

**LIVINGSTON PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT No. 5
DENHAM SPRINGS, LOUISIANA**

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5
Denham Springs, Louisiana
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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members of the Board of Commissioners of
Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5
Denham Springs, Louisiana

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and the general fund of the Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5 ("the "District"), a component unit of Livingston Parish Government, 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.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and the general fund of the District as of December 31, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audits in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audits. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Emphasis of Matter – Change in Accounting Principle

As discussed in Note 1 to the financial statements, in 2023 the District adopted new accounting guidance, GASB Statement No. 96, Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Management 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 and for the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not absolute assurance and therefore is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and *Government Auditing Standards* will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control. Misstatements are considered material if there is a substantial likelihood that, individually or in the aggregate, they would influence the judgment made by a reasonable user based on the financial statements.

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

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

We are required to communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit, significant audit findings, and certain internal control-related matters that we identified during the audit.

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the budgetary comparison information on page 23 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, 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. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing

the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

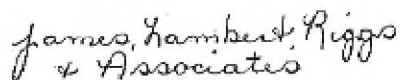
Management has omitted the management's discussion and analysis that accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require to be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such missing information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required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

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements. The accompanying schedule of compensation, benefits, and other payments to 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 directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the schedule of compensation, benefits, and other payments to agency head is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 6, 2024, on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.



James Lambert Riggs & Associates, Inc.
Hammond, Louisiana

June 6, 2024

Basic Financial Statements

Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5
Denham Springs, Louisiana
Statement of Net Position
December 31, 2023

Exhibit A

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 288,119
Investments	414,880
Property Taxes Receivable, Net	1,300,254
User Fees Receivable, Net	312,107
State Revenue Sharing Receivable	31,396
Other Assets	75
Nondepreciable Capital Assets:	
Land	1,124,320
Construction in Progress	98,535
Depreciable Capital Assets, Net	<u>1,151,792</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 4,721,478</u>
Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	\$ 100,799
Accrued Payroll and Payroll Taxes Payable	<u>32,313</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>\$ 133,112</u>
Net Position	
Restricted	\$ 1,047,008
Net Investment in Capital Assets	1,327,639
Unrestricted	<u>2,213,719</u>
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 4,588,366</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5
Denham Springs, Louisiana
Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Exhibit B

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
Expenses:	
Public Safety - Fire Protection:	
Salaries & Related Benefits	\$ 1,114,029
Insurance	454,705
Repairs & Maintenance	202,981
Supplies	82,046
Professional Fees	164,389
Bad Debts	20,007
Utilities	51,861
Miscellaneous	1,956
Training	1,350
Travel & Entertainment	780
Dues & Subscriptions	3,938
Tax, License, Permits	83
Depreciation	<u>209,913</u>
Total Program Expenses	<u>2,308,038</u>
General Revenues:	
Ad Valorem Taxes	1,340,283
User Fees	319,603
State Revenue Sharing	92,474
Fire Insurance Rebate	97,367
On Behalf Payments - State Supplemental Pay	62,547
Other Revenues	1,736
Interest	<u>19,054</u>
Total General Revenues	<u>1,933,064</u>
Change in Net Position	(374,974)
Net Position - Beginning of Year	<u>4,963,340</u>
Net Position - End of Year	<u>\$ 4,588,366</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5
Denham Springs, Louisiana
Governmental Fund Balance Sheet
December 31, 2023

Exhibit C

General
Fund

Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 288,119
Investments	414,880
Property Taxes Receivable, Net	1,300,254
User Fees Receivable, Net	312,107
State Revenue Sharing Receivable	31,396
Other Assets	<u>75</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$ 2,346,831</u>
Liabilities and Fund Balance	
Liabilities:	
Accounts Payable	\$ 100,799
Accrued Payroll and Payroll Taxes Payable	<u>32,313</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>133,112</u>
Fund Balance:	
Unassigned	<u>2,213,719</u>
Total Fund Balance	<u>2,213,719</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	<u>\$ 2,346,831</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5
Denham Springs, Louisiana
Reconciliation of the Governmental Fund Balance Sheet to the
Government-Wide Statement of Net Position
December 31, 2023

Exhibit D

Total Governmental Fund Balance (Exhibit C) \$ 2,213,719

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.

2,374,647

Net Position of Governmental Activities (Exhibit A) \$ 4,588,366

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5
Denham Springs, Louisiana
Statement of Governmental Fund Revenues, Expenditures, and
Change in Fund Balance
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Exhibit E

	<u>General Fund</u>
Revenues:	
Ad Valorem Taxes	\$ 1,340,283
User Fees	319,603
State Revenue Sharing	92,474
Fire Insurance Rebate	97,367
On Behalf Payments	62,547
Other Revenues	1,736
Interest	<u>19,053</u>
Total Revenues	1,933,063
Expenditures:	
Public Safety - Fire Protection:	
Salaries & Related Benefits	1,114,029
Insurance	454,705
Repairs & Maintenance	202,981
Supplies	82,046
Professional Fees	164,389
Bad Debts	20,007
Utilities	51,861
Miscellaneous	1,956
Training	1,350
Travel & Entertainment	780
Dues & Subscriptions	3,938
Tax, License, Permits	83
Capital Outlay	<u>50,345</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>2,148,470</u>
Excess of Revenues over Expenditures	(215,407)
Fund Balance - Beginning of the Year	<u>2,429,126</u>
Fund Balance - End of the Year	<u>\$ 2,213,719</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5
Denham Springs, Louisiana

Exhibit F

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

Net Change in Fund Balance, Governmental Fund (Exhibit E)	\$ (215,407)
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Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:

Capital outlays are reported in governmental funds as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of these assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. These differences consist of:

Capital Outlay	50,345
Depreciation Expense	<u>(209,913)</u>

Change in Net Position of Governmental Activities (Exhibit B)	<u>\$ (374,974)</u>
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The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Notes to the Financial Statements

Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5
Denham Springs, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Narrative Profile

The Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5 (the “District”) is a body corporate created by the Livingston Parish Council (the “Council”), as provided by Louisiana Revised Statutes (LRS). The District is governed by a Board of five commissioners who are appointed by the Council. The District was created for the purpose of providing fire protection and prevention to District Five of the Parish of Livingston.

