FIRST WARD GRAVITY DRAINAGE DISTRICT ACADIA PARISH POLICE JURY Rayne, Louisiana

Annual Financial Statements December 31, 2023

Rayne, Louisiana Annual Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended December 31, 2023

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Mike B. Gillespie

Certified Public Accountant
A Professional Accounting Corporation

Mike B. Gillespie, CPA, CGMA

Eric C. Gillespie, CPA

414 East Nezpique Street P.O. Box 1347 Jennings, LA 70546 Telephone: (337) 824-7773

Fax: (337) 824-7774

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REVIEW REPORT

Board Members of First Ward Gravity Drainage District Rayne, Louisiana

We have reviewed the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and the general fund of the First Ward Gravity Drainage District (District), a component unit of the Acadia Parish Police Jury, 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 the management of the District. 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 the 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 the financial statements that are free from material misstatement whether due to fraud or error.

Accountant's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to conduct the review in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the AICPA, and the standards applicable to review engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the United States Comptroller General. 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.

We are required to be independent of First Ward Gravity Drainage District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to our review.

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 generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the accompanying budgetary comparison schedules and associated notes listed in the table of contents be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a required 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. 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.

Other Supplementary Information

The accompanying schedules of compensation, benefits and other payments to agency head or chief executive officer and compensation paid to commissioners listed as other supplementary information in the table of contents are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management. We have reviewed the information and, based on our review, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the information in order for it to be in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have not audited the other supplementary information and, accordingly, do not express an opinion on such information.

Other Report

In accordance with the Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide and the provision of state law, we have issued a report dated June 27, 2024, on the results of our agreed-upon procedures.

Mike B. Gillespie, CPA, APAC

Jennings, Louisiana June 27, 2024

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Rayne, Louisiana

Governmental Funds Balance Sheet / Statement of Net Position as of December 31, 2023

Statement A

	_	General Fund	Adjustments	Statement of Net Position
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	53,463	-	53,463
Investments - Certificates of deposit		382,551	-	382,551
Due from Other Governments-ad valorem taxes				
(net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$4,890)		420,271	-	420,271
Due from Other Governments-state revenue sharing		14,019	-	14,019
Prepaid Insurance		10,035	-	10,035
Capital and Right-to-use assets, net		-	617,943	617,943
TOTAL ASSETS		880,339	617,943	1,498,282
LIABILITIES				
Accounts payable	\$	19,745	_	19,745
Payroll withholdings	Ψ	2	_	2
Pension plan deduction payable		16,487	_	16,487
Long-term liabilities:		10,107		10,107
Due within one year:				
Lease Liaiblity		_	131,317	131,317
Due in more than one year:			- ,	- ,
Lease Liaiblity		-	375,584	375,584
Total Liabilities		36,234	506,901	543,135
DEFERRED INFLOW OF RESOURCES				
Deferred property tax revenues		484,079	_	484,079
Deferred state revenue sharing		14,019	_	14,019
Total Deferred Inflow of Resources	_	498,098		498,098
FUND BALANCE				
Non-spendable-prepaid expense		10,035	(10,035)	
Unassigned		335,972	(335,972)	=
Total Fund Balance	_	346,007	(346,007)	
Total Fulld Balance	_	340,007	(340,007)	
TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOW OF RESOURCES, AND FUND BALANCE	\$	880,339		
NET POSITION				
NET POSITION			111 042	111.042
Investment in capital assets, net			111,042	111,042
Restricted- nonexpendable			10,035	10,035
Unrestricted			335,972	335,972
TOTAL NET POSITION		\$	457,049	457,049

Rayne, Louisiana

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

Statement B

Total Ending Fund Balances - Governmental Funds (Statement A)	\$	346,007
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 as assets in governmental funds.		
Costs of capital assets Accumulated depreciation Costs of right-to-use assets Accumulated amortization	\$ 276,734 (167,895) 632,203 (123,099)	617,943
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and therefore are not reported as liabilities in the governmental funds. Long-term liabilities at year-end consist of:		
Lease liability		(506,901)
Net Position	\$	457,049

Rayne, Louisiana

GENERAL FUND

Statement of Governmental Funds Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance / Statement of Activities

