# LIVINGSTON PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 8 FRENCH SETTLEMENT, LOUISIANA

# ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As of and for the Year Ended December 31, 2023



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A PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTING CORPORATION

## Independent Accountant's Review Report

To the Board of Commissioners Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 8 French Settlement, Louisiana

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and the general fund of Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 8, a component unit of the Livingston Parish Council, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2023 and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents. A review includes primarily applying analytical procedures to management's financial data and making inquiries of management. A review is substantially less in scope than an audit, the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

## Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes 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.

### Accountant's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to conduct the review engagement in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the AICPA. Those standards require us to perform procedures to obtain limited assurance as a basis for reporting whether we are aware of any material modifications that should be made to the financial statements for them to be in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We believe that the results of our procedures provide a reasonable basis for our conclusion.

#### **Accountant's Conclusion**

Based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

# Other Matter Paragraph(s)

# Supplementary Information

The accompanying schedule of compensation, benefits, and other payments to the agency head is presented for 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 to, the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the financial statements. The supplementary information has been subjected to the review procedures applied in our review of the basic financial statements. We are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the supplementary information. We have not audited the supplementary information and do not express an opinion on such information.

### Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the budgetary comparison schedule on page 24 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting and for placing the basic financial statements in appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. Such information is the responsibility of management. We have not audited, reviewed, or compiled the required supplementary information and we do not express an opinion, a conclusion, nor provide any assurance on it.

Management has omitted the Management's Discussion and Analysis information that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris, Johnson

Hebert Johnson & Associates, Inc.

