,175		-		70.000	150,175
Capital outlay		-		-		70,600	70,600
Debt service:				29,000			29,000
Principal retirement Interest and bank charges		-		13,405		-	13,405
interest and bank charges				13,403			 13,403
Total Expenditures		715,724		44,021		70,600	 830,345
EXCESS (Deficiency) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES		(52,696)		4,009		(15,000)	(63,687)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)							
Transfers in		205,000				15,000	 220,000
Net Change in Fund Balances		152,304		4,009		-	156,313
FUND BALANCES - BEGINNING		1,584,414		120,534			1,704,948
FUND BALANCES - ENDING	\$	1,736,718	\$	124,543	\$		\$ 1,861,261

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NONMAJOR SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS

RURAL FIRE PROTECTION This fund accounts for the revenues provided by ad valorem taxes and State grants which are to be used in providing fire protection to the citizens of East Carroll Parish.

LSU COOPERATIVE EXTENSION This fund accounts for the LSU Cooperative Extension program which sponsors 4-H events, provides literature and information to local farmers, and provides educational seminars. Financing is provided by ad valorem taxes.

HEALTH UNIT This fund accounts for the parish health center. Financing is provided by ad valorem taxes.

<u>CRIMINAL COURT</u> This fund accounts for the activities of the parish court. The main source of revenue is fines and forfeitures.

OPIOID SETTLEMENT This fund accounts for the Police Jury's portion of the settlement agreements that resolved opioid litigation against certain opioid pharmaceutical supply chain participants. Funding is to be used to provide treatment, prevention, and other opioid abatement strategies as outlined in the Louisiana Opioid Memorandum of Understanding.

NONMAJOR SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS Combining Balance Sheet December 31, 2023

Exhibit 5

	RURAL FIRE PROTECTION		LSU COOPERATIVE EXTENSION	HEALTH UNIT	CRIMINAL COURT	OPIOID SETTELEMENT	TOTAL
ASSETS							
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 461,152		\$ 294,499	\$ 514,639	\$ 8,423	\$ -	\$ 1,278,713
Investments	80,538		-	32,781	-	-	113,319
Receivables	111,410		130,995	96,281	11,819	-	350,505
Interfund receivables	44,186		-	-	758	4,500	49,444
Prepaid items	6,650			1,662			8,312
TOTAL ASSETS	703,936	= =	425,494	645,363	21,000	4,500	1,800,293
LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES, AND FUND BALANCES Liabilities:							
Accounts, salaries, and other payables	811		-	2,598	41,324	-	44,733
Interfund payables			1,533	7,180			8,713
Total Liabilities	811		1,533	9,778	41,324		53,446
Deferred Inflows of Resources:							
Unavailable revenue - property taxes	2,829		4,220	3,080			10,129
Total Deferred inflow of resources	2,829		4,220	3,080			10,129
Fund Balances:							
Nonspendable	6,650		_	1,662	_	_	8,312
Restricted	693,646		419,741	630,843	_	4,500	1,748,730
Unrestricted					(20,324)		(20,324)
Total Fund Balance	700,296		419,741	632,505	(20,324)	4,500	1,736,718
TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES, AND FUND BALANCES	\$ 703,936	_ =	\$ 425,494	\$ 645,363	\$ 21,000	\$ 4,500	\$ 1,800,293

NONMAJOR SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS Combining Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Exhibit 6

	RURAL FIRE PROTECTION	LSU COOPERATIVE EXTENSION	HEALTH UNIT	CRIMINAL COURT	OPIOID SETTELEMENT	TOTAL
REVENUES						
Local sources:						
Taxes:						
Ad valorem	\$ 131,338	\$ 158,373	\$ 115,601	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 405,312
Fines and forfeitures	-	-	-	180,662	<u>-</u>	180,662
Use of money and property	6,360	1,516	4,391	-	-	12,267
Other revenues	620	-	684	269	34,179	35,752
Intergovernmental revenues: State sources:						
State revenue sharing	1,324	_	1,996	_	_	3,320
Other	25,715	_	1,990		_	25,715
Otilei	25,715					23,713
Total Revenues	165,357	159,889	122,672	180,931	34,179	663,028
EXPENDITURES Current: General government:						
Judicial	_	_	_	374,480	_	374,480
Finance and administrative	_	100,060	_	-	_	100,060
Public Safety	91,009	-	_	_	_	91,009
Health and welfare	· -	_	120,496	_	29,679	150,175
Total Expenditures	91,009	100,060	120,496	374,480	29,679	715,724
EXCESS (Deficiency) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	74,348	59,829	2,176	(193,549)	4,500	(52,696)
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES) Transfers in				205,000		205,000
Net Change in Fund Balances	74,348	59,829	2,176	11,451	4,500	152,304
FUND BALANCES - BEGINNING	625,948	359,912	630,329	(31,775)		1,584,414
FUND BALANCES - ENDING	\$ 700,296	\$ 419,741	\$ 632,505	\$(20,324)	\$ 4,500	\$ 1,736,718