For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Statement C

	_(General Fund	Adjustments	Statement of Activities
EXPENDITURES/ EXPENSES				
Public Works:				
Personal services - salaries and benefits	\$	106,542	_	106,542
Per diem expense - board members		10,350	-	10,350
Professional services		18,550	-	18,550
Operating services-contractors		109,526	-	109,526
Repairs and maintenance		101,761	-	101,761
Insurance		28,712	-	28,712
Telephone		1,286	-	1,286
Other		51,826	-	51,826
Intergovernmental:				
Deduction from ad valorem taxes-pension		16,487	-	16,487
Capital Outlay		533,449	(533,449)	-
Debt Service			,	
Principal		102,260	(102,260)	-
Interest		5,723	-	5,723
Amortization Expense		-	94,397	94,397
Depreciation Expense		-	17,678	17,678
Total Expenditures/ Expenses		1,086,472	(523,634)	562,838
GENERAL REVENUES				
Ad valorem taxes, including interest		460,436	_	460,436
Intergovernemental revenues:		.00,.00		.00,.50
State revenue sharing		14,066	_	14,066
Interest earnings		10,433	_	10,433
Other revenue		6,007	_	6,007
Total General Revenues		490,942		490,942
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)		406 700	(40.6.700)	
Lease financing	_	486,580	(486,580)	
Total Other Financing Sources (Uses)		486,580	(486,580)	
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER				
EXPENDITURES		(108,950)	108,950	-
CHANGE IN NET POSITION		-	(71,896)	(71,896)
FUND BALANCE/ NET POSITION-				
BEGINNING OF YEAR		454,957	73,988	528,945
END OF YEAR	\$	346,007	111,042	457,049

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

Statement D

Total Net Change in Fund Balance - Governmental Funds (Statement C)	\$	(108,950)
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:		
Capital outlays are reported in governmental tunds as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which depreciation expense exceeds capital outlays in the period:		
Depreciation expense Capital outlays Amortization expense	(17,678) 533,449 (94,397)	421,374
Long-term debt proceeds provide current financial resources to governmental funds, but issuing debt increases long-term liabilities in the statement of net position. Repayment of long-term debt is an expenditure in the governmental funds, but the repayment reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net position. The net amount of these transactions for the current year were as follows:		
Payments to lease liability Lease liaiblity incurred	102,260 (486,580)	(384,320)
Change In Net Position of Governmental Activities	\$ _	(71,896)

NOTES TO THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Rayne, Louisiana

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended December 31, 2023

INTRODUCTION

The First Ward Gravity Drainage District (District) was created by the Acadia Parish Police Jury pursuant to LSA-RS 38:1751 to 1904. The District primarily has the power and authority, within its boundaries, to plan, construct, maintain and operate such works of improvement as land treatment of watershed protection, flood prevention works, irrigation improvements, recreation, municipal and industrial water storage, and fish and wildlife developments.

Under the provisions of LSA-RS 38:1758, the District shall be governed and controlled by five commissioners who shall be the governing authority of the District. These commissioners or their spouses must own at least five hundred dollars in real estate in the district, or they must be the representative of some corporation owning at least five hundred dollars in real estate in the district. Each commissioner shall serve a term of four years. In the absence of any petition or recommendation, the Police Jury may appoint commissioners at their discretion.

The District does not have an established office location, but advertises the location of its monthly meeting in a local newspaper. The District staff is comprised of one part-time secretary.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNT POLICIES

A. BASIS OF PRESENTATION

The accompanying basic financial statements of the First Ward Gravity Drainage District 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. The accompanying basic financial statements have been prepared in conformity with GASB Statement 34, Basic Financial Statements-and Management's Discussion and Analysis—for State and Local Governments, issued in June 1999.

B. REPORTING ENTITY

Because the Police Jury appoints members of the board and has the ability to significantly influence operations, the District was determined to be a component unit of the Acadia Parish Police Jury, the governing body of the parish with the oversight responsibility. The accompanying financial statements present information only on the funds maintained by the District and do not present information of the Police Jury, the general government services provided by that governmental unit, or the other governmental units that comprise the governmental reporting entity.