The accounting and reporting policies of the District conform to generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applicable to governments. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles. Such accounting and reporting procedures also conform to the requirements of LRS 24:513 and to the guidance set forth in the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide*, and to the industry audit guide, *Audits of State and Local Governmental Units*.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

A. Financial Reporting Entity

Section 2100 of the GASB Codification, *Defining the Financial Reporting Entity*, established criteria for determining the governmental reporting entity and component units that should be included within the reporting entity. Under provisions of this Statement, the District is considered a component unit of the Council. As a component unit, the accompanying financial statements are included within the reporting of the primary government, either blended into those financial statements or separately reported as discrete component units.

B. Fund Accounting

The District uses fund accounting to maintain its financial records and the results of its operations. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid management by segregating transactions related to certain District 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 that may be used to finance future period programs or operations of the District. The following is the District’s governmental fund:

General Fund - the primary operating fund of the District, which accounts for all the operations of the District, except those required to be accounted for in other funds.

Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5
Denham Springs, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

C. Measurement Focus / Basis of Accounting

Basic Financial Statements – Government-Wide Financial Statements

The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the District as a whole. These statements include all the financial activities of the District with most of the interfund activities removed. 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 from 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 nonexchange transactions are recognized in accordance with the requirements of GASB Statement No. 33, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Nonexchange Transactions*.

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) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function or segment. Interest earnings and other revenues not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

The District does not allocate indirect expenses.

Basic Financial Statements – Governmental Funds

The amounts reflected in the General Fund 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 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 use the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this 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. Expenditures are recorded when the related liability is incurred, except for interest and principal payments on long-term debt, which are 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 practices in recording revenues and expenditures:

Revenues – Revenues are generally recognized when they become measurable and available as net current assets. Taxes, state revenue sharing, grants, interest revenue, and other revenues are recorded when due.

Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5
Denham Springs, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

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

Reconciliation – Explanation of differences between the governmental funds balance sheet and the government-wide statement of net position is presented in Exhibit D of the basic financial statements. Explanation of differences between the governmental funds statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances and the government-wide statement of activities is presented in Statement F of the basic financial statements.

D. Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

The District adopted an operating budget for its General Fund for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2023. The budget for this fund is adopted on the modified accrual basis of accounting consistent with GAAP. The District follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in these financial statements:

1. The Fire Chief prepares the proposed budgets and submits them to the Board for their review no later than fifteen days prior to the beginning of each fiscal year.
2. A summary of the proposed budget is published and the public notified that the proposed budget is available for public inspection. At the same time, a public hearing is called.
3. A public hearing is held on the proposed budget at least ten days after publication of the call for the hearing. The public hearing was held on December 15, 2022.
4. Once a public hearing is held and all of the action necessary to finalize and implement the budget is completed, the budget is adopted through the passage of a resolution prior to the commencement of the fiscal year for which the budget is adopted. The budget was adopted on December 15, 2022.
5. Budgetary amendments require the approval of the board of commissioners. The budget for the District was amended on December 12, 2023 for the year ended December 31, 2023.
6. All budgetary appropriations lapse at year-end.
7. Periodic budget comparisons are made as a part of interim reporting. Budgeted amounts included in the accompanying financial statements include the originally adopted budget amounts and final amended budgetary amounts.

The adopted budget constitutes the authority of the Fire Chief to incur liabilities and authorize expenditures from the respective budgeted funds. Additionally, certain expenditures are approved monthly by the Board before payment.

E. Deposits and Investments

The District's cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, demand deposits, interest bearing 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, interest bearing 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. These are classified as investments if their

Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5
Denham Springs, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

original maturities exceed 90 days; however, if the original maturities are 90 days or less, they are classified as cash equivalents. Investments for the District are reported at cost.

F. Prepaid Items

The District recognizes expenditures for services extending over more than one accounting period when paid. The District did not record any prepaid items at December 31, 2023.

G. Capital Assets

Capital outlays are recorded as expenditures of the governmental funds and as assets in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are valued at historical cost or estimated historical cost if actual cost was not available. Donated capital assets are valued at their acquisition value (entry price) at the date of donation. At December 31, 2023, the District did not have a formal capitalization policy establishing a capitalization / expense threshold.

Maintenance, repairs, and minor equipment are charged to operations when incurred. Expenditures that materially change capacities or extend useful lives are capitalized. Upon sale or retirement of land, buildings, and equipment, the cost and related accumulated depreciation, if applicable, are eliminated from the respective accounts and any resulting gain or loss is included in the results of operations.

H. Compensated Absences

At December 31, 2023, the District has no plan or provision for compensated absences, pension plan, or other post-employment benefits. Vacation time cannot be accumulated and must be taken by the end of the year. There is no provision for leave carryover; therefore, leave accruals are not necessary.

I. Net Position

In the government-wide statements, equity is classified as net position and displayed in three components:

1. Net Investment in Capital Assets – consists of the historical cost of capital assets, including any restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation, and reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.
2. Restricted – consists of assets that have constraints that are externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments or constraints imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
3. Unrestricted – all other net position is reported in this category.

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.

Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5
Denham Springs, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

J. Fund Balance

In the governmental fund financial statements, fund balance is classified as follows:

1. Nonspendable Fund Balance – amounts that cannot be spent because they are either not in spendable form or legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.
2. Restricted Fund Balance – amounts that can be spent only for specific purposes because of enabling legislation, or externally imposed conditions by grantors, creditors, or citizens.
3. Committed Fund Balance – amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes determined by a formal action of the Board (the District's highest level of decision-making authority).
4. Assigned Fund Balance – amounts that are intended to be used by the District for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed.
5. Unassigned Fund Balance – all amounts not included in other spendable classifications.

The District considers restricted fund balances to be spent for governmental expenditures first when both restricted and unrestricted resources are available.

As of December 31, 2023, the District did not have any nonspendable, restricted, committed, or assigned fund balances.