GENERAL

Exhibit 7

Schedule of Compensation Paid Police Jurors For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

The schedule of compensation paid to police jurors is presented in compliance with House Concurrent Resolution No. 54 of the 1979 Session of the Louisiana Legislature. Compensation of the police jurors is included in the legislative expenditures of the General fund. In accordance with Louisiana Revised Statute 33:1233, the Police Jury has elected the monthly payment method of compensation. Under this method, the president received \$1,800 per month for January to June 2023 and \$2,000 per month beginning July 2023. The other jurors receive \$1,600 per month.

Total	\$ 99,800
Loyd Whaley	19,200
Randy E. Walters	19,200
Roger O. Clement	19,200
Kofi Darden-Hawkins, Vice President	19,200
Kendall L. Thompson, President	\$ 23,000

GENERAL

Exhibit 8

Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to Agency Head For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Natasha Davis, Secretary Treasurer

Purpose		mount
Salary	\$	59,700
Benefits-insurance		9,829
Benefits-retirement		5,671
Benefits-medicare		866
Registration fees		1,270
Conference travel		3,309
	\$	80,645

GENERAL

Exhibit 9

Justice System Funding Schedule - Receiving Entity As Required by Act 87 of the 2020 Regular Legislative Session

Cash Basis Presentation	Peri	Six Month od Ended 30/2023	Mon	cond Six th Period 12/31/2023
Receipts From:				
East Carroll Parish Sheriff, Criminal Court Costs/Fees	\$	12,889	\$	12,145
East Carroll Parish Sheriff, Criminal Court Fines		52,614		52,011
East Carroll Parish Sheriff, Bond Fees		2,339		2,722
Total Receipts:	\$	67,842	\$	66,878

East Carroll Parish Police Jury (LA195) Lake Providence, LA Program Balance Sheet Summary 14.871 Housing Choice Vouchers

Exhibit 10

Fiscal Year End: 12/31/2023

	14.871 Housing Choice Vouchers	Total
111 Cash - Unrestricted	\$ 118,11	
113 Cash - Other Restricted	7,42	
100 Total Cash	125,53	
122 Accounts Receivable - HUD Other Projects	5,71	2 5,712
120 Total Receivables, Net of Allowances for Doubtful Accounts	5,71	2 5,712
142 Prepaid Expenses and Other Assets	1,66	521,662_
150 Total Current Assets	132,91	0 132,910
164 Furniture, Equipment & Machinery - Administration	24,72	24,727
166 Accumulated Depreciation	(23,20	(23,201)
160 Total Capital Assets, Net of Accumulated Depreciation	1,52	26 1,526
180 Total Non-Current Assets	1,52	26 1,526
200 Deferred Outflow of Resources	33,49	33,496
290 Total Assets and Deferred Outflow of Resources	167,93	167,932
312 Accounts Payable <= 90 Days	44	9 449
322 Accrued Compensated Absences - Current Portion	1,87	'3 1,873
331 Accounts Payable - HUD PHA Programs	8	86 86
347 Inter Program - Due To	8,84	8,843
310 Total Current Liabilities	11,25	51 11,251
357 Accrued Pension and OPEB Liabilities	24,83	24,838
350 Total Non-Current Liabilities	24,83	24,838
300 Total Liabilities	36,08	36,089
400 Deferred Inflow of Resources	3,33	3,332
508.4 Net Investment in Capital Assets	1,52	26 1,526
511.4 Restricted Net Position	7,42	22 7,422
512.4 Unrestricted Net Position	119,56	119,563
513 Total Equity - Net Assets / Position	128,51	1 128,511
600 Total Liabilities, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Equity	\$ 167,93	\$ 167,932