Rayne, Louisiana

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended December 31, 2023

C. FUND ACCOUNTING

The District uses a fund (General fund) to maintain its financial records during the year. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid management by segregating transactions related to certain tax assessment functions and activities. A fund is defined as a separate fiscal and accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts.

Governmental Funds

Governmental funds account for all of the District's general activities. These funds focus on the sources, uses and balances of current financial resources. Expendable assets are assigned to the various governmental funds according to the purposes for which they may be used. Current liabilities are assigned to the fund from which they will be paid. The difference between a governmental fund's assets and liabilities is reported as fund balance. In general, fund balance represents the accumulated expendable resources which may be used to finance future period programs or operations of the District. The following are the District's governmental funds:

General Fund – the primary operating fund of the District and it accounts for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in other funds. The General Fund is available for any purpose provided it is expended or transferred in accordance with state and federal laws and according to the drainage district's policy.

D. MEASUREMENT FOCUS/BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

Fund Financial Statement (FFS)

The amounts reflected in the General Fund of Statements A and B are accounted for using a current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets and current liabilities are generally included on the balance sheet. The statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances reports on the sources (i.e., revenues and other financing sources) and uses (i.e., expenditures and other financing uses) of current financial resources. This approach is then reconciled, through adjustment, to a government-wide view of the District's operations.

The amounts reflected in the General Fund of Statements A and B use the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when susceptible to accrual (i.e., when they become both 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 District considers all revenues available if they are collected within 60 days after the fiscal year end.

Rayne, Louisiana

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for interest and principal payments on general 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. The governmental funds use the following practice in recording revenues and expenditures:

Revenues

Ad valorem taxes are recognized in the year the taxes are assessed, and to the extent they are available within 60 days of the year end. Ad valorem taxes are assessed for the calendar year, become due on November 15 of each year, and become delinquent on December 31. Ad valorem taxes are recognized as revenue in the period for which they are being levied to finance the budget, unless collected before year end.

Interest earnings on time deposits with financial institutions are recorded when the time deposits have matured and the interest is available to the District.

Substantially all other revenues are recorded when received.

Expenditures

Expenditures are generally recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related fund liability is incurred.

Government-Wide Financial Statements (GWFS)

The column labeled Statement of Net Position (Statement A) and the column labeled Statement of Activities (Statement B) display information about the District as a whole. These statements include all the financial activities of the District. Information contained in these columns reflects the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets and liabilities resulting form exchange or exchange-like transactions are recognized when the exchange occurs (regardless of when cash is received or disbursed). Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets and liabilities resulting from non-exchange transactions are recognized in accordance with the requirements of GASB Statement No. 33, Accounting and Financial Reporting for Non-exchange Transactions.

Rayne, Louisiana

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended December 31, 2023

E. DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS

Cash includes amounts in demand deposits, interest-bearing demand deposits, and time deposits. Under state law, the District may deposit funds in demand deposits, interest-bearing demand deposits, or time deposits with state banks organized under Louisiana law or any other state of the United States, or under the laws of the United States.

State statutes authorize the District to invest in United States bonds, treasury notes and bills, or certificates or time deposits of state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having principal offices in Louisiana. In addition, Local Governments in Louisiana are authorized to invest in the Louisiana Asset Management Pool, Inc. (LAMP), a non-profit corporation formed by an initiative of the State Treasurer and organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana, which operates a local government investment pool.

F. DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES

This separate financial statement element reflects an increase in net assets that applies to a future period. Deferred inflow of resources reported in the accompanying statements relate to property tax revenues assessed in 2023 but levied to finance the drainage district's 2024 expenditures. The District will not recognize the related revenues until 2024.

G. CAPITAL ASSETS

Fund Financial Statements

In the fund financial statements, capital assets used in governmental fund operations are accounted for as capital outlay expenditures of the governmental fund upon acquisition.

Government-wide Financial Statements

In the government-wide financial statements, fixed assets are accounted for as capital assets. Capital assets are capitalized at historical cost or estimated historical 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. The District maintains a threshold level of \$500 or more for capitalizing capital assets. Additions, improvement and other capital outlays that significantly extend the useful life of an asset are capitalized. Other costs incurred for repairs and maintenance is expensed as incurred.