K. New Accounting Pronouncements

The GASB issued Statement No. 96, *Subscription-Based Information Technology Arrangements*. The objective of GASB 96 provides guidance on the accounting and financial reporting for subscription-based information technology arrangements for government end users. The Statement is effective for fiscal years beginning after June 15, 2023. The District adopted the provision of GASB Statement No. 96 during 2023. As of December 31, 2023, the District did not have any subscription-based information technology arrangements.

L. Estimates

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

2. Stewardship, Compliance and Accountability

A. Budgetary Information

Annual budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with GAAP for all governmental funds. All annual appropriations lapse at year-end. See Note 1-D regarding operating budgets. The District complied with the Louisiana Local Government Budget Act in adopting its budget for December 31, 2023.

Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5
Denham Springs, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

B. Deposits and Investment Laws and Regulations

In accordance with state law, all uninsured deposits of funds in financial institutions must be secured with acceptable collateral valued at the lower of market or par. As reflected in Note 3 regarding cash and cash equivalents, the District complied with the deposits and investments laws and regulations.

C. Deficit Fund Equity

As of December 31, 2023, the District's general fund did not have a deficit fund equity.

3. Cash, Cash Equivalents, and Investments

As reflected on Exhibit A, the District has cash and cash equivalents totaling \$288,119 and investments totaling \$414,880 at December 31, 2023. 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 bank. These pledged 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.

The following is a summary of cash and investments at December 31, 2023, with the related federal deposit insurance and pledge securities:

Bank Balances and Investments:

Insured (FDIC Insurance)	\$ 500,000
Collateralized:	
Collateral held by pledging bank's trust department not in the District's name	1,757,832
Uninsured and Uncollateralized	<u>-</u>
Total Deposits	<u>\$ 2,257,832</u>

Even though the pledged securities are not held in the entity's name, LRS 39:1229 imposes a statutory requirement on the custodial bank to advertise and sell the pledged securities within ten days of being notified by the District that the fiscal agent has failed to pay deposited funds upon demand. Deposits collateralized by pledged securities are considered to be exposed to credit risk (Category 3) under the provisions of GASB Statement 40. 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 does not have a deposit policy for custodial risk. As of December 31, 2023, the District was in compliance with state law which requires any uninsured cash balances with the fiscal agent bank to be adequately collateralized by a pledge of securities.

Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5
Denham Springs, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

4. Receivables

Receivables of \$1,643,832 at December 31, 2023, are as follows:

Property Tax Receivable	\$ 1,340,468
Allowance for Uncollectible - Property Taxes	(40,214)
User Fee Receivable	321,760
Allowance for Uncollectible - User Fees	(9,653)
Other Receivable	75
State Revenue Sharing Receivable	31,396
	<u>\$ 1,643,832</u>

Uncollectible amounts are recognized as bad debts through the establishment of an allowance account at the time information becomes available that would indicate the uncollectibility of the particular receivable.

5. Levied Taxes

Ad valorem taxes attach as an enforceable lien on property as of January 1 of 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. Revenues from ad valorem taxes are budgeted and recognized as revenue in the year billed. The Livingston Parish Sheriff bills and collects the property taxes using the assessed value determined by the Livingston Parish 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 10.14 mills for a total tax levy of \$1,340,468. An allowance for uncollectible property taxes was recorded at 3.0% of the balance due (\$40,214).

6. User Fees

For the year 2023, a user fee of \$32 was assessed on each household within the District's boundaries. Total fees levied were \$321,760. At December 31, 2023, the user fee receivable was \$312,107. User fees receivable at December 31, 2023, are recorded net of a 3.0% allowance for uncollectible fees (\$9,653).

7. Tax Abatements

The Louisiana Industrial Ad Valorem Tax Exemption Program (ITEP) is a state incentive program that offers attractive tax incentive for manufacturers within the state. The program abates, for up to ten years, local ad valorem on a manufacturer's new investment and annual capitalized additions related to the manufacturing site. This exemption is granted per contract with the Louisiana Department of Economic Development and will specify the buildings and / or personal property items covered by the exemption. For the District, there are currently seven (7) tax abatements, related to two (2) companies, under the Louisiana ITEP. For the 2023 calendar year, estimated forgone ad valorem taxes due to this abatement program was \$12,822.

Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5
Denham Springs, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

8. Capital Assets

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

	Balance <u>12/31/2022</u>	Additions	Deletions	Balance <u>12/31/2023</u>
Capital Assets Not Depreciated:				
Land	\$ 1,124,320	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,124,320
Construction in Progress	97,840	695	-	98,535
Capital Assets Being Depreciated:				
Furniture & Fixtures	39,916	-	17,017	22,899
Buildings	910,703	-	-	910,703
Vehicles	3,848,643	40,000	105,602	3,783,041
Equipment	<u>1,013,125</u>	<u>9,650</u>	<u>31,006</u>	<u>991,769</u>
Total Capital Assets Depreciated	5,812,387	49,650	153,625	5,708,412
Less Accumulated Depreciation:				
Furniture & Fixtures	39,463	226	17,017	22,672
Buildings	550,575	23,842	-	574,417
Vehicles	2,934,496	172,938	105,602	3,001,832
Equipment	<u>975,798</u>	<u>12,907</u>	<u>31,006</u>	<u>957,699</u>
Total Accumulated Depreciation	<u>4,500,332</u>	<u>209,913</u>	<u>153,625</u>	<u>4,556,620</u>
Capital Assets Being Depreciated, Net	<u>1,312,055</u>	<u>(160,263)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,151,792</u>
Total	<u>\$ 2,534,215</u>	<u>\$ (159,568)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 2,374,647</u>

All capital assets, other than land, are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following useful lives:

Buildings and Building Improvements	10 - 40	Year Life
Furniture and Fixtures	5 - 10	Year Life
Vehicles	5 - 15	Year Life
Equipment	5 - 10	Year Life

9. Payables

Accounts payables at December 31, 2023, are as follows:

Accounts Payable	\$ 100,799
Federal Payroll Taxes Payable	9,302
State Withholding Tax Payable	2,248
Accrued Payroll & Related Liabilities	<u>20,763</u>
Total	<u>\$ 133,112</u>

Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5
Denham Springs, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

10. Donation of Land

On October 31, 2022, the District received a donation of 2.003 acres of land (valued at \$1,047,008) located at the Juban Crossing development in Livingston Parish. The donation is contingent upon the District beginning construction of a fire station with a minimum of two bays within thirty-six months of the signing of the act of donation. As of December 31, 2023, no official action has been taken by the District to begin construction of a new station at this location. As a result, the entire value of the land is considered to be Restricted Net Position as of December 31, 2023.