(Continued)

East Carroll Parish Police Jury (LA195) Lake Providence, LA Program Revenue and Expense Summary 14.871 Housing Choice Vouchers

Exhibit 10

Fiscal Year End: 12/31/2023

	14.871 Housing Choice Vouchers	Total
70600 HUD PHA Operating Grants	\$ 712,441	\$ 712,441
71500 Other Revenue	3,110	3,110
70000 Total Revenue	715,551	715,551
91100 Administrative Salaries	52,250	52,250
91200 Auditing Fees	4,100	4,100
91500 Employee Benefit contributions - Administrative	19,780	19,780
91600 Office Expenses	12,783	12,783
91700 Legal Expense	1,700	1,700
91800 Travel	4,738	4,738
91000 Total Operating - Administrative	95,351	95,351
94300 Ordinary Maintenance and Operations Contracts	697	697
94000 Total Maintenance	697	697
96110 Property Insurance		
96120 Liability Insurance	2,657	2,657
96130 Workmen's Compensation	120	120
96100 Total insurance Premiums	2,777	2,777
96200 Other General Expenses	465	465
96210 Compensated Absences	821	821
96000 Total Other General Expenses	1,286	1,286
96900 Total Operating Expenses	100,111	100,111
97000 Excess of Operating Revenue over Operating Expenses	615,440	615,440
97300 Housing Assistance Payments	617,002	617,002
97350 HAP Portability-In	305	305
97400 Depreciation Expense	1,018	1,018
90000 Total Expenses	718,131	718,131
10010 Operating Transfer In	15,000	15,000
10100 Total Other financing Sources (Uses)	15,000	15,000
10000 Excess (Deficiency) of Total Revenue Over (Under) Total	12,115	12,115
11030 Beginning Equity	116,396	116,396
11170 Administrative Fee Equity	121,809	121,809
11180 Housing Assistance Payments Equity	\$ 7,422	\$ 7,422
11190 Unit Months Available	1,749	1,749
11210 Number of Unit Months Leased	1,373	1,373

(Concluded)



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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

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Jurors of the East Carroll Parish Police Jury Lake Providence, Louisiana

We have audited, in accordance with 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 primary government financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, and each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the East Carroll Parish Police Jury (the Police Jury), as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Police Jury's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated June 20, 2024. Our report expresses an adverse opinion on the aggregate discretely presented component units due to their exclusion from the financial statements.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Police Jury'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 Police Jury's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Police Jury'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 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 was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify 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 Police Jury's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit and, accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* which is described as findings 2023-001 and 2023-002 in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

East Carroll Parish Police Jury's Responses to Findings

Government Auditing Standards require the auditor to perform limited procedures on the East Carroll Parish Police Jury's responses to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs. The Police Jury's responses were not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the responses.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Police Jury'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 Police Jury's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the Legislative Auditor as a public document.

A Professional Accounting Corporation

Baton Rouge, LA June 20, 2024



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REPORT ON COMPLIANCE FOR EACH MAJOR FEDERAL PROGRAM AND REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER COMPLIANCE REQUIRED BY UNIFORM GUIDANCE

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Jurors of the East Carroll Parish Police Jury Lake Providence, Louisiana

Report on Compliance for Each Major Federal Program

Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We have audited East Carroll Parish Police Jury's (the Police Jury) compliance with the types of compliance requirements described in the OMB *Compliance Supplement* that could have a direct and material effect on each of the Police Jury's major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2023. The Police Jury's major federal programs are identified in the summary of auditor's results section of the accompanying schedule of findings and questioned costs.

In our opinion, the Police Jury complied, in all material respects, with the types of compliance requirements referred to above that could have a direct and material effect on each of its major federal programs for the year ended December 31, 2023.

Basis for Opinion on Each Major Federal Program

We conducted our audit of compliance in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the audit requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Awards* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles*, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance). Our responsibilities under those standards and the Uniform Guidance are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section of our report.

We are required to be independent of the Police Jury and to meet our ethical responsibilities, in accordance with 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 opinion on compliance for each major federal program. Our audit does not provide a legal determination of the Police Jury's compliance with the compliance requirements referred to above.