Rayne, Louisiana

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Depreciation of all exhaustible capital assets is recorded as an expense in the Statement of Activities, with accumulated depreciation reflected in the Statement of Net Position. Depreciation is provided over the assets' estimated useful lives using the straight-line method of depreciation. The estimated useful life by type of assets is as follows:

<u>Description</u>	Estimated Lives
Building and Fence	5-10
Equipment	5-10

H. FUND EQUITY

Fund Financial Statements

Governmental funds can report aggregate amounts for five classifications of fund balances based on the constraints imposed on the use of these resources.

The nonspendable fund balance classification includes amounts that cannot be spent because they are either (a) not in spendable form- prepaid items or inventories; or (b) legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The spendable portion of the fund balance can be comprised of the remaining four classifications: restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned defined as follows:

Restricted fund balance- This classification reflects the constraints imposed on resources either (a) externally by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (b) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Committed fund balance- These amounts can only be used for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the organization's highest level of decision-making authority. Those committed amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the government removes or changes the specified use by taking the same type of action imposing the commitment. This classification also includes contractual obligations to the extent that existing resources in the fund have been specifically committed for use in satisfying those contractual requirements.

Assigned fund balance- This classification reflects the amounts constrained by the organization's "intent" to be used for specific purposes, but are neither restricted nor committed. The District has the authority to assign amounts to be used for specific purposes. Assigned fund balances include all remaining amounts (except negative balances) that are reported in governmental funds, other than the General Fund, that are not classified as nonspendable and are neither restricted nor committed.

Rayne, Louisiana

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Unassigned fund balance- This fund balance is the residual classification for the General Fund. It is also used to report negative fund balances in other governmental funds.

Government-wide Financial Statements

Net position represents the difference between assets and deferred outflows of resources less liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. Equity on the government-wide financial statements is classified as net position and displayed in three categories:

Net investment in capital assets – Consists of net capital assets reduced by outstanding balances of any related debt obligations and deferred inflows of resources attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets and increased by the balances of deferred outflows of resources related to those assets.

Restricted net position – Net position is considered restricted if their use is constrained to a particular purpose. Restrictions are imposed by external organizations such as federal or state laws or buyers of the District's bonds. Restricted net position is reduced by liabilities and deferred inflows of resources related to the restricted assets.

Unrestricted net position – Consists of all other net position that does not meet the definition of the above two components and is available for general use by the District.

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

I. ESTIMATES

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require 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 statements and the reported amounts of revenues, expenditures, and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Rayne, Louisiana

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended December 31, 2023

2. LEVIED TAXES

The following is a summary of authorized and levied property taxes:

	Authorized	Levied	Expiration
	Millage	Millage	Date
Parish –wide tax	8.00	8.00	2030

Property taxes are levied each November 1st on the assessed value listed as of the prior January 1st for all real property, merchandise and movable property located in the Parish. Assessed values are established by the Acadia Parish Assessor's Office and the State Tax Commission at percentages of actual value as specified by Louisiana law. Taxes are due and payable December 31st with interest being charged on payments after January 1st. Taxes can be paid through the tax sale date which is usually in June. Properties for which taxes have not been paid are sold for the amount of the taxes. Taxes levied November 1, 2022 and the related state revenue sharing is for budgeted expenditures in 2023 and will be recognized as revenue in 2023.

Rayne, Louisiana

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended December 31, 2023

3. **DEPOSITS**

Bank Deposits:

The year end balances of deposits are as follows:

Deposit Type	Bank Balances	Reported Amount		
Cash –demand deposits Certificates of deposits	\$ 57,435 382,551	\$	53,463 382,551	
Totals	\$ 439,986	\$	436,014	

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 is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the District's deposits may not be returned to it. The District's deposit policy for custodial credit risk requires that all uninsured deposits must be secured with acceptable collateral as defined in LRS 39:1221 valued at market. As of December 31, 2023, the District had deposits (collected bank balances) totaling \$439,986. As of yearend all deposits were either insured by FDIC coverage or collateralized by securities held by the pledging financial institution's agent in the name of the District.