A Professional Accounting Corporation

Albany, Louisiana

May 6, 2024

# **Basic Financial Statements**

Government – Wide Financial Statements

Statement A

# Statement of Net Position December 31, 2023

Assets         Current Assets:       \$ 498,501         Ad Valorem Taxes Receivable, Net       236,566         Prepaid Insurance       4,497         Total Current Assets       739,564         Capital Assets:       20,3889         Capital Assets, Net       393,889         Total Capital Assets       393,889         Total Assets       1,133,453         Liabilities       20,200         Current Liabilities:       187         Sheriff's Pension Liability       9,696         Accrued Interest       5,085         Capital Lease, Current Portion       50,970         Total Current Liabilities:       65,938         Long Term Liabilities:       164,792         Total Long Term Liabilities       164,792         Total Long Term Liabilities       230,730         Net Position       Net Investment in Capital Assets       178,127         Unrestricted       724,596         Total Net Position       \$ 902,723	Assets	Governmental Activities
Cash and Cash Equivalents       498,501         Ad Valorem Taxes Receivable, Net       236,566         Prepaid Insurance       4,497         Total Current Assets       739,564         Capital Assets:       393,889         Total Capital Assets Net       393,889         Total Capital Assets       1,133,453         Liabilities       187         Current Liabilities:       187         Sheriff's Pension Liability       9,696         Accrued Interest       5,085         Capital Lease, Current Portion       50,970         Total Current Liabilities:       65,938         Long Term Liabilities:       65,938         Long Term Liabilities       164,792         Total Long Term Liabilities       164,792         Total Liabilities       230,730         Net Position       178,127         Unrestricted       724,596		
Ad Valorem Taxes Receivable, Net       236,566         Prepaid Insurance       4,497         Total Current Assets       739,564         Capital Assets:       393,889         Total Capital Assets       393,889         Total Assets       1,133,453         Liabilities       187         Current Liabilities:       187         Sheriff's Pension Liability       9,696         Accrued Interest       5,085         Capital Lease, Current Portion       50,970         Total Current Liabilities:       65,938         Long Term Liabilities:       164,792         Total Long Term Liabilities       164,792         Total Long Term Liabilities       230,730         Net Position       178,127         Net Investment in Capital Assets       178,127         Unrestricted       724,596		¢ 400 501
Prepaid Insurance         4,497           Total Current Assets         739,564           Capital Assets:         393,889           Total Capital Assets         393,889           Total Assets         1,133,453           Liabilities         5           Current Liabilities:         187           Payroll Liabilities         187           Sheriff's Pension Liability         9,696           Accrued Interest         5,085           Capital Lease, Current Portion         50,970           Total Current Liabilities         65,938           Long Term Liabilities         164,792           Total Long Term Liabilities         164,792           Total Labilities         164,792           Total Liabilities         164,792           Total Liabilities         178,127           Unrestricted         724,596		
Total Current Assets         739,564           Capital Assets:         393,889           Total Capital Assets         393,889           Total Assets         1,133,453           Liabilities           Current Liabilities:         187           Payroll Liabilities         187           Sheriff's Pension Liability         9,696           Accrued Interest         5,085           Capital Lease, Current Portion         50,970           Total Current Liabilities         65,938           Long Term Liabilities:         2           Capital Lease, Long-Term Portion         164,792           Total Long Term Liabilities         164,792           Total Liabilities         230,730           Net Position         178,127           Unrestricted         724,596		
Capital Assets:       393,889         Total Capital Assets       393,889         Total Assets       1,133,453         Liabilities         Current Liabilities:       187         Payroll Liabilities       187         Sheriff's Pension Liability       9,696         Accrued Interest       5,085         Capital Lease, Current Portion       50,970         Total Current Liabilities:       65,938         Long Term Liabilities:       164,792         Total Long Term Liabilities       164,792         Total Liabilities       230,730         Net Position       178,127         Unrestricted       724,596	•	
Capital Assets         393,889           Total Capital Assets         393,889           Total Assets         1,133,453           Liabilities         8           Current Liabilities:         187           Payroll Liabilities         187           Sheriffs Pension Liability         9,696           Accrued Interest         5,085           Capital Lease, Current Portion         50,970           Total Current Liabilities         65,938           Long Term Liabilities:         20,970           Total Long Term Liabilities         164,792           Total Long Term Liabilities         230,730           Net Position         Net Investment in Capital Assets         178,127           Unrestricted         724,596	Total Current Assets	
Total Capital Assets         393,889           Total Assets         1,133,453           Liabilities         2           Current Liabilities:         187           Payroll Liabilities         187           Sheriffs Pension Liability         9,696           Accrued Interest         5,085           Capital Lease, Current Portion         50,970           Total Current Liabilities:         65,938           Long Term Liabilities:         164,792           Total Long Term Liabilities         164,792           Total Liabilities         230,730           Net Position         Net Investment in Capital Assets         178,127           Unrestricted         724,596	Capital Assets:	
Total Assets         1,133,453           Liabilities         Current Liabilities:           Payroll Liabilities         187           Sheriff's Pension Liability         9,696           Accrued Interest         5,085           Capital Lease, Current Portion         50,970           Total Current Liabilities         65,938           Long Term Liabilities:         2           Capital Lease, Long-Term Portion         164,792           Total Long Term Liabilities         164,792           Total Liabilities         230,730           Net Position         178,127           Unrestricted         724,596	Capital Assets, Net	393,889
Liabilities         Current Liabilities:       187         Payroll Liabilities       187         Sheriff's Pension Liability       9,696         Accrued Interest       5,085         Capital Lease, Current Portion       50,970         Total Current Liabilities       65,938         Long Term Liabilities:       20,738         Capital Lease, Long-Term Portion       164,792         Total Long Term Liabilities       164,792         Total Liabilities       230,730         Net Position       178,127         Unrestricted       724,596	Total Capital Assets	393,889
Current Liabilities:       187         Payroll Liabilities       187         Sheriff's Pension Liability       9,696         Accrued Interest       5,085         Capital Lease, Current Portion       50,970         Total Current Liabilities       65,938         Long Term Liabilities:       20,730         Total Long Term Liabilities       164,792         Total Liabilities       230,730         Net Position         Net Investment in Capital Assets       178,127         Unrestricted       724,596	Total Assets	1,133,453
Payroll Liabilities       187         Sheriff's Pension Liability       9,696         Accrued Interest       5,085         Capital Lease, Current Portion       50,970         Total Current Liabilities       65,938         Long Term Liabilities:       20,738         Capital Lease, Long-Term Portion       164,792         Total Long Term Liabilities       164,792         Total Liabilities       230,730         Net Position       Net Investment in Capital Assets       178,127         Unrestricted       724,596	Liabilities	
Sheriff's Pension Liability 9,696 Accrued Interest 5,085 Capital Lease, Current Portion 50,970 Total Current Liabilities 65,938  Long Term Liabilities: Capital Lease, Long-Term Portion 164,792 Total Long Term Liabilities 164,792 Total Long Term Liabilities 164,792  Total Liabilities 164,792  Total Liabilities 1721,730  Net Position Net Investment in Capital Assets 178,127 Unrestricted 724,596	Current Liabilities:	
Accrued Interest 5,085 Capital Lease, Current Portion 50,970 Total Current Liabilities 65,938  Long Term Liabilities: Capital Lease, Long-Term Portion 164,792 Total Long Term Liabilities 164,792 Total Long Term Liabilities 230,730  Net Position Net Investment in Capital Assets 178,127 Unrestricted 724,596	Payroll Liabilities	187
Capital Lease, Current Portion Total Current Liabilities  Long Term Liabilities: Capital Lease, Long-Term Portion Total Long Term Liabilities  Total Long Term Liabilities  164,792 Total Liabilities  Net Position Net Investment in Capital Assets Unrestricted  178,127 Total,596	Sheriff's Pension Liability	9,696
Total Current Liabilities  Long Term Liabilities: Capital Lease, Long-Term Portion Total Long Term Liabilities  Total Liabilities  Net Position Net Investment in Capital Assets Unrestricted  164,792  230,730	Accrued Interest	5,085
Long Term Liabilities: Capital Lease, Long-Term Portion Total Long Term Liabilities 164,792 Total Liabilities 230,730  Net Position Net Investment in Capital Assets Unrestricted 178,127 724,596	Capital Lease, Current Portion	50,970
Capital Lease, Long-Term Portion 164,792 Total Long Term Liabilities 164,792  Total Liabilities 230,730  Net Position Net Investment in Capital Assets 178,127 Unrestricted 724,596	Total Current Liabilities	65,938
Capital Lease, Long-Term Portion 164,792 Total Long Term Liabilities 164,792  Total Liabilities 230,730  Net Position Net Investment in Capital Assets 178,127 Unrestricted 724,596	Long Term Liabilities:	
Total Long Term Liabilities  Total Liabilities  Net Position  Net Investment in Capital Assets Unrestricted  164,792 230,730		164,792
Net Position Net Investment in Capital Assets Unrestricted  178,127 724,596	Total Long Term Liabilities	164,792
Net Investment in Capital Assets Unrestricted  178,127 724,596	Total Liabilities	230,730
Unrestricted 724,596	Net Position	
Unrestricted 724,596	Net Investment in Capital Assets	178,127
	Total Net Position	

Statement B

# Statement of Activities For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

				Program Revenues		Net (Expense) Revenue and Change in Net Position
		General		Charges for		Governmental
	_	Expenses		Services	-	Activities
Governmental Activities						
General Government						
Public Safety	\$	158,482	\$		\$	(158,482)
Interest on Long-Term Debt		8,404			_	(8,404)
Total Governmental Activities	\$	166,886	\$_		-	(166,886)
General Revenues						
Ad Valorem Tax Revenue						241,465
Fire Insurance Premium Rebate						36,757
State Revenue Sharing						3,105
Interest Income						7,914
Other Income						25
Extraordinary Item - Restitution Income						10,000
Total General Revenues and Extraordinary Items						299,266
Change in Net Position						132,380
Net Position - Beginning of the Year						770,343
Net Position - End of the Year					\$	902,723

# **Basic Financial Statements**

Fund Financial Statements

Statement C

# Governmental Fund – Balance Sheet December 31, 2023

	G	eneral Fund
Assets		
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$	498,501
Ad Valorem Taxes Receivable, Net		236,566
Prepaid Insurance		4,497
Total Assets	\$	739,564
Liabilities and Fund Balance		
Liabilities:		
Payroll Liabilities	\$	187
Pension Funds Payable		9,696
Total Liabilities	_	9,883
Fund Balances:		
Nonspendable, Prepaid Insurance		4,497
Unassigned		725,184
Total Fund Balance	_	729,681
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	\$	739,564

Statement D

# Reconciliation of the Governmental Fund Balance Sheet to the Government-Wide Statement of Net Position December 31, 2023

### Total Fund Balance, Governmental Funds (Statement C)

\$ 729,681

Amounts reported for Governmental Activities in the Statement of Net Position are different because:

Capital assets used in Governmental Activities are not financial resources and therefore are not reported in the funds.