Responsibilities of Management for Compliance

Management is responsible for compliance with the requirements referred to above and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of effective internal control over compliance with the requirements of laws, statutes, regulations, rules, and provisions of contracts or grant agreements applicable to the Police Jury's federal programs.

Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of Compliance

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether material noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above occurred, whether due to fraud or error, and express an opinion on the Police Jury's compliance based on our audit. 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, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance will always detect material noncompliance when it exists. The risk of not detecting material noncompliance resulting from fraud is higher than for that resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Noncompliance with the compliance requirements referred to above is considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, it would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user of the report on compliance about the Police Jury's compliance with the requirements of each major federal program as a whole.

In performing an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, *Government Auditing Standards*, and the Uniform Guidance, we

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material noncompliance, 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 Police Jury's compliance with the compliance requirements
 referred to above and performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the
 circumstances.
- Obtain an understanding of the Police Jury's internal control over compliance relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances and to test and report on internal control over compliance in accordance with Uniform Guidance, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Police Jury's internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and any significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in internal control over compliance that we identified during the audit.

Report on Internal Control Over Compliance

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

Our consideration of internal control over compliance was for the limited purpose described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of Compliance section above and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control over compliance that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance. Given these limitations, we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control over compliance that we consider to be material weaknesses, as defined above. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies in internal control over compliance may exist that have not been identified.

Our audit was not designed for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of internal control over compliance. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.

The purpose of this report on internal control over compliance is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over compliance and the results of that testing based on the requirements of the Uniform Guidance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose.

A Professional Accounting Corporation

Baton Rouge, LA June 20, 2024

East Carroll Parish Police Jury Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Federal			
Federal Grantor /	Assistance			
Pass-Through Grantor /	Listing	Pass-Through Grantor	Total Federal	
Program or Cluster Title	Number	Identifying Number		
United States Department of Housing and Urban				
Development				
Direct Program:				
Housing Voucher Cluster:				
Section 8 Housing Choice Vouchers	14.871		\$	712,441
Total Housing Voucher Cluster				712,441
Passed Through Louisiana Department of Administration: COVID-19 Community Development Block Grant - States Program	14.228	2000727013		55,600
United States Department of Homeland Security Passed through the Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness:				
Emergency Management Performance Grants	97.042	EMT-2020-EP-00001-S01 EMT-2021-EP-00001-S01		15,373
United States Department of the Treasury COVID-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds	21.027			672,670
•			_	
TOTAL FEDERAL AWARDS			\$	1,456,084

East Carroll Parish Police Jury Notes to the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

NOTE 1 - GENERAL The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards presents the activity of all federal awards programs of the East Carroll Parish Police Jury, Lake Providence, Louisiana. The East Carroll Parish Police Jury (the "Police Jury") reporting entity is defined in Note 1 to the Police Jury's financial statements. Federal awards received directly from federal agencies, as well as federal awards passed through other government agencies, are included on the schedule. The information in this Schedule is presented in accordance with the requirements of Title 2 U.S. *Code of Federal Regulations* Part 200, *Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements of Federal Awards* (Uniform Guidance). Because the Schedule presents only a selected portion of operations of the Police Jury, it is not intended to and does not present the financial position or changes in net position of the Police Jury.

NOTE 2 - BASIS OF ACCOUNTING The accompanying Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards is presented using the modified accrual basis of accounting, which is described in Note 1 to the Police Jury's financial statements. Such expenses are recognized following the cost principles contained in the Uniform Guidance, wherein certain types of expenses are not allowable or are limited as to reimbursement.

NOTE 3 - RELATIONSHIP TO BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS Federal awards revenues are reported in the Police Jury's fund financial statements as follows:

Governmental Activities:	
General	\$ 15,373
Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery	672,670
Nonmajor Governmental:	
LCDBG Projects	55,600
Business-Type Activities:	
Section 8 Voucher	712,441
	\$ 1,456,084

NOTE 4 - RELATIONSHIP TO FEDERAL FINANCIAL REPORTS Amounts reported in the accompanying schedule agree with the amounts reported in the related federal financial reports except for changes made to reflect amounts in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

NOTE 5 - FEDERAL AWARDS For those funds that have matching revenues and state funding, federal expenditures were determined by deducting matching revenues from total expenditures. Federal awards do not include the Police Jury's operating income from rents or investment (or other non-federal source). In addition, the entire amount of operating subsidy received during the fiscal year is considered to be "expended during the fiscal year.