Rayne, Louisiana

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended December 31, 2023

4. CAPITAL AND RIGHT-TO-USE ASSETS

A summary of changes as follows:

Capital assets not being	Balance Beginning	Additions	Dispositions /Reclassifications	Balance Ending
depreciated: Construction in Progress Total capital assets	\$. \$	\$	\$
not being depreciated	-	. <u>-</u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Capital assets being depreciated: Building and Fence Equipment	66,918 162,947	46,869	<u>-</u>	113,787 162,947
Total capital assets Being depreciated	229,865	46,869	<u> </u>	276,734
Less: accumulated depreciation: Building and Fence Equipment	10,802 139,415	6,626 11,052	<u>-</u>	17,428 150,467
Total accumulated Depreciation	150,217	17,678	<u>-</u>	167,895
Total capital assets Being depreciated, net	79,648	29,191	. , - _	108,839
Right-to-use Lease Assets: Equipment	449,027	486,580	(303,404)	632,203
Total right-to-use leased assets	449,027	486,580	(303,404)	632,203
Less accumulated amortization for:				
Equipment	332,106	94,397	(303,404)	123,099
Total accumulated amortization	332,106	94,397	(303,404)	123,099
Total right-of-use leased Assets being amortized, net	116,921	392,183	<u> </u>	509,104
Capital and Right-to-use leased assets, net	\$ 196,569	\$ 421,374	\$	\$ 617,943

Rayne, Louisiana

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended December 31, 2023

5. LONG-TERM OBLIGATIONS

The following is a summary of long-term liability activity for the year:

	_	Balance Beginning	Additions	 Reductions	_	Balance Ending		Due within One Year
Lease liability	\$_	122,581 122,581	\$ 486,580 486,580	\$ (102,260) (102,260)	\$_	506,901 506,901	\$_	131,317 131,317

The District has entered into lease agreements involving two excavators. The total of the District's right-to-use leased assets are recorded at a cost of \$632,203, less accumulated amortization of \$123,099.

The future minimum lease payments under lease agreements are as follows:

Year Ending December 31,		Principal	Interest		Total
2024	\$	131,317 \$	8,939	\$	140,256
2025		118,118	6,341		124,459
2026		98,091	4,253		102,344
2027		100,070	2,274		102,344
2028		59,305	396		59,701
2029-2033		-	-		-
2034-2038		-	-		-
2039-2043		-	-		-
				_	
	\$ _	506,901 \$	22,203	\$	529,104

Rayne, Louisiana

Notes to the Basic Financial Statements As of and for the Year Ended December 31, 2023

6. LITIGATION AND CLAIMS

As of the date of this report, the District is not involved in any litigation and is not aware of any pending claims that could have a material impact on these financial statements.

7. RISK MANAGEMENT

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; thefts of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters.

The District does not carry commercial insurance for workers compensation liability. No settled claims have resulted from these risks in any of the past three fiscal years.

8. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management has evaluated subsequent events through June 27, 2024, the date which the financial statements were available to be issued.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Rayne, Louisiana

GOVERNMENTAL FUND - GENERAL FUND Budgetary Comparison Schedule (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis) For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Schedule 1

	_	Budgeted A	Amounts	Actual Amounts (Non-GAAP Budgetary	Variance Favaroble/
		Original	Final	Basis)	(Unfavorable)
REVENUES	_				
Ad valorem taxes, including interest	\$	431,000	460,436	460,436	-
Intergovernemental revenues:					
State revenue sharing		14,900	14,066	14,066	-
Interest earnings		4,200	10,433	10,433	-
Other revenue		-	-	6,007	6,007
Total Revenues	_	450,100	484,935	490,942	6,007
EXPENDITURES					
Public Works:					
Personal services - salaries and benefits		107,115	104,543	106,542	(1,999)
Per diem expense - board members		15,100	10,350	10,350	-
Professional services		14,550	10,550	10,550	-
Operating services-contractors		65,600	116,830	110,629	6,201
Repairs and maintenance		20,000	43,644	95,898	(52,254)
Rental of equipment		103,740	118,954	102,497	16,457
Insurance		35,000	23,642	28,712	(5,070)
Telephone		1,200	1,286	1,286	-
Advertising		200	-	-	-
Supplies		_	_	-	-
Other		34,109	51,829	51,829	-
Intergovernmental:					
Deduction from ad valorem taxes-pension		15,000	16,487	16,487	-
Capital Outlay		143,000	74,966	45,369	29,597
Total Expenditures	_	554,614	573,081	580,149	(7,068)
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES					
OVER EXPENDITURES		(104,514)	(88,146)	(89,207)	(1,061)
FUND BALANCE AT BEGINNING OF YEAR	_	454,957	454,957	454,957	
FUND BALANCE AT END OF YEAR	\$_	350,443	366,811	365,750	(1,061)