Governmental Capital Assets, Net of Depreciation

393,889

Long-term liabilities that are not due and payable in the current period, and therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds:

Capital Lease Obligations, Current Portion	(50,970)
Capital Lease Obligations, Long-Term Portion	(164,792)
Accrued Interest	(5,085)

Net Position of Governmental Activities (Statement A)

\$ 902,723

Statement E

# Statement of Governmental Fund Revenues, Expenditures, and Change in Fund Balance For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

For the Tear Ended December 51, 2025		
		General
D.	_	Fund
Revenues	\$	241 465
Ad Valorem Tax Revenue	\$	241,465
Fire Insurance Premium Rebate		36,757
State Revenue Sharing		3,105
Interest Income		7,914
Other Income	_	25
Total Revenues	_	289,266
Expenditures		
Public Safety:		
Automobile Expense		6,059
Dues and Subscriptions		320
Electronics & Communications		450
Equipment & Repairs		10,899
Insurance		29,951
Miscellaneous		489
Office & Station Supplies		3,446
Payroll Expenses		22,674
Professional Services		5,095
Publishing, Educational, and Community		4,861
Sheriff's Pension Expense		9,696
Uniforms		297
Utilities		5,405
Capital Outlay		39,993
Debt Service:		27,773
Lease Principal Payments		76,504
Lease Interest Payments		10,324
Total Expenditures	_	226,463
Total Experiences	_	220,103
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues		62,803
Over Expenditures		
Other Financing Sources:		
Restitution Income		10,000
Total Other Financing Sources	_	10,000
Net Change in Fund Balance	0 -	72,803
Fund Balance - Beginning of the Year	_	656,878
Fund Balance - End of the Year	\$	729,681

See accompanying notes and independent accountant's review report.

Statement F

\$ 132,380

# Reconciliation of the Governmental Fund Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Change in Fund Balance of to the Government-Wide Statement of Activities For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Net Change in Fund Balance, Governmental Fund (Statement E)	\$ 72,803
Amounts reported for Governmental Activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:	
Governmental Funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities the cost of these assets are allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital outlays exceeded depreciation in the current period.	
Expenditures for capital assets: Capital Outlay Less:	39,993
Current year depreciation	(58,840)
Accrued interest expense on long-term debt is reported in the government-wide statements of activities and changes in net position, but does not require the use of current financial resources; therefore, accrued interest is not reported as expenditures in government funds.	
Change in Accrued Interest Payable	1,920
Payment of lease principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long- term liabilities in the statement of net assets.	
Lease Principal Payments	76,504

Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities (Statement B)

#### Introduction

The Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 8 (District) was created in 1970 by resolution of the Livingston Parish Council under the authority of the Louisiana Revised Statue (LRS) 40:1492-1505 for the purpose of purchasing fire equipment and providing fire protection for the people of District No. 8 of Livingston Parish. The District is governed by a board of commissioners consisting of five members. Two are appointed by the governing authority, two by the governing body of the municipal corporation of the district; and the last, whom is chairman of the board, is selected by the other four members.

The financial statements of the District have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the standard setting body for governmental accounting and financial reporting.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 14, as amended, establishes criteria for determining the reporting entity and component units that should be included within the reporting entity. Under provisions of this statement, the Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 8 is considered a component unit of the Livingston Parish Council. As a component unit, the accompanying financial statements are to be included within the reporting of the primary government, either blended within those financial statements or separately reported as a discrete component unit. Under provisions of this statement, there are no component units of the District.

## 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

#### A. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying basic financial statements of the Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 8 have been prepared in conformity with governmental accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. These financial statements are presented in accordance with GASB Statement No. 34, Basic Financial Statements, Management's Discussion and Analysis, for State and Local Governments, as amended. Statement No. 34 established standards for financial reporting, with presentation requirements originally including a statement of net position (or balance sheet), and a statement of activities. The definition and composition of these statements, as originally defined in GASB Statement No. 34, are as amended by GASB Statements included in the following paragraphs. The District has also adopted the provisions of GASB Statement No. 33, Accounting and Financially Reporting for Nonexhange Transactions, that requires capital contributions to the District to be presented as a change in net position. Management has elected to omit the management's discussion and analysis.

GASB Statement No. 63, Financially Reporting of Deferred Outflows, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position, effective for financial statement periods ending after December 15, 2012, provides guidance for reporting deferred outflows of resources, deferred inflows of resources, and net position in a statement of financial position and related disclosures. Concepts Statement No. 4, Elements of Financial Statements, introduced and defined Deferred Outflows of Resources as a consumption of net position by the government that is applicable to a future reporting period, and Deferred Inflows of Resources as an acquisition of net position by the government that is applicable to a future reporting

period, respectively. Previous financial reporting standards do not include guidance for reporting those financial statement elements, which are distinct from assets and liabilities. GASB Concepts Statement 4 identifies net position as the residual of all other elements presented in a statement of financial position.

This statement amends the net asset reporting requirements in Statement No. 34, Basic Financial Statements—and Management's Discussion and Analysis—for State and Local Governments, and other pronouncements by incorporating deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources into the definitions of the required components of the residual measure and by renaming that measure as net position, rather than net assets. The definition and reporting of net position is further described in Note 1J-Net Position and Fund Balance.

GASB Statement No. 65, *Items Previously Reported as Assets and Liabilities*, establishes accounting and financial reporting standards that reclassify, as deferred outflows of resources or deferred inflows of resources, certain items that were previously reported as assets and liabilities and recognized, as outflows of resources or inflows of resources, certain items that were previously reported as assets and liabilities.

The District did not have any deferred outflows or deferred inflows of resources at December 31, 2023.

#### B. Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net position and the statement of activities) report information on all nonfiduciary activities of the District. For the most part, the effect of interfund activity has been removed from these statements. Governmental activities, which normally are supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues, are reported separately from business-type activities, which rely to a significant extent on fees and charges for support. Likewise, a primary government is reported separately from certain legally separate component units for which the primary government is financially accountable. The District does not have any business-type activities and reports only governmental activities. The District has no component units.

The statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment are offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program revenues include 1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or segment and 2) grant contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Taxes and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

Separate financial statements are provided for governmental funds, proprietary funds, and fiduciary funds, even though the latter are excluded from the government-wide financial statements. Major individual governmental funds and major individual enterprise funds are presented as separate columns in the fund financial statements. The General Fund is the District's primary operating fund and is considered the only major fund. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund. At December 31, 2023, it is the only fund of the District.

## C. Measurement Focus, Basis of Accounting, and Financial Statement Presentation

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the government considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days at the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures, as well as expenditures related to compensated absences and claims and judgments, are recorded only when payment is due.

Property taxes, franchise taxes, licenses, and interest associated with the current fiscal period are all considered to be susceptible to accrual and so have been recognized as revenues of the current fiscal period if they are measurable and available. Only the portion of special assessment receivable, if any, due within the current fiscal period is considered to be susceptible to accrual as revenue of the current period. Substantially all other revenue items are considered to be measureable and available only when cash is received by the government.

Amounts reported as program revenues include 1) charges to customers or applicants for goods, services, or privileges provided; 2) program-specific operating grants and contributions; and, 3) program-specific capital grants and contributions. The District has no program revenue for the year ended December 31, 2023. Internally dedicated resources, if any, are reported as general revenues rather than as program revenues. Likewise, general revenues include all taxes.

When both restricted and unrestricted resources are available for use, it is the District's policy to use restricted resources first, then unrestricted resources as they are needed.

When restricted, committed, assigned, or unassigned fund balances are available for use, the District considers amounts to have been spent first out of restricted funds, then committed funds, then assigned funds, and finally unassigned funds as needed, unless it has been provided for otherwise in the restriction, commitment, or assignment action.

### D. Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

Budgetary procedures applicable to the District are defined in state law, Louisiana Revised Statutes 39:1301-15. The budget is adopted on the cash basis of accounting.

1. The District adopts a budget each year for the general fund.

- 2. The District's Fire Chief prepares a proposed budget and submits it to the Board of Commissioners no later than fifteen days prior to the beginning of each fiscal year. At the same time, if total proposed expenditures are \$500,000 or more, a notice of public hearing on the proposed budget must be published in the official journal. The proposed expenditures were less than \$500,000; therefore, a public hearing was not required.
- 3. All action necessary to adopt and implement the budget must be completed prior to the beginning of the fiscal year. The budget was adopted on November 1, 2022.
- 4. Budgetary amendments involving the transfer of funds from one program or function to another or involving increases in expenditures resulting from revenues exceeding amounts estimated require the approval of the Board of Commissioners. The budget was not amended.
- 5. Formal budgetary integration is not employed; however, periodic budget comparisons are made as a part of interim reporting. All budgets are presented on the cash basis of accounting. Accordingly, the Budgetary Comparison Schedule for the General Fund presents actual expenditures in accordance with a basis consistent with the legally adopted budgets, as amended. The amounts reconciled to the amounts reflected in the accompanying basic financial statements as follows:

\$	72,803
	231,531
	4,517
	9,696
	(236,566)
	(4,497)
2.2 <u>2</u>	(11,488)
\$	65,996
	\$ 

### E. Cash, Cash Equivalents, and Investments

The District's cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, demand deposits, and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

Under State law, the District may deposit funds in demand deposits, money market accounts, or time deposits with state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having their principal offices in Louisiana. In addition, the District may invest in United States bonds, treasury notes, or certificates.

In accordance with state law, the District limits its investments to those allowed under R.S. 33:2955. Certificates of deposit are classified as investments if their original maturities exceed 90 days. Investments are reported at fair market.

### F. Inventory

Inventories for supplies are immaterial and are recorded as expenditures when purchased. The District did not have inventory at December 31, 2023.

### G. Prepaid Items

Certain payments to vendors reflect costs applicable to future accounting periods and are recorded as prepaid items in both government-wide and fund financial statements.

### H. Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property, furniture and fixtures, equipment, and vehicles, are reported as expenditures of the governmental funds and as assets in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are capitalized at historical cost or estimated cost if historical cost is not available. Donated assets are recorded as capital assets at their estimated fair market value at the date of donation. As of December 31, 2023, the District did not have a formal capitalization policy establishing a capitalization/expense threshold.

The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets lives are not capitalized.

Capital assets are recorded in the Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities. All capital assets, other than land, are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

Description	Estimated Lives
Buildings and Improvements	10 - 40 Years
Equipment	5 - 10 Years
Furniture and Fixtures	5 - 10 Years
Vehicles	5 - 15 Years

# I. Compensated Absences

As of December 31, 2023, all District employees are volunteers. Accordingly, the District has no plan or provision for accumulated leave, pension plan, or other post-employment benefits.

#### J. Net Position and Fund Balance

GASB Statement No. 34, Basic Financial Statements, Management's Discussion and Analysis, for State and Local Governments, required classification of net assets into three separate components. GASB Statement No. 63, Financial Reporting of Deferred Outflows of Resources, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position, revised the terminology by incorporating deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources into the definitions of the required components of the residual measure

and by renaming that measure as net position, rather than net assets. GASB Statement No. 63 requires the following components of net position:

- Net Investment in Capital Assets Component of Net Position The net investment in capital assets component of net position consists of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, reduced by the outstanding balances of bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets. Deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources that are attributable to the acquisitions, construction, or improvement of those assets or related debt also should be included in this component of net position. If there are significant unspent related debt proceeds or deferred inflows of resources at the end of the reporting period, the portion of the debt or deferred inflows of resources attributable to the unspent amount should not be included in the calculation of net investment in capital assets. Instead, that portion of the debt or deferred inflows of resources should be included in the same net position component (restricted or unrestricted) as the unspent amount.
- Restricted Component of Net Position The restricted component of net position consists of
  restricted assets reduced by liabilities and deferred inflows of resources related to those assets.
  Generally, a liability relates to restricted assets if the asset results from a resource flow that also
  results in the recognition of a liability or if the liability will be liquidated with the restricted
  assets reported.
- Unrestricted Component of Net Position The unrestricted of net position is the net amount
  of the assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources that are
  not included in the determination of net investment in capital assets or the restricted component
  of net position.