11. On-Behalf Payments

Supplementary salary payments are made by the State of Louisiana directly to certain District employees. The District is not legally responsible for these salaries. Therefore, the basis for recognizing the revenue and expenditure payments is actual contributions made by the State. For the 2023 calendar year, the State paid supplemental salaries to the District's employees in the amount of \$62,547.

12. Deferred Compensation Plan

The District offers its employees the LPFPD5 Retirement Plan (the "Plan"). This plan is a type of retirement plan commonly referred to as a Governmental Eligible 457(b) Plan, a deferred compensation plan created in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 457. The plan, available to all employees, permits them to defer a portion of their salary until future years. The deferred compensation is not available to employees until termination, retirement, death, or unforeseeable emergency. All amounts of compensation deferred under the plan, all property and rights purchased with those amounts, and all income attributable to those amounts, property, or rights shall be held for the exclusive benefit of participants and their beneficiaries. As of December 31, 2023, the total employer contributions for the year was \$66,100.

13. Leases

The District records items under capital leases as an asset and an obligation in the accompanying financial statements. The District had no capital leases as of December 31, 2023.

Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5
Denham Springs, Louisiana

Notes to the Financial Statements (Continued)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

14. Compensation Paid to Board Members

The following schedule of per diem payments to Board members is presented in compliance with House Concurrent Resolution No. 54 of the 1979 Session of the Louisiana Legislature. As authorized by LRS 40:1498, each member of the Board shall be reimbursed \$30 for attending meetings of the Board, not to exceed two meetings in any one calendar month, and may be reimbursed any expenses incurred in performing the duties imposed upon them by virtue of their serving as members. The following is a breakdown of per diem paid to Board members:

Tony Sibley	\$	405
Wesley Sorenson		540
Susan Mack		450
Robert Wendt		450
Chris Kinchen		315
Total	<u>\$</u>	<u>2,160</u>

15. Contingent Liabilities

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets, errors and omissions, injuries to employees, and natural disasters. These risks of loss are covered by a comprehensive commercial insurance policy and workers compensation insurance. Claims resulting from these risks have historically not exceeded insurance coverage. Therefore, no accrual for any loss contingency has been made in the financial statements.

16. Subsequent Events

During the 2023 Regular Legislative Session of the Louisiana Legislature in ACT 397, there was a line item appropriation in the budget for the benefit of the District in the sum of \$375,000. This appropriation was for the prep work for construction of a new fire station that will also house administration offices in one central location. On January 5, 2024, the District received half of the appropriations for the project in the amount of \$187,500. The remaining funds are to be disbursed after the District has incurred additional expenditures for the project.

Management has evaluated the subsequent events through the date that the financial statements were available to be issued June 6, 2024. No additional subsequent events occurring after this date have been evaluated for inclusion in these financial statements.

Required Supplemental Information:
Budgetary Comparison Schedule

Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5
Denham Springs, Louisiana
 Budgetary Comparison Schedule (GAAP Basis) – General Fund
 For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Schedule 1

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual Amounts	Variance with Final Budget Favorable / (Unfavorable)
Revenues:				
Ad Valorem Taxes	\$ 1,271,371	\$ 1,253,494	\$ 1,340,283	\$ 86,789
User Fees	310,688	309,435	319,603	10,168
State Revenue Sharing	85,500	91,617	92,474	857
Fire Insurance Rebate	112,000	97,367	97,367	-
On Behalf Payments	50,400	62,857	62,547	(310)
Other Revenues	2,100	1,730	1,736	6
Interest	7,200	9,555	19,053	9,498
Total Revenues	1,839,259	1,826,055	1,933,063	107,008
Expenditures:				
Public Safety - Fire Protection:				
Salaries & Related Benefits	994,175	1,108,807	1,114,029	(5,222)
Insurance	386,212	443,812	454,705	(10,893)
Repairs & Maintenance	119,700	183,566	202,981	(19,415)
Supplies	131,640	88,904	82,046	6,858
Professional Fees	148,151	162,767	164,389	(1,622)
Bad Debts	38,141	33,500	20,007	13,493
Utilities	63,750	53,571	51,861	1,710
Miscellaneous	1,850	1,693	1,956	(263)
Training	10,000	2,395	1,350	1,045
Dues & Subscriptions	1,962	4,142	3,938	204
Tax, License, Permits	100	133	83	50
Travel & Entertainment	100	880	780	100
Capital Outlay	60,000	70,416	50,345	20,071
Total Expenditures	1,955,781	2,154,586	2,148,470	6,116
Excess of Revenues over Expenditures	(116,522)	(328,531)	(215,407)	113,124
Fund Balance:				
Beginning of the Year	5,013,685	5,013,685	5,013,685	-
End of the Year	\$ 4,897,163	\$ 4,685,154	\$ 4,798,278	\$ 113,124

See auditor's report.

Other Supplemental Information:

**Schedule of Compensation, Benefits, and Other Payments to
Agency Head**

Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5

Schedule 2

Denham Springs, Louisiana

Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to Agency Head

For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

Agency Head: Joe Koczrowski, Fire Chief

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Salary	\$ 73,580
Benefits - Insurance	25,422
Benefits - Retirement	9,100
Benefits - Short Term Disability & Accident Policy	4,387
Benefits - FICA	6,325
Deferred Compensation	-
Car Allowance	-
Vehicle Provided by Government	-
Vehicle Rental	-
Cell Phone	-
Dues	-
Per Diem	-
Reimbursements	-
Travel	-
Registration Fees	-
Conference Travel	-
Housing	-
Unvouchered Expenses	-
Special Meals	-
Other	-
	<u>\$ 118,814</u>

See auditor's report.