NOTE 6 - INDIRECT COST RATE The Police Jury has elected not to use the 10-percent de minimis indirect cost rate allowed under the Uniform Guidance.

Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Part I - Summary of Auditor's Results

Financial Statements

1	Type of auditor's report	Unmodified
	Type of auditor's report	Ulliloulleu

2. Internal control over financial reporting

a.	Material weaknesses identified?	None
b.	Significant deficiencies identified?	None
C.	Noncompliance material to the financial statements?	Yes
d.	Other matters identified?	None
e.	Management letter	Yes

Federal Awards

1. Internal control over major programs

a.	Material weaknesses identified?	None
b.	Significant deficiencies identified?	None

- 2. Type of auditor's report issued on compliance for each major program Unmodified
- 3. Audit findings disclosed that are required in accordance with the Uniform Guidance No
- 4. Identification of major programs

21.027 Covid-19 Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

5. Dollar threshold used to distinguish between Type A and B programs \$750,000

6. Auditee qualified as a low-risk auditee?

Part II - Findings and Responses Related to the Financial Statements

2023-001 Failure to Amend Budget (R.S. 39:1310)

Criteria: The Police Jury is required to follow the requirements of the Louisiana

Local Government Budget Act at R.S. 39:1301 through 39:1315.

Condition: State law requires that budgets be amended when actual revenues are

less than budgeted revenues or actual expenditures and other financing uses exceed budgeted amounts by 5% or more. For the year ended December 31, 2023, the General Fund had budgetary basis revenues of \$1,266,991 which fell short of budgeted revenues of \$1,080,220 which

resulted in an unfavorable variance of \$186,771, or 15%.

Schedule of Findings and Questioned Costs For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Cause: Unknown.

Effect: The Police Jury did not comply with all of the requirements of the Louisiana

Local Government Budget Act as outlined above.

Recommendation: We recommend the monitoring of actual revenues accumulated by department

and fund more closely and making appropriate budget amendments to comply

with the law requiring the budget to actual variance to be within 5%.

Management's

Response: Management will review budget to actual comparisons and amend the budget

when budgeted revenues are falling short of actual by more

than 5%.

2023-002 Mandatory Training

Criteria: Louisiana Revised Statutes 42:1170.requires that each employee/official

complete a one hour ethics training during the calendar year and Louisiana Revised Statutes 42:343 requires that each employee/official complete a one hour

prevention of sexual harassment training. .

Condition: During our performance of statewide agreed-upon procedures we selected 5

employees/officials for testing of the training requirement during 2023 and we noted that 3 out of 5 employees/officials did not take the ethics training and all 5

employees did not take the prevention of sexual harassment training.

Cause: Unknown.

Effect: Noncompliance with state law.

Recommendation: We recommend that the Police Jury ensure that all employees and officials obtain

the required annual ethics training in future years.

Management's

Response: Management will ensure that all employees and officials will obtain the 1 hour

ethics training.

Schedule of Prior Audit Findings For the Year Ended December 31, 2022

None



LaPorte, APAC 8555 United Plaza Blvd. | Suite 400 Baton Rouge, LA 70809 225.296.5150 | Fax 225.296.5151 LaPorte.com

June 20, 2024

To the Police Jurors of the East Carroll Parish Police Jury

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business type activities, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of East Carroll Parish Police Jury (Police Jury) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023 in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, we considered the East Carroll Parish Police Jury's system of internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing auditing procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the Police Jury's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Police Jury's internal control.

Our consideration of compliance and internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph 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 have not been identified. However, as discussed below, we identified certain deficiencies that we consider to be control deficiencies.

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. We did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses.

A material weakness is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the financial statements will not be prevented or detected and corrected on a timely basis.

A significant deficiency is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

The following are descriptions of identified deficiencies in internal control that we determined did not constitute significant deficiencies or material weaknesses:

<u>Accounting and Reporting to the Internal Revenue Service the Personal Use of Police Jury Vehicles</u>

Observation

LaPorte noted that the Police Jury has adopted a Police Juror Usage of Parish Vehicles policy. However, in reviewing 2023 W-2 forms, we noted that there has been no accounting or reporting of personal and commuting use of parish vehicles as required by Internal Revenue Service Publication 15-B.