In the fund statements, governmental fund equity is classified as fund balance. The District adopted GASB 54 for the year ended December 31, 2011. As such, fund balances of governmental funds are classified as follows:

- Nonspendable. These are amounts that cannot be spent either, because they are in a
  nonspendable form or because they are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.
- **Restricted**. These are amounts that can be spent only for specific purposes because of constitutional provisions, enabling legislation, or constraints that are externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or the laws or regulations of other governments.
- **Committed.** These are amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes determined by a formal vote of the Board, which is the highest level of decision making authority for the District.
- Assigned. These are amounts that do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed, but are intended to be used for specific purposes based on the discretion of the Board.

Unassigned. – These are amounts that have not been assigned to other funds and amounts that
have not been restricted, committed, or assigned to specific purposes within the general fund.
Also within other governmental funds, these include expenditure amounts incurred for specific
purposes which exceed the amounts restricted, committed or assigned for those purposes.

### K. Extraordinary and Special Items

Extraordinary items are transactions or events that are both unusual in nature and infrequent in occurrence. Special items are transactions or events within the control of the District, which are either unusual in nature or infrequent in occurrence.

#### L. Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make various estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues, expenditures, and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

#### M. Reconciliation of Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements

Explanation of certain differences between the governmental fund balance sheet and the government-wide statement of net position is presented in Statement D of the basic financial statements. Explanation of certain differences between the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenses, and changes in fund balance and the government-wide statement of activities presented in Statement F of the basic financial statements.

#### 2. Levied Taxes

The following is a summary of authorized and levied ad valorem taxes:

	Authorized		Levied
	Millage	]	Millage
General Fund 2023	16.91	\$	248,566

Ad valorem taxes attach as an enforceable lien on property on January 1 each year. Taxes are levied by the District during the year, are billed to taxpayers, and become due in November. Billed taxes become delinquent on December 31 of each year. Revenues from ad valorem taxes are budgeted in the year billed and recognized as revenue when billed. The Livingston Parish Sheriff's Office bills and collects the property taxes using the assessed value determined by the Livingston Parish Tax Assessor. The taxes are generally collected in December of the current year and January and February of the ensuing year. For 2023, the District levied 16.91 mills for a total tax levy of \$248,566 on taxable property valuation totaling \$14,699,350.

# 3. Cash and Cash Equivalents

At December 31, 2023, the District has deposits (book balances) as follows:	
Demand Deposits	\$ 140,597
Louisiana Asset Management Pool (LAMP)	357,904
Total	\$ 498,501

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 as it relates to cash deposits is the risk that in the event of bank failure, the government's deposits may not be returned. The district does not have a deposit policy for custodial credit risk. As of December 31, 2023, the District's bank balances, not including LAMP, totaled \$141,504. None of the District's cash was exposed to custodial credit risk and all bank balances were covered by FDIC insurance.

#### 4. Investments

Investments are categorized into these three categories of credit risk:

- 1. Insured or registered, or securities held by the District or its agent in the District's Name
- 2. Uninsured and unregistered, with securities held by the counterparty's trust department or agent in the District's name
- 3. Uninsured and unregistered, with securities held by the counterparty, or by its trust department or agent but not in the District's name

In accordance with GASB Codification Section I50.165, the investment in LAMP at December 31, 2023, is not categorized in the three risk categories provided by GASB Codification Section I50.164 because the investment is in the pool of funds and therefore not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book entry form. The investment in LAMP is stated at the value of the pool shares, which is the same as the fair value, and has been categorized as cash equivalents.

LAMP is administered by LAMP, Inc., a nonprofit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana, which was formed by an initiative of the State Treasurer in 1993. The corporation is governed by a board of directors comprised of the State Treasurer, representatives from various organizations of local government, the Government Finance Office Association of Louisiana, and the Society of Louisiana CPAs. Only local governments 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.

LAMP is subject to the regulator oversight of the state treasurer and the board of directors. LAMP is not registered with the SEC as an investment company.

While LAMP is not required to be a registered investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940, its investment policies are similar to those established by Rule 2a7, which governs registered money market funds. 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 LSA-R.S. 33:2955.

GASB 40, Deposit and Investment Risk Disclosure, requires disclosure of credit risk, custodial credit risk, concentration of credit risk, interest risk, and foreign currency risk for all public entity investments.

LAMP is a 2a7-like investment pool. The following facts are relevant for 2a7 like investment pools:

- 1. Credit risk: LAMP is rated AAA by Standard and Poor's
- 2. 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 pool, not the securities that make up the pool; therefore, no disclosure is required.
- 3. Concentration of credit risk: Pooled investments are excluded from the five percent disclosure requirement.
- 4. Interest rate risk: 2a7-like investment pools are excluded from this disclosure requirement per paragraph 15 of the GASB 40 statement. However, 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. The WAM for LAMP's total investments, as provided by LAMP, is 70 days as of December 31, 2023.
- 5. Foreign currency risk: Not applicable to 2a7-like pools.

LAMP is designed to be highly liquid to give its participants immediate access to their account balances. The investments in LAMP are stated at fair value based on quoted market rates. 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 SEC as an investment company. LAMP, Inc. issues an annual publicly available

financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for LAMP, Inc. That report may be obtained by calling (800) 249-5267.

Interest Rate Risk: The District does not have a formal investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value arising from increasing interest rates.