**Other Independent Auditor's Reports and
Findings, Recommendations, and Responses**

Dennis E. James, CPA
Paul M. Riggs, Jr., CPA
J. Bryan Ehricht, CPA
Megan E. Lynch, CPA
B. Jacob Steib, CPA

Lyle E. Lambert, CPA
Lauren Kimble Smith, CPA



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Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and
Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with
Government Auditing Standards

To the Members of the Board of Commissioners of
Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5
Denham Springs, Louisiana

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities and the general fund of Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5 (the "District"), 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 Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated June 6, 2024.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the District's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances for the purpose of expressing our opinions on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control.

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

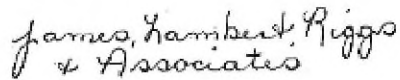
Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or, significant deficiencies. Given these limitations, during our audit we did not identify any deficiencies in internal control that we consider to be material weaknesses. However, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the financial statements. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that is required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Lambert Riggs & Associates".

James Lambert Riggs & Associates, Inc.
Hammond, Louisiana

June 6, 2024

**Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5
Denham Springs, Louisiana**

Schedule of Current Year Audit Findings, Recommendations, and Responses
For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in Government Auditing Standards, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities and the general fund of Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5 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, and have issued our report thereon dated June 6, 2024. Our audit of the basic financial statements resulted in an unmodified opinion.

Section I – Summary of Auditor's Reports

1. Report on Internal Control and Compliance Material to the Financial Statements

Internal Control:

Material Weakness	___	Yes	<u>X</u>	No
Significant Deficiencies	___	Yes	<u>X</u>	No

Compliance:

Compliance Material to the Financial Statements	___	Yes	<u>X</u>	No
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2. Management Letter

Was a management letter issued?	___	Yes	<u>X</u>	No
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Section II – Financial Statement Findings

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

None

Compliance and Other Matters

None

Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5

Denham Springs, Louisiana

Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings

For the Year Ended December 31, 2023

<u>Ref.#</u>	<u>Fiscal Year Findings Initially Occurred</u>	<u>Description of Findings</u>	<u>Corrective Action Taken</u>
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Internal Control over Financial Reporting

None

Compliance and Other Matters

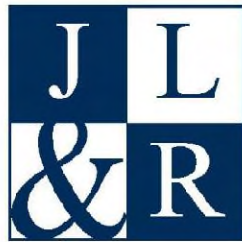
2022-001	Compliance with Louisiana Public Bid Law	The District did not comply with certain provisions of the Louisiana Public Bid Law	Resolved
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Note: This schedule has been prepared by the management of the Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5.

LIVINGSTON PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 5
STATEWIDE AGREED UPON PROCEDURES ENGAGEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2023

Dennis E. James, CPA
Paul M. Riggs, Jr., CPA
J. Bryan Ehricht, CPA
Megan E. Lynch, CPA
B. Jacob Steib, CPA

Lyle E. Lambert, CPA
Lauren Kimble Smith, CPA



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Independent Accountants' Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures

Mr. Joe Koczrowski, Fire Chief, and the Board of Commissioners
Livingston Parish Fire Protection District No. 5
Denham Springs, Louisiana

Louisiana Legislative Auditor
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on the control and compliance (C/C) areas identified in the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's (LLA's) Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures (SAUPs) for the fiscal period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. The Livingston Fire Protection District No. 5's management is responsible for those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs.

The Livingston Fire Protection District No. 5 has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of the engagement, which is to perform specified procedures on the C/C areas identified in LLA's SAUPs for the fiscal period January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. Additionally, LLA has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate for its purposes. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of this report and may not meet the needs of all users of this report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes.

The procedures and associated findings are detailed in Schedule "A."

We were engaged by the Livingston Fire Protection District No. 5 to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted our engagement in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and applicable standards of *Government Auditing Standards*. We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination or review engagement, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

We are required to be independent of the Livingston Fire Protection District No. 5 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 those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs, 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 LLA as a public document.

James Lambert Riggs & Associates, Inc.
Hammond, Louisiana

June 6, 2024

Written Policies and Procedures

- A. Obtain and inspect the entity's written policies and procedures and observe whether they address each of the following categories and subcategories if applicable to public funds and the entity's operations:
- i. ***Budgeting***, including preparing, adopting, monitoring, and amending the budget.
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
 - ii. ***Purchasing***, including (1) how purchases are initiated; (2) how vendors are added to the vendor list; (3) the preparation and approval process of purchase requisitions and purchase orders; (4) controls to ensure compliance with the Public Bid Law; and (5) documentation required to be maintained for all bids and price quotes.
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
 - iii. ***Disbursements***, including processing, reviewing, and approving.
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
 - iv. ***Receipts / Collections***, including receiving, recording, and preparing deposits. Also, policies and procedures should include management's actions to determine the completeness of all collections for each type of revenue or agency fund additions (e.g., periodic confirmation with outside parties, reconciliation to utility billing after cutoff procedures, reconciliation of traffic ticket number sequences, agency fund forfeiture monies confirmation).
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
 - v. ***Payroll / Personnel***, including (1) payroll processing, (2) reviewing and approving time and attendance records, including leave and overtime worked, and (3) approval process for employee rates of pay or approval and maintenance of pay rate schedules.
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
 - vi. ***Contracting***, including (1) types of services requiring written contracts, (2) standard terms and conditions, (3) legal review, (4) approval process, and (5) monitoring process.
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
 - vii. ***Travel and Expense Reimbursement***, including (1) allowable expenses, (2) dollar thresholds by category of expense, (3) documentation requirements, and (4) required approvers.
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
 - viii. ***Credit Cards (and debit cards, fuel cards, P-Cards, if applicable)***, including (1) how cards are to be controlled, (2) allowable business uses, (3) documentation requirements, (4) required approvers of statements, and (5) monitoring card usage (e.g., determining the reasonableness of fuel card purchases).
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