FIRST WARD GRAVITY DRAINAGE DISTRICT Notes to Budgetary Comparison Schedule For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

A. BUDGETARY PRACTICES

General Budget Practices The First Ward Gravity Drainage District follows the following procedures in establishing budgetary data reported in the accompanying budgetary comparison schedule:

Pursuant to the Louisiana Government Budget Act (LSA-RS 39:1301-1314), the First Ward Gravity Drainage District is required to adopt an annual budget no later than fifteen days prior to the beginning of each fiscal year.

Each year prior to December 15th, the First Ward Gravity Drainage District develops a proposed annual budget for the general fund. The budget includes proposed expenditures and the means of financing them. The proposed budget is advertised as available for public inspection at least 10 days prior to final adoption simultaneously with a notice of the date of public hearing. The public hearing is conducted during an open meeting in order to obtain public input. The budget is subsequently adopted by the board through a formal budget resolution.

General fund appropriations (unexpended budget balances) lapse at end of fiscal year.

Encumbrance accounting, under which purchase orders are recorded in order to reserve that portion of the applicable appropriation, is not employed.

Formal budget integration (within the accounting records) is employed as a management control device. All budgets are controlled at the object level. Budget amounts included in the accompanying financial statements include the original budget and all subsequent amendments. All budget revisions are approved by the Board.

Budget Basis of Accounting The governmental fund budgets are prepared on the modified cash basis of accounting, a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP). Legally, the Board of Directors cannot budget total expenditures and other financing uses which would exceed total budgeted revenues and other financing sources including beginning fund balance. State statutes require the Board of Directors to amend the budget to prevent overall projected revenues, expenditures, or beginning fund balance from causing an adverse budget variance of five percent or more in an individual fund. The Board of Directors approve budgets at the object level and management is allowed to transfer amounts between line items within an object.

B. EXCESS OF EXPENDITURES OVER APPROPRIATIONS IN INDIVIDUAL MAJOR FUNDS

The following budgeted major funds had actual expenditures over budgeted expenditures for the fiscal year:

					Unfavorable	
Fund	_	Final Budget	_	Actual	 Variance	
General	\$	573,081	\$	580,149	\$ (7,068)	_

Reason for unfavorable variance: Not applicable

FIRST WARD GRAVITY DRAINAGE DISTRICT

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

C. BUDGET BASIS TO ACTUAL GAAP RECONCILIATION

The following reconciles the amount shown as excess of receipts over disbursements on the non-GAAP budget basis (page 21), with the amount shown on the GAAP basis (page 6):

Excess (Deficiency) of revenues and other sources over Expenditures and other uses (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis) – page 21	\$ (89,207)
Add:	
Current-year receivables Prior-year payables and deferred revenues	-
Less:	
Prior-year receivables	_
Current-year payables and deferred revenues	(19,743)
Excess (Deficiency) of revenues and other sources over	
expenditures and other uses (GAAP Basis) - page 6	\$ (108,950)
The reconciliation of amounts reported on page 19 as fund balance at end of year to amounts reported as fund balance on page 6 is as follows:	
Fund balance at end of year (Non-GAAP Budgetary Basis) – page 21 Revenue accruals	\$ 365,750
Expenditure accruals	(19,743)
Fund balance (GAAP Basis) – page 6	\$ 346,007

OTHER SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

FIRST WARD GRAVITY DRAINAGE DISTRICT

Rayne, Louisiana

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

	S	chedule 2
Agency Head Name: Aaron Cutrer, President		
Per Diem	\$	2,250
	<u> </u>	2 250