#### 5. Receivables

The governmental funds receivables are all current at December 31, 2023 and consist of the following:

		General	
	C	Fund	 Total
Ad Valorem Taxes	\$	248,566	\$ 248,566
Subtotal		248,566	248,566
Allowance for Uncollectible Accounts		(12,000)	(12,000)
Receivable, Net	\$	236,566	\$ 236,566

#### 6. Capital Assets

Capital assets and depreciation activity for the year ended December 31, 2023 for governmental activities are as follows:

		Beginning					Ending
<b>Governmental Activities Capital Assets:</b>		Balance	_	Increases		Decreases	Balance
Capital Assets Being Depreciated							
Buildings	\$	104,610	\$	-	\$	-	\$ 104,610
Equipment and Vehicles	0 1	1,411,883	_	39,993		-	1,451,876
Total Other Capital Assets		1,516,493	-	39,993		-	1,556,486
Less: Accumulated Depreciation for:							
Buildings		(90,441)		(2,269)		-	(92,710)
Equipment and Vehicles		(1,013,316)		(56,571)			(1,069,887)
Total Accumulated Depreciation		(1,103,757)		(58,840)		-	(1,162,597)
<b>Total Governmental Activities Capital</b>	_				•		
Assets, Net	\$ _	412,736	\$	(18,847)	\$	-	\$ 393,889

For the year ended December 31, 2023, depreciation expense is charged to public safety for \$58,840.

The District has one vehicle and various equipment under lease obligations. The lease payments relating to the vehicles and equipment have been capitalized and included in capital assets, net on the accompanying government-wide financial statements. The leased assets have a cost of \$420,643 and accumulated depreciation recognized on the leases as of December 31, 2023 was \$163,978.

#### 7. Financed Leases

The District records the finance purchase agreements below as an asset and obligation in the statement of net position. The following is a summary of long- term debt transactions for the year ending December 31, 2023:

	В	alance at					В	alance at	Du	e Within
	12/31/2022		Additions		Deletions		12/31/23		One Year	
\$234,521 Capital Lease	\$	78,868	\$	-	\$	25,404	\$	53,464	\$	26,279
\$240,138 Capital Lease		27,276		-		27,276		-		-
\$186,122 Capital Lease		186,122		-		23,824		162,298		24,691
Totals	\$	292,266	\$	-	\$	76,504	\$	215,762	\$	50,970

Financed Leases at December 31, 2023, is comprised of the following:

\$234,521 lease obligation dated April 15, 2015, with Government Capital Corporation, with interest at 3.445%, payable in annual installments of principal and interest totaling \$28,121.01 through April 21, 2025.

\$ 53,464

\$186,122 lease obligation dated May 10, 2022, with Government Capital Corporation, with interest at 3.64%, payable in annual installments of principal and interest totaling \$30,598 through May 5,2029.

162,298

The following is a schedule by years of the future minimum lease payments under the financed leases together with the present value of the net minimum lease payments as of December 31, 2023.

Year Ending December 31,	(	\$234,521 Capital Lease		\$186,122 Capital Lease		Totals
2024	\$	28,121	\$	30,598	\$	58,719
2025		28,121		30,598		58,719
2026		-		30,598		30,598
2027		-		30,598		30,598
2028		-		30,598		30,598
2029		-		30,598		30,598
Total Payments		56,242		183,588		239,830
Less: Interest		2,778		21,290		24,068
	\$	53,464	\$	162,298	\$	215,762

# 8. Risk Management

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to theft, damage, or destruction of assets, torts, injuries, natural disasters, and many other unforeseeable events. The District maintains commercial insurance policies for the claims related to the aforementioned risks. The District's payment of the insurance policy deductible is the only liability associated with these policies.

## 9. Contingent Liabilities

The District was not involved in any outstanding litigation or claims at December 31, 2023

### 10. Compensation Paid to Board Members

No compensation is paid to any board members.

### 11. Extraordinary Items

In 2018, the secretary/treasurer of Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 8 embezzled the District's assets. A payment plan was set to begin on October 1, 2019, with monthly payments of \$10,494 to be paid over three years. The amount of restitution owed was \$144,904. As of December 31, 2023, \$43,501 has been repaid to the District. The remaining balance owed as of December 31, 2023 is \$134,904.

#### 12. Subsequent Events

Subsequent events have been evaluated by management through May 6, 2024, the date financial statements were available for issuance. No events require disclosure in the financial statements for the as of December 31, 2023.

Required Supplemental Information:

Budgetary Comparison Schedule

Schedule 1

# Schedule of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance – Budget (Cash Basis) and Actual – General Fund For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual Amounts Non- GAAP Basis	Favorable (Unfavorable ) Variance
Revenues				
Ad Valorem Tax Revenue \$	238,656 \$	238,656 \$	236,429 \$	(2,227)
Fire Insurance Premium Rebate	-	-	36,757	36,757
State Revenue Sharing	-	-	3,105	
Interest Income	-	-	7,914	
Other Income			25	25
Total Revenues	238,656	238,656	284,230	34,555
Expenditures				
Public Safety				
Automobile Expense	-	-	7,450	(7,450)
Dues and Subscriptions	500	500	320	180
Electronics & Communications	20,000	20,000	450	19,550
Equipment & Repairs	25,000	25,000	11,484	13,516
Insurance	25,000	25,000	29,931	(4,931)
Miscellaneous	3,000	3,000	487	2,513
Office & Station Supplies	2,000	2,000	3,471	(1,471)
Payroll Expenses	50,000	50,000	22,674	27,326
Professional Services	5,000	5,000	5,095	(95)
Publishing, Educational, and Community	1,000	1,000	4,861	(3,861)
Sheriff's Pension Expense	-	-	9,488	(9,488)
Uniforms	-	-	297	(297)
Utilities	4,000	4,000	5,405	(1,405)
Capital Outlay	-	-	39,993	(39,993)
Debt Service:				
Lease Principal Payments	76,500	76,500	76,504	(4)
Lease Interest Payments	10,500	10,500	10,324	176
Total Expenditures	222,500	222,500	228,234	(5,734)
Excess (Deficiency) of Revenues				
Over Expenditures	16,156	16,156	55,996	28,821
Other Financing Sources:				
Restitution Income	-	-	10,000	10,000
Total Other Financing Sources			10,000	10,000
Net Change in Budgetary Fund Balance	16,156	16,156	65,996	38,821
Budgetary Fund Balance - Beginning	512,520	652,304	652,304	281,496
Budgetary Fund Balance - Ending \$	528,676 \$	668,460 \$	718,300 \$	320,317

See independent accountant's review report.