- ix. **Ethics**, including (1) the prohibitions as defined in Louisiana Revised Statute (R.S.) 42:1111-1121, (2) actions to be taken if an ethics violation takes place, (3) system to monitor possible ethics violations, and (4) a requirement that documentation is maintained to demonstrate that all employees and officials were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy.
- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
- x. **Debt Service**, including (1) debt issuance approval, (2) continuing disclosure / EMMA reporting requirements, (3) debt reserve requirements, and (4) debt service requirements.
- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
- xi. **Information Technology Disaster Recovery / Business Continuity**, including (1) identification of critical data and frequency of data backups, (2) storage of backups in a separate physical location isolated from the network, (3) periodic testing / verification that backups can be restored, (4) use of antivirus software on all systems, (5) timely application of all available system and software patches / updates, and (6) identification of personnel, processes, and tools needed to recover operations after a critical event.
- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
- xii. **Prevention of Sexual Harassment**, including R.S. 42:342-344 requirements for (1) agency responsibilities and prohibitions, (2) annual employee training, and (3) annual reporting.
- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

Board or Finance Committee

- A. Obtain and inspect the board / finance committee minutes for the fiscal period, as well as the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or equivalent document in effect during the fiscal period, and:
- i. Observe that the board / finance committee met with a quorum at least monthly, or on a frequency in accordance with the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or other equivalent document.
- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
- ii. For those entities reporting on the governmental accounting model, observe whether the minutes referenced or included monthly budget-to-actual comparisons on the general fund, quarterly budget-to-actual, at a minimum, on proprietary funds, and semi-annual budget-to-actual, at a minimum, on all special revenue funds. *Alternately, for those entities reporting on the not-for-profit accounting model, observe that the minutes referenced or included financial activity relating to public funds if those public funds comprised more than 10% of the entity's collections during the fiscal period.*
- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

iii. For governmental entities, obtain the prior year audit report and observe the unassigned fund balance in the general fund. If the general fund had a negative ending unassigned fund balance in the prior year audit report, observe that the minutes for at least one meeting during the fiscal period referenced or included a formal plan to eliminate the negative unassigned fund balance in the general fund.

- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

iv. Observe whether the board / finance committee received written updates of the progress of resolving audit finding(s), according to management's corrective action plan at each meeting until the findings are considered fully resolved.

- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

Bank Reconciliations

A. Obtain a listing of entity bank accounts for the fiscal period from management and management's representation that the listing is complete. Ask management to identify the entity's main operating account. Select the entity's main operating account and randomly select 4 additional accounts (or all accounts if less than 5). Randomly select one month from the fiscal period, obtain and inspect the corresponding bank statement and reconciliation for each selected account, and observe that:

i. Bank reconciliations include evidence that they were prepared within 2 months of the related statement closing date (e.g., initialed and dated or electronically logged);

- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

ii. Bank reconciliations include written evidence that a member of management or a board member who does not handle cash, post ledgers, or issue checks has reviewed each bank reconciliation within 1 month of the date the reconciliation was prepared (e.g., initialed and dated, electronically logged); and

- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

iii. Management has documentation reflecting it has researched reconciling items that have been outstanding for more than 12 months from the statement closing date, if applicable.

- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

Collections (excluding electronic funds transfers)

A. Obtain a listing of deposit sites for the fiscal period where deposits for cash / checks / money orders (cash) are prepared and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 deposit sites (or all deposit sites if less than 5).

- B. For each deposit site selected, obtain a listing of collection locations and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select one collection location for each deposit site (i.e., 5 collection locations for 5 deposit sites), obtain and inspect written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if there are no written policies or procedures, then inquire of employees about their job duties) at each collection location, and observe that job duties are properly segregated at each collection location such that:
- i. Employees responsible for cash collections do not share cash drawers / registers.
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
 - ii. Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not responsible for preparing / making bank deposits, unless another employee / official is responsible for reconciling collection documentation (e.g., pre-numbered receipts) to the deposit.
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
 - iii. Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not also responsible for posting collection entries to the general ledger or subsidiary ledgers, unless another employee / official is responsible for reconciling ledger postings to each other and to the deposit.
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
 - iv. The employee(s) responsible for reconciling cash collections to the general ledger and / or subsidiary ledgers, by revenue source and / or agency fund additions, are not responsible for collecting cash, unless another employee / official verifies the reconciliation.
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
- C. Obtain from management a copy of the bond or insurance policy for theft covering all employees who have access to cash. Observe that the bond or insurance policy for theft was in force during the fiscal period.
- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
- D. Randomly select two deposit dates for each of the 5 bank accounts selected for "Bank Reconciliations" procedure #3A (select the next deposit date chronologically if no deposits were made on the dates randomly selected and randomly select a deposit if multiple deposits are made on the same day). *Alternately, the practitioner may use a source document other than bank statements when selecting the deposit dates for testing, such as a cash collection log, daily revenue report, receipt book, etc.* Obtain supporting documentation for each of the 10 deposits and:
- i. Observe that receipts are sequentially pre-numbered.
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
 - ii. Trace sequentially pre-numbered receipts, system reports, and other related collection documentation to the deposit slip.
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

- iii. Trace the deposit slip total to the actual deposit per the bank statement.
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
- iv. Observe the deposit was made within one business day of receipt at the collection location (within one week if the depository is more than 10 miles from the collection location or the deposit is less than \$100 and the cash is stored securely in a locked safe or drawer).
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
- v. Trace the actual deposit per the bank statement to the general ledger.
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

Non-Payroll Disbursements (excluding card purchases, travel reimbursements, and petty cash purchases)

- A. Obtain a listing of locations that process payments for the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 locations (or all locations if less than 5).
- B. For each location selected under #8 above, obtain a listing of those employees involved with non-payroll purchasing and payment functions. Obtain written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if the agency has no written policies and procedures, then inquire of employees about their job duties), and observe that job duties are properly segregated such that:
 - i. At least two employees are involved in initiating a purchase request, approving a purchase, and placing an order or making the purchase.
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
 - ii. At least two employees are involved in processing and approving payments to vendors.
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
 - iii. The employee responsible for processing payments is prohibited from adding / modifying vendor files unless another employee is responsible for periodically reviewing changes to vendor files.
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
 - iv. Either the employee / official responsible for signing checks mails the payment or gives the signed checks to an employee to mail who is not responsible for processing payments.
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

- v. Only employees / officials authorized to sign checks approve the electronic disbursement (release) of funds, whether through automated clearinghouse (ACH), electronic funds transfer (EFT), wire transfer, or some other electronic means.

- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

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

- C. For each location selected under #8 above, obtain the entity's non-payroll disbursement transaction population (excluding cards and travel reimbursements) and obtain management's representation that the population is complete. Randomly select 5 disbursements for each location, obtain supporting documentation for each transaction, and:

- i. Observe whether the disbursement, whether by paper or electronic means, matched the related original itemized invoice and supporting documentation indicates deliverables included on the invoice were received by the entity.

- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

- ii. Observe whether the disbursement documentation included evidence (e.g., initial / date, electronic logging) of segregation of duties tested under #9, as applicable.

- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

- D. Using the entity's main operating account and the month selected in Bank Reconciliations procedure #3, randomly select 5 non-payroll-related electronic disbursements (or all electronic disbursements if less than 5) and observe that each electronic disbursement was (a) approved by only those persons authorized to disburse funds (e.g., sign checks) per the entity's policy, and (b) approved by the required number of authorized signers per the entity's policy. Note: If no electronic payments were made from the main operating account during the month selected the practitioner should select an alternative month and/or account for testing that does include electronic disbursements.

- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

Credit Cards / Debit Cards / Fuel Cards / P-Cards

- A. Obtain from management a listing of all active credit cards, bank debit cards, fuel cards, and purchase cards (cards) for the fiscal period, including the card numbers and the names of the persons who maintained possession of the cards. Obtain management's representation that the listing is complete.

- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

- B. Using the listing prepared by management, randomly select 5 cards (or all cards if less than 5) that were used during the fiscal period. Randomly select one monthly statement or combined statement for each card (for a debit card, randomly select one monthly bank statement). Obtain supporting documentation, and:

- i. Observe whether there is evidence that the monthly statement or combined statement and supporting documentation (e.g., original receipts for credit / debit card purchases, exception reports for excessive fuel card usage) were reviewed and approved, in writing (or electronically approved), by someone other than the

authorized card holder (those instances requiring such approval that may constrain the legal authority of certain public officials, such as the mayor of a Lawrason Act municipality, should not be reported.

- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

ii. Observe that finance charges and late fees were not assessed on the selected statements.

- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

C. Using the monthly statements or combined statements selected under #12 above, excluding fuel cards, randomly select 10 transactions (or all transactions if less than 10) from each statement, and obtain supporting documentation for the transactions (i.e., each card should have 10 transactions subject to testing). For each transaction, observe it is supported by (1) an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased, (2) written documentation of the business / public purpose, and (3) documentation of the individuals participating in meals (for meal charges only). For missing receipts, the practitioner should describe the nature of the transaction and observe whether management had a compensating control to address missing receipts, such as a “missing receipt statement” that is subject to increased scrutiny.

- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

Travel and Travel-Related Expense Reimbursements (excluding card transactions)

A. Obtain from management a listing of all travel and travel-related expense reimbursements during the fiscal period and management’s representation that the listing or general ledger is complete. Randomly select 5 reimbursements and obtain the related expense reimbursement forms / prepaid expense documentation of each selected reimbursement, as well as the supporting documentation. For each of the 5 reimbursements selected:

i. If reimbursed using a per diem, observe the approved reimbursement rate is no more than those rates established either by the State of Louisiana or the U.S. General Services Administration (www.gsa.gov).

- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

ii. If reimbursed using actual costs, observe the reimbursement is supported by an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased.

- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

iii. Observe each reimbursement is supported by documentation of the business / public purpose (for meal charges, observe that the documentation includes the names of those individuals participating) and other documentation required by Written Policies and Procedures procedure #1h.

- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

iv. Observe each reimbursement was reviewed and approved, in writing, by someone other than the person receiving reimbursement.

- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

Contracts

- A. Obtain from management a listing of all agreements / contracts for professional services, materials and supplies, leases, and construction activities that were initiated or renewed during the fiscal period. *Alternately, the practitioner may use an equivalent selection source, such as an active vendor list.* Obtain management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 contracts (or all contracts if less than 5) from the listing, excluding the practitioner's contract, and:
- i. Observe whether the contract was bid in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law (e.g., solicited quotes or bids, advertised), if required by law.
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
 - ii. Observe whether the contract was approved by the governing body / board, if required by policy or law (e.g., Lawrason Act, Home Rule Charter).
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
 - iii. If the contract was amended (e.g., change order), observe that the original contract terms provided for such an amendment and that amendments were made in compliance with the contract terms (e.g., if approval is required for any amendment, the documented approval).
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
 - iv. Randomly select one payment from the fiscal period for each of the 5 contracts, obtain the supporting invoice, agree the invoice to the contract terms, and observe the invoice and related payment agreed to the terms and conditions of the contract.
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

Payroll and Personnel

- A. Obtain a listing of employees and officials employed during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 employees or officials, obtain related paid salaries and personnel files, and agree paid salaries to authorized salaries / pay rates in the personnel files.
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
- B. Randomly select one pay period during the fiscal period. For the 5 employees or officials selected under procedure #16 above, obtain attendance records and leave documentation for the pay period, and:
- i. Observe that all selected employees or officials documented their daily attendance and leave (e.g., vacation, sick, compensatory).
 - **Results:** One out of the five employees selected did not have documented daily attendance. This employee is a salary employee and is on call 24/7. The Chief reviews and approves all payroll before processing.