FIRST WARD GRAVITY DRAINAGE DISTRICT

Rayne, Louisiana Schedule of Compensation Paid to Commissioners For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

	S	Schedule 3
James D Ancelet	\$	1,800
Aaron Cutrer		2,250
Martin W Dischler, Jr.		2,100
Gerald L Foreman		2,100
Francis Hebert		2,100
	\$	10,350

OTHER REPORTS

Mike B. Gillespie

Certified Public Accountant
A Professional Accounting Corporation

414 East Nezpique Street P.O. Box 1347 Jennings, LA 70546 Telephone: (337) 824-7773

Fax: (337) 824-7774

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

To the Board of First Ward Gravity Drainage District Rayne, Louisiana

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on the First Ward Gravity Drainage District's (District) compliance with certain laws and regulations contained in the accompanying Louisiana Attestation Questionnaire during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023, as required by Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513 and the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide*. The District's management is responsible for its financial records and compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

The District 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 District's compliance with the laws and regulations contained in the accompanying Louisiana Attestation Questionnaire during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023. Additionally, the Louisiana Legislative Auditor 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 associated findings are as follows:

Public Bid Law

1. Obtain documentation for all expenditures made during the year for materials and supplies exceeding \$60,000, and public works exceeding \$250,000. Compare the documentation for these expenditures to Louisiana Revised Statute (R.S.) 39:1551-39:1775 (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.

Findings: There were no expenditures for materials and supplies which exceeded \$60,000. There were no expenditures for public works exceeding \$250,000. No exceptions noted.

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).

Findings: Management provided us with the required list including the noted information.

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

Findings: Management provided us with the required list.

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

Findings: None of the employee names included on the list of employees provided by management for agreed-upon procedure 3 appeared on the list provided by management in agreed-upon procedure 2. No exceptions noted.

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.

Findings: Management provided the requested information. None of the businesses of board members, employees, and board members' and employees' immediate families appeared as vendors on the list of disbursements. No exceptions noted.

Budgeting

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

Findings: Management provided us a copy of the 2023 original budget and final amended 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.

Findings: Traced the 2023 budget adoption to the board meeting held on December 12, 2022. The 2023 budget was adopted on December 11, 2023. No exceptions were noted.

- 8. Compare the revenues and expenditures of the final budget to actual revenues and expenditures to determine if actual revenues failed to meet budgeted revenues by 5% or more or if actual expenditures exceed budgeted amounts by more than 5%.
- a. **Findings:** Actual budgeted revenues did not exceed actual revenues by more than 5%.

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 the payee in the supporting documentation.

Findings: I examined supporting documentation for each of the six selected disbursements and concluded that each payment was for the proper amount and made to the correct payee. No exceptions noted

b) Determine if payments were properly coded to the correct fund and general ledger account.

Findings: All six transactions selected appeared to be properly coded to the correct fund and general ledger account. No exceptions noted.

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

Findings: Inspection of documentation supporting each of the six selected disbursements indicated proper approvals in accordance with normal procedures. No exceptions noted.

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.

Findings: For each meeting, the drainage district had a notice of public meeting advertised in the local newspaper. No exceptions noted.

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.

Findings: I inspected copies of all deposits slips 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.

Findings: I inspected payroll records for the year and noted no instances which would indicate payments to employees which constitute bonuses, advances, or gifts.

State Audit Law

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

Findings: The District report was submitted in a timely fashion.

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).

Findings: Not applicable.

Prior Comments and Recommendation

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

Findings: All prior year findings will be resolved with filing of review report.

We were engaged by the District 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 the standards applicable to attestation engagements contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the United States Comptroller General. 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 the District's compliance with the foregoing matters. 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 District 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 performed on the District's compliance with certain laws and regulations contained in the accompanying Louisiana Attestation Questionnaire, as required by Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513 and the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide*, and the result 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.

Mike B. Gillespie, CPA, APAC

Jennings, Louisiana June 27, 2024

Rayne, Louisiana

MANAGEMENTS SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS

For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

SECTION I – INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE FINDINGS TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

2021-1 Accounting, Auditing, and Financial Reporting Law Compliance

Condition: Possible noncompliance with the audit law (R.S. 24:513) due to untimely filing of review report to Louisiana Legislative Auditor.