Other Supplemental Information

Schedule 2

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

# Agency Head Name: Board President, Brian Baum

Amount		
-		
-		
-		
-		
-		

**Independent Accountant's Report on Applying Agree-Upon Procedures** 

CHARLES P. HEBERT, CPA
CHRISTOPHER S. JOHNSON, CPA, MBA

ADAM C. HEBERT, CPA

MEMBER American Institute of Certified Public Accountants Society of Louisiana Certified Public Accountants



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A PROFESSIONAL ACCOUNTING CORPORATION

## Independent Accountant's Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures

To the Board of Commissioners Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 8 French Settlement, Louisiana

We have performed the procedures included in the Louisiana Government Audit Guide and enumerated below, which were agreed to by the management of Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 8 and the Legislative Auditor, State of Louisiana, solely to assist the users in evaluating management's assertions about Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 8's compliance with certain laws and regulations for the year ended December 31, 2023 included in the accompanying Louisiana Attestation Questionnaire. Management of Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 8 is responsible for its financial records and compliance with applicable laws and regulations. This agreed-upon procedures engagement was performed in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and applicable standards of *Government Auditing Standards*. The sufficiency of these procedures is solely the responsibility of the specified users of this report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

#### Public Bid Law

1. Obtain documentation for all expenditures made during the year for material and supplies exceeding \$30,000, and public works exceeding \$250,000. Compare the documentation for these expenditures to Louisiana Revised Statute (R.S.) 39:1551-39:1755 (the state procurement code) or R.S. 38:2211-2296 (the public bid law), whichever is applicable; and report whether the expenditures were made in accordance with these laws.

The District did not purchase any materials or supplies exceeding \$30,000 or public works exceeding \$250,000.

Code of Ethics for Public Officials and Public Employees

2. Obtain a list of the immediate family members of each board member as defined by R.S. 42:1101-1124 (the ethics law).

Management provided us with the requested information.

3. Obtain a list of all employees paid during the fiscal year.

Management provided us with the requested information.

4. Report whether any employees' names appear on both lists obtained in Procedures 2 and 3.

None of the employees included on the list of employees provided by management in agreed-upon procedure 3 appeared on the list provided by management in agreed upon procedure 2.

5. Obtain a list of all disbursements made during the year; and a list of outside business interests of board members, employees, and board members' and employees' immediate families. Report whether any vendors appear on both lists.

Management provided the requested information. None of the businesses of board members and board members' immediate families appeared on the list of disbursements.

#### Budgeting

6. Obtain a copy of the legally adopted budget and all amendments.

Management provided us with a copy of the original budget. The District did not make any amendments to the budget.

7. Trace documentation for the adoption of the budget and approval of any amendments to the minute book, and report whether there are any exceptions.

The original budget was adopted on November 1, 2022.

8. Compare the revenues and expenditures of the final budget to actual revenues and expenditures. Report whether actual revenues failed to meet budgeted revenues by 5% or more, and whether actual expenditures exceeded budgeted amounts by 5% or more. (For agencies that must comply with the Licensing Agency Budget Act only, compare the expenditures of the final budget to actual expenditures, and report whether actual expenditures exceeded budgeted amounts by 10% or more per category or 5% or more in total).

We compared the revenues and expenditures of the final budget to actual revenues and expenditures. Actual revenues were greater than budgeted revenues. Actual expenditures were more than budgeted expenditures but did not exceed budgeted amounts by 5% or more.

#### Accounting and Reporting

- 9. Obtain the list of all disbursements made during the fiscal year. Randomly select six disbursements, and obtain documentation from management for these disbursements. Compare the selected disbursements to the supporting documentation, and:
  - (a) Report whether the six disbursements agree to the amount and payee in the supporting documentation,

Each of the six selected disbursements agreed with the amount and payee in the supporting documentation.

(b) report whether the six disbursements are coded to the correct fund and general ledger account, and

All disbursements were properly coded to the correct fund and general ledger account.

(c) Report whether the six disbursements were approved in accordance with management's policies and procedures.

Each of the six disbursements selected were approved in accordance with management's policies and procedures.

## Meetings

10. Obtain evidence from management to support that agendas for meetings recorded in the minute book were posted or advertised as required by R.S. 42:11 through 42:28 (the open meetings law); and report whether there are any exceptions.

Management provided us with a copy of an agenda posted as required by the open meetings law.

#### Debt

11. Obtain bank deposit slips for the fiscal year, and scan the deposit slips in order to identify and report whether there are any deposits that appear to be proceeds of bank loans, bonds, or like indebtedness. If any such proceeds are identified, obtain from management evidence of approval by the State Bond Commission, and report any exceptions.

I examined bank deposits for the period under examination and noted no deposits which appeared to be proceeds of bank loans, bonds, or like indebtedness.

#### Advances and Bonuses

12. Obtain the list of payroll disbursements and meeting minutes of the governing board, if applicable. Scan these documents to identify and report whether there are any payments or approval of payments to employees that may constitute bonuses, advances, or gifts.

I examined the checks written for the year and noted nothing that would constitute bonuses, advances, or gifts. Also, a reading of the minutes of the District for the year indicated no approval for these types of payments.

#### State Audit Law

13. Report whether the agency provided for a timely report in accordance with R.S. 24:513.

The District's report was dated and submitted timely in accordance with R.S. 24:513.

14. Inquire of management and report whether the agency entered into any contracts that utilized state funds as defined in R.S. 39:72.1 A. (2); and that were subject to the public bid law (R.S. 38:2211, et seq.), while the agency was not in compliance with R.S. 24:513 (the audit law).

The District did not enter into any contracts that utilized state funds.

### Prior-Year Comments

15. Obtain and report management's representation as to whether any prior-year suggestions, recommendations, and/or comments have been resolved.

See Schedule of Prior Year Findings

We were not engaged to perform, and did not perform, an audit, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion on management's assertions. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

This report is intended solely for the use of management of Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 8 and the Legislative Auditor, State of Louisiana, and should not be used by those who have not agreed to the procedures and taken responsibility for the sufficiency of the procedures for their purposes. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the Legislative Auditor as a public document.

Respectfully submitted,

Chris, Johnson

Hebert Johnson & Associates, Inc.