- ii. Observe whether supervisors approved the attendance and leave of the selected employees or officials.
 - **Results:** One out of the five employees selected did not have documented daily attendance. This employee is a salary employee and is on call 24/7. The Chief reviews and approves all payroll before processing.
 - iii. Observe that any leave accrued or taken during the pay period is reflected in the entity's cumulative leave records.
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
 - iv. Observe the rate paid to the employees or officials agree to the authorized salary / pay rate found within the personnel file.
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
- C. Obtain a listing of those employees or officials that received termination payments during the fiscal period and management's representation that the list is complete. Randomly select two employees or officials and obtain related documentation of the hours and pay rates used in management's termination payment calculations, and the entity's policy on termination payments. Agree the hours to the employee or officials' cumulative leave records, agree the pay rates to the employee's or official's authorized pay rates in the employee's or official's personnel files, and agree the termination payment to entity policy.
- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
- D. Obtain management's representation that employer and employee portions of third-party payroll related amounts (e.g., payroll taxes, retirement contributions, health insurance premiums, garnishments, workers' compensation premiums, etc.) have been paid, and any associated forms have been filed, by required deadlines.
- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

Ethics

- A. Using the 5 randomly selected employees / officials from "Payroll and Personnel" procedure #9A obtain ethics documentation from management, and:
- i. Observe whether the documentation demonstrates that each employee / official completed one hour of ethics training during the calendar year as required by R.S. 42:1170.
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
 - ii. Observe whether the entity maintains documentation which demonstrates each employee and official were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy during the fiscal period, as applicable.
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

B. Inquire and / or observe whether the agency has appointed an ethics designee as required by R.S. 42:1170.

- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

Debt Service

A. Obtain a listing of bonds / notes and other debt instruments issued during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Select all debt instruments on the listing, obtain supporting documentation, and observe that State Bond Commission approval was obtained for each debt instrument issued as required by Article VII, Section 8 of the Louisiana Constitution.

- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

B. Obtain a listing of bonds / notes outstanding at the end of the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select one bond / note, inspect debt covenants, obtain supporting documentation for the reserve balance and payments, and agree actual reserve balances and payments to those required by debt covenants (including contingency funds, short-lived asset funds, or other funds required by the debt covenants).

- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

Fraud Notice

A. Obtain a listing of misappropriations of public funds and assets during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Select all misappropriations on the listing, obtain supporting documentation, and observe that the entity reported the misappropriation(s) to the legislative auditor and the district attorney of the parish in which the entity is domiciled as required by R.S. 24:523.

- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

B. Observe the entity has posted, on its premises and website, the notice required by R.S. 24:523.1 concerning the reporting of misappropriation, fraud, waste, or abuse of public funds.

- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

Information Technology Disaster Recovery / Business Continuity

A. Perform the following procedures, **verbally discuss the results with management, and report, "We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management."**

i. Obtain and inspect the entity's most recent documentation that it has backed up its critical data (if there is no written documentation, then inquire of personnel responsible for backing up critical data) and observe evidence that such backup (a) occurred within the past week, (b) was not stored on the government's local server or network, and (c) was encrypted.

- **Results:** We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management.

ii. Obtain and inspect the entity's most recent documentation that it has tested / verified that its backups can be restored (if no written documentation, then inquire of personnel responsible for testing / verifying backup restoration) and observe evidence that the test / verification was successfully performed within the past 3 months.

- **Results:** We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management.

iii. Obtain a listing of the entity's computers currently in use and their related locations, and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 computers and observe while management demonstrates that the selected computers have current and active antivirus software and that the operating system and accounting system software in use are currently supported by the vendor.

- **Results:** We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management.

B. Randomly select 5 terminated employees (or all terminated employees if less than 5) using the list of terminated employees obtained in procedure #9C. Observe evidence that the selected terminated employees have been removed or disabled from the network.

- **Results:** We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management.

C. Using the 5 randomly selected employees / officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #9A, obtain cybersecurity training documentation from management, and observe that the documentation demonstrates that the following employees / officials with access to the agency's information technology assets have completed cybersecurity training as required by R.S. 42:1267. The requirements are as follows:

- Hired before June 9, 2020 – completed the training; and
- Hired on or after June 9, 2020 – completed the training within 30 days of initial service or employment.

- **Results:** We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management.

Prevention of Sexual Harassment

A. Using the 5 randomly selected employees / officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #9A, obtain sexual harassment training documentation from management, and observe that the documentation demonstrates each employee / official completed at least one hour of sexual harassment training during the calendar year as required by R.S. 42:343.

- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

B. Observe that the entity has posted its sexual harassment policy and complaint procedure on its website (or in a conspicuous location on the entity's premises if the entity does not have a website).

- **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

- C. Obtain the entity's annual sexual harassment report for the current fiscal period, observe that the report was dated on or before February 1, and observe that the report includes the applicable requirements of R.S. 42:344:
- i. Number and percentage of public servants in the agency who have completed the training requirements;
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
 - ii. Number of sexual harassment complaints received by the agency;
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
 - iii. Number of complaints which resulted in a finding that sexual harassment occurred;
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
 - iv. Number of complaints in which the finding of sexual harassment resulted in discipline or corrective action; and
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.
 - v. Amount of time it took to resolve each complaint.
 - **Results:** No exceptions were noted as a result of the above listed procedures.

FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT FIVE

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Chief Joseph Koczrowski
jkoczrowski@lpfpd5.net

June 6, 2024

To whom it may concern;

Our Auditors found 2 results on State Agreed- Upon Procedures. Both of which were under Payroll and Personal.

Please see our response below to the two results found:

B. Randomly select one pay period during the fiscal period. For the 5 employees or officials selected under procedure #16 above, obtain attendance records and leave documentation for the pay period, and:

- i. Observe that all selected employees or officials documented their daily attendance and leave (e.g., vacation, sick, compensatory).
 - Results: One out of the five employees selected did not have documented daily attendance. This employee is a salary employee and is on call 24/7. The Chief reviews and approves all payroll before processing.
 - Response: Although the salary employees do not keep daily time and attendance for office hours and 24/7 calls, they do keep track of their vacation, and sick time off in the Net-Duty System where it is requested and the Chief must approve. This is the same system that all employees use for keeping track of their time.
- ii. Observe whether supervisors approved the attendance and leave of the selected employees or officials.
 - Results: One out of the five employees selected did not have documented daily attendance. This employee is a salary employee and is on call 24/7. The Chief reviews and approves all payroll before processing
 - Response: District 5 use a system called Net-Duty to keep track of vacation on all employees including Salary employees. A report can be run at any time from the system showing days taken and whom they were approved by with a balance of what is left. The remaining vacation hours for a salary employee shows both in Net Duty and in a report that can be ran, which, will match what our CPA has on their system as well.

Sincerely Yours,



Joseph Koczrowski
Fire Chief