Recommendation

We recommend that Police Jury institute procedures to account for any personal or commuting use of parish vehicles by police jurors and employees and report such usage on the Internal Revenue Service Form W-2.

Management Response

The Police Jury will institute procedures to account for personal and commuting miles and report it on Form W-2

Cooperating Endeavor Agreement with Town of Lake Providence

Observation

During our procedures to verify that the Police Jury has entered into a cooperative endeavor agreement with the Town of Lake Providence for the use of Police Jury equipment in clearing condemned lots within the boundaries of the Town. During our inquiries of police jury employees and others, we noted that lots have been cleared which may not have been condemned by the Town of Lake Providence.

Recommendation

We recommend that the Police Jury seek an attorney general opinion or request its legal counsel to review the cooperative endeavor agreement and determine that it complies with state laws. We further recommend that the Police Jury institute policies and procedures for the clearing of future lots within the boundaries of the Town and ensure that those lots have been properly condemned by the Town.

Management Response

The Police Jury will obtain a legal opinion regarding the cooperative endeavor agreement and will institute policies and procedures for clearing of lots to ensure that it is in compliance with state laws.

This communication is intended solely for the information and use of management and East Carroll Parish Police Jury, and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Sincerely,

A Professional Accounting Corporation



LaPorte, APAC 8555 United Plaza Blvd. | Suite 400 Baton Rouge, LA 70809 225.296.5150 | Fax 225.296.5151 LaPorte.com

AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES REPORT

East Carroll Parish Police Jury

Independent Accountant's Report On Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures

For the Period January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023

To the Board Members of the East Carroll Parish Police Jury and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor:

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on the East Carroll Parish Police Jury's (the Police Jury) control and compliance (C/C) areas identified in the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's (LLA) Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures (SAUPs) for the fiscal year January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. The Police Jury's management is responsible for those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs.

The Police Jury 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 the LLA's SAUPs for the fiscal year January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. Additionally, the 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 results 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.

Results: We did not identify any written policies and procedures for iv, vi, x, and xi. We noted that the payroll/personnel policy does not include the approval process for employee(s) rate of pay or approval and maintenance of pay rate schedules. We noted the ethics policy does not include actions to be taken if an ethics violation occurs or a system to monitor violations. We noted the purchasing policy does not include procedures on adding vendors to the vendor list. We noted that the travel policy does not include procedures for documentation requirements or required approvers. We also noted for the sexual harassment policy, there were no written procedures on annual training or annual reporting. No other exceptions noted.

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:
 - 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, observe whether the minutes referenced or included monthly budget-to-actual comparisons on the general fund, quarterly budget-to-actual, at a minimum, on proprietary funds, and semi-annual budget-to-actual, at a minimum, on all special revenue funds. Alternatively, 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.

Results: No exceptions noted.

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.

<u>Results</u>: We noted there was no written evidence that anyone has reviewed the reconciliations. No other exceptions noted.

4) Collections (excluding electronic funds transfers)

- 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 that 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). Alternatively, 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.

Results: We noted that for one of the funds, one employee is responsible for collecting payments and preparing bank deposits. We were unable to obtain the insurance policy for theft that covers employees who have access to cash. Of the ten (10) deposits tested under procedure 'D.', two (2) collections were not deposited within one business day. A collection date could not be determined for six (6) of the ten (10) deposits. As such, timeliness of those four (6) deposits could not be determined. No other exceptions noted.

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.

[Note: Findings related to controls that constrain the legal authority of certain public officials (e.g., mayor of a Lawrason Act municipality) should not be reported.]

- C. For each location selected under procedure #5A above, obtain the entity's non-payroll disbursement transaction population (excluding cards and travel reimbursements) and obtain management's representation that the population is complete. Randomly select 5 disbursements for each location, obtain supporting documentation for each transaction, and:
 - i. Observe whether the disbursement, whether by paper or electronic means, matched the related original itemized invoice and supporting documentation indicates that deliverables included on the invoice were received by the entity, and
 - ii. Observe whether the disbursement documentation included evidence (e.g., initial/date, electronic logging) of segregation of duties tested under procedure #5B above, as applicable.

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.