A Professional Accounting Corporation

Albany, Louisiana

May 6, 2024

# Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 8 Schedule of Prior Year Findings December 31, 2023

2022-01: Violation of the Public Bid Law

#### Condition:

The District purchased fire equipment in the amount of \$186,122 under a contract with a national cooperative program in Texas. The cooperative program bid out the equipment but not in accordance with Louisiana Law. The District purchased the fire equipment without advertising under the Louisiana Public Bid Law.

#### Recommendation:

We recommend that the District follow the Public Bid Law and advertise and let for contract with the lowest responsible bidder when purchasing materials and supplies greater than \$60,000. According to the AG, the Office of State Procurement has previously noted that it is willing to review out-of-state contracts, including contracts established by out-of-state public entities or national cooperative purchasing contracts, and may adopt them as a State contract if they determine that doing so would be beneficial to the State and political subdivisions.

#### Resolved:

Fully

# LOUISIANA ATTESTATION QUESTIONNAIRE (For Attestation Engagements of Government)

Feb. Olej24 (Date Transmitted)

Hebert Johnson & Associates, Inc. PO Box 1151 Ponchatoula LA 70454

In connection with your review of our financial statements as of [date] and for the year then ended, and as required by Louisiana Revised Statute (R.S.) 24:513 and the Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide, we make the following representations to you. We accept full responsibility for our compliance with the following laws and regulations and the internal controls over compliance with such laws and regulations. We have evaluated our compliance with the following laws and regulations prior to making these representations.

These representations are based on the information available to us as of Feb. 06, 2024

#### Public Bid Law

It is true that we have complied with the state procurement code (R.S. 39:1551 - 39:1755); the public bid law (R.S. 38:2211-2296), and, where applicable, the regulations of the Division of Administration and the State Purchasing Office.

Yes No [ ] N/A [ ]

### Code of Ethics for Public Officials and Public Employees

It is true that no employees or officials have accepted anything of value, whether in the form of a service, loan, or promise, from anyone that would constitute a violation of R.S. 42:1101-1124.

Yes [ No [ ] N/A [ ]

It is true that no member of the immediate family of any member of the governing authority, or the chief executive of the governmental entity, has been employed by the governmental entity after April 1, 1980, under circumstances that would constitute a violation of R.S. 42:1119.

Yes [ No [ ] N/A [ ]

#### Budgeting

We have complied with the state budgeting requirements of the Local Government Budget Act (R.S. 39:1301-15), R.S. 39:33, or the budget requirements of R.S. 39:1331-1342, as applicable.

Yes [ No [ ] N/A [ ]

#### Accounting and Reporting

All non-exempt governmental records are available as a public record and have been retained for at least three years, as required by R.S. 44:1, 44:7, 44:31, and 44:36.

Yes [ No [ ] N/A [ ]

We have filed our annual financial statements in accordance with R.S. 24:514, and 33:463 where applicable.

Yes [ No [ ] N/A [ ]

We have had our financial statements reviewed in accordance with R.S. 24:513.

Yes [ Y No [ ] N/A [ ]

We did not enter into any contracts that utilized state funds as defined in R.S. 39:72.1 A. (2); and that were subject to the public bid law (R.S. 38:2211, et seq.), while the agency was not in compliance with R.S. 24:513 (the audit law).

Yes [ No [ ] N/A [ ]

We have complied with R.S. 24:513 A. (3) regarding disclosure of compensation, reimbursements, benefits and other payments to the agency head, political subdivision head, or chief executive officer.

Yes [ No [ ] N/A [ ]

We have complied with R.S. 24:515.2 regarding reporting of pre- and post- adjudication court costs, fines and fees assessed or imposed; the amounts collected; the amounts outstanding; the amounts retained; the amounts disbursed, and the amounts received from disbursements.

Yes [ No [ ] N/A [ ]

#### Meetings

We have complied with the provisions of the Open Meetings Law, provided in R.S. 42:11 through 42:28.

Yes [ No [ ] N/A [ ]

#### Debt

It is true we have not incurred any indebtedness, other than credit for 90 days or less to make purchases in the ordinary course of administration, nor have we entered into any lease-purchase agreements, without the approval of the State Bond Commission, as provided by Article VII, Section 8 of the 1974 Louisiana Constitution, Article VI, Section 33 of the 1974 Louisiana Constitution, and R.S. 39:1410.60-1410.65.

Yes [ No [ ] N/A [ ]

#### **Advances and Bonuses**

It is true we have not advanced wages or salaries to employees or paid bonuses in violation of Article VII, Section 14 of the 1974 Louislana Constitution, R.S. 14:138, and AG opinion 79-729.

Yes [ ] No [ ] N/A [ ]

#### **Prior-Year Comments**

We have resolved all prior-year recommendations and/or comments.

Yes [ No [ ] N/A [ ]

#### General

We are responsible for our compliance with the foregoing laws and regulations and the internal controls over compliance with such laws and regulations.

Yes [ Y No [ ] N/A [ ]

We acknowledge that we are responsible for determining that that the procedures performed are appropriate for the purposes of this engagement.

Yes [ No [ ] N/A [ ]

We have evaluated our compliance with these laws and regulations prior to making these representations.

Yes [ No [ ] N/A [ ]

We have provided you with all relevant information and access under the terms of our agreement.

Yes [ No [ ] N/A [ ]

We have disclosed to you all known noncompliance of the foregoing laws and regulations, as well as any contradictions to the foregoing representations.

Yes [ No [ ] N/A [ ]

We are not aware of any material misstatements in the information we have provided to you.

Yes [ No [ ] N/A [ ]

We have disclosed to you any communications from regulatory agencies, internal auditors, other independent practitioners or consultants, and others concerning noncompliance with the foregoing laws and regulations, including communications received during the period under examination; and will disclose to you any such communication received between the end of the period under examination and the date of your report.

Yes [ No [ ] N/A [ ]

We will disclose to you, the Legislative Auditor, and the applicable state grantor agency/agencies all known noncompliance and other events subsequent to the date of this representation and the date of your report that could have a material effect on our compliance with laws and regulations and the internal controls with such laws and regulations, or would require adjustment or modification to the results of the agreed-upon procedures.

Yes MI No! I N/A! 1

The previous responses	have been made to the	best of our belief and knowledge.
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Mary Pay Mary Day	Secretary Feb. 6,2024 D	ate
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Brian Baun	President 6 Fe624 D	ate