Recommendation: Management should consider having books and records readily available after year end to ensure that a review can be performed in a timely manner to comply with the audit law (R.S. 24:513).

Management Response: Management has resolved finding.

SECTION II - INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE TO FEDERAL AWARDS

No findings reported.

SECTION III – MANAGEMENT LETTER

No findings reported.

* * * * *

THIS SCHEDULE HAS BEEN PREPARED BY MANAGEMENT

Rayne, Louisiana

SCHEDULE OF CURRENT YEAR FINDINGS AND RESPONSES

For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

SECTION I – INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE FINDINGS TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

No findings reported.

SECTION II – INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE FINDINGS TO FEDERAL AWARDS

No findings reported.

SECTION III – MANAGEMENT LETTER

No findings reported.

Rayne, Louisiana

MANAGEMENT'S CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN FOR CURRENT YEAR FINDINGS

For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

SECTION I – INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE FINDINGS TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

No findings reported.

SECTION II – INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE FINDINGS TO FEDERAL AWARDS

No findings reported.

SECTION III – MANAGEMENT LETTER

No findings reported.

* * * * *

THIS SCHEDULE HAS BEEN PREPARED BY MANAGEMENT

FIRST WARD GRAVITY DRAINAGE DISTRICT OF ACADIA PARISH

LOUISIANA ATTESTATION QUESTIONNAIRE (For Attestation Engagements of Governmental Agencies)

(Date Transmitte	ed)
Mike B Gillespie, CPA, APAC	/
PO Box 1347	
Jennings, LA 70546	
In connection with your engagement to apply agreed-upon procedures to the conmatters identified below, as of <u>December 31, 2023</u> and for the year then ended, Louisiana Revised Statute (R.S.) 24:513 and the <i>Louisiana Governmental Audit</i> following representations to you.	and as required by
Public Bid Law	
It is true that we have complied with the state procurement code (R.S. 39:1551 – law (R.S. 38:2211-2296), and, where applicable, the regulations of the Division of State Purchasing Office.	
Clate i dionabilig Clinos.	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 loan, or promise, from anyone that would constitute a violation of R.S. 42:1101-1	
	Yes [No [] N/A []
It is true that no member of the immediate family of any member of the governing executive of the governmental entity, has been employed by the governmental entity 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 Governme 39:1301-15), R.S. 39:33, or the budget requirements of R.S. 39:1331-1342, as a	
	Yes [No [] N/A []
Accounting and Reporting	
All non-exempt governmental records are available as a public record and have 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, a applicable.	
	Yes [No [] N/A []
We have had our financial statements reviewed in accordance with R.S. 24:513.	Yes [No [] N/A [
We did not enter into any contracts that utilized state funds as defined in R.S. 39 were subject to the public bid law (R.S. 38:2211, et seq.), while the agency was R.S. 24:513 (the audit law).	not in compliance with
	Yes [/] No [] N/A []
We have complied with R.S. 24:513 A. (3) regarding disclosure of compensation benefits and other payments to the agency head, political subdivision head, or cl	
	Yes [No [] N/A []

FIRST WARD GRAVITY DRAINAGE DISTRICT OF ACADIA PARISH

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 Louisiana 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 acknowledge that we are responsible for the Agency's compliance with the foregoing laws and regulations and the internal controls over compliance with such laws and regulations.

Yes [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

FIRST WARD GRAVITY DRAINAGE DISTRICT OF ACADIA PARISH

to you any such communication received between the encyour report.	d of the period	d under examination a	and the date of
		Yes [N	No[] N/A[]
We will disclose to you, the Legislative Auditor, and the a known noncompliance and other events subsequent to th your report that could have a material effect on our complications with such laws and regulations, or would require agreed-upon procedures.	e date of this liance with law	representation and the vs and regulations are	ne date of nd the internal
		Yes [\] N	No[] N/A[]
The previous responses have been made to the best of o	our belief and l	knowledge.	
A A	Secretary	1/19/2024	Date
	Treasurer_	1/19/2024	Date
There are Cutual	Dracidant	1/16/2024	Doto