<u>Results</u>: We noted some employees who are responsible for processing payments are also responsible for adding/modifying vendor files and mailing checks. No other exceptions noted.

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) were reviewed and approved, in writing (or electronically approved) by someone other than the authorized card holder (those instances requiring such approval that may constrain the legal authority of certain public officials, such as the mayor of a Lawrason Act municipality, should not be reported); and
 - 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 #6B 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.

Results: We noted there were late fees and finance charges assessed on two (2) of the three (3) credit cards tested. For one of the credit cards tested, there was no documentation to support the public purpose for one credit card charge. No other exceptions noted.

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 that 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 Policies 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.

Results: No exceptions were found as a result of these procedures.

8) Contracts

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

Results: No exceptions were found as a result of these procedures.

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 procedure #9A above, obtain attendance records and leave documentation for the pay period, and:
 - i. Observe that 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 whether 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 to 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.

<u>Results</u>: One of the employees tested did not have documentation of their daily attendance or their supervisor's approval of attendance. We also noted there was no documentation of approved pay rate for three (3) of the employees tested. No other exceptions were found as a result of these procedures.

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.

Results: We noted that three of the five employees tested did not have ethics training during the year.

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).

Results: No exceptions were found as a result of these procedures.

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.

Results: No exceptions were found as a result of these procedures.

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 backing up critical data) and observe evidence that such backup (a) occurred within the past week, (b) was not stored on the government's local server or network, and (c) was encrypted.

- 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.
- C. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #9A, obtain cybersecurity training documentation from management, and observe that the documentation demonstrates that the following employees/officials with access to the agency's information technology assets have completed cybersecurity training as required by R.S. 42:1267. The requirements are as follows:
 - i. Hired before June 9, 2020 completed the training; and
 - ii. Hired on or after June 9, 2020 completed the training within 30 days of initial service or employment.

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 1st, 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.

Results: We noted that none of the employees tested had sexual harassment training during the year. We could not obtain the annual sexual harassment report. No other exceptions were noted.

We were engaged by the Police Jury 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 the Police Jury 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 on those C/C areas identified in Louisiana Legislative Auditor's Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures, and the results 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 Louisiana Legislative Auditor as a public document.

A Professional Accounting Corporation

Baton Rouge, LA June 20, 2024

400 First Street, Suite 5 Lake Providence, LA 71254

MEMBERS: RANDY WALTERS, Dist. 1 KOFI N. DARDEN, Dist. 2 LOYD 'MOOKIE' WHALEY, Dist. 3 KENDALL L. THOMPSON, Dist. 4 ROGER O. CLEMENT. Dist. 5

> Mr. Michael J. Waguespack Louisiana Legislative Auditor 1600 N 3rd St. P.O. Box 94397 Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9397

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RE: Statewide Agreed-upon Procedures

The management of the East Carroll Parish Police Jury wishes to provide the following responses relative to the results of the 2023 statewide agreed-upon procedures engagement:

- Policies and Procedures: The Police Jury will amend its policies and procedures to include the missing items.
- 2. Bank reconciliations: The Police Jury will implement a review process for bank reconciliations and ensure that all future bank reconciliations are dated and signed to indicate review.
- 3. Collections: Due to the small nature of the Library and the small amount of collections it receives, the Police Jury does not consider it cost beneficial to further segregate the collection duties. The Police Jury will make available the insurance policy for theft that covers employees who have access to cash in the future. The Police Jury will make sure to deposit collections within one business day and record the collection date for all collections.
- 4. Non-Payroll Disbursements: Due to the small nature of the Library and the Section 8 office and the small number of disbursements that are processed, the Police Jury does not consider it cost beneficial to further segregate these duties.
- Credit Cards: The Police Jury will ensure that no late fees or finance charges are assessed. The Police Jury will ensure that documentation of public purpose is maintained for all necessary purchases.
- 6. Payroll and Personnel: The Police Jury will implement a policy to maintain daily attendance and leave records for all employees. All supervisors will be required to review and approve these records. Moving forward, documentation of approved pay rate for every employee will be maintained in every employee's file.
- Ethics: The Police Jury will ensure that all employees/officials complete the required ethics training annually.

8. Sexual Harassment: The Police Jury will ensure that all employees/officials complete the required sexual harassment training annually.

Sincerely,

natosha Daro Natosha Davis

Secretary-Treasurer