

**DESOTO PARISH FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 5**
Stanley, Louisiana

FINANCIAL REPORT
December 31, 2025

DESOTO PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 5

Stanley, Louisiana

FINANCIAL REPORT

December 31, 2025

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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Board of Commissioners
DeSoto Parish Fire Protection District No. 5
Stanley, Louisiana

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund of the DeSoto Parish Fire Protection District No. 5 (the District), a component unit of the DeSoto Parish Police Jury, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2025, 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 accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and the major fund of the District, as of December 31, 2025, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS) and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide*. 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 audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

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

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 statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS and *Government Auditing Standards*, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the 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 information listed in the table of contents as Required Supplementary Information Part I and Part II 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 which 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 GAAS, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements. The information listed in the table of contents as Supplementary Information are presented for the purposes of additional analysis and are 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 GAAS. In our opinion, the information is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the 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 24, 2026, 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* and in considering the District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Dees Gardner, Certified Public Accountants, LLC

Mansfield, Louisiana

June 24, 2026

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (PART I)

DESOTO PARISH FIRE DISTRICT NO. 5
Stanley, Louisiana
Management's Discussion and Analysis
December 31, 2025

As management of the DeSoto Parish Fire Protection District No. 5 (the District), a component unit of the DeSoto Parish Police Jury, we offer the readers of our annual financial report our discussion and analysis of the District's financial performance during the fiscal year that ended on December 31, 2025. The District's financial performance is discussed and analyzed within the context of the accompanying financial statements and disclosures following this section. We encourage readers to consider the information presented here in conjunction with the District's basic financial statements and supplementary information provided in this report in assessing the efficiency and effectiveness of our stewardship of public resources.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

The District's net position increased by \$99,011 (2.60%) for the year ending December 31, 2025, compared to an increase of \$156,293 (4.27%) in 2024. This continues a trend of increases for the District.

Property tax revenues increased \$33,566 (7.26%) to \$495,994 during the year ended December 31, 2025, compared to \$462,428 during 2024.

The District's total general and program revenues were \$535,438 in 2025 compared to \$512,318 in 2024, an increase of \$23,120 (4.51%). This increase is primarily due to the increase in ad valorem revenues.

During the year ended December 31, 2025, total expenses of the district (excluding depreciation of \$130,286) were \$306,141, compared to \$222,304 in 2024.

OVERVIEW OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This Management Discussion and Analysis document introduces the basic financial statements which include government-wide financial statements and fund financial statements. These two types of financial statements present the District's financial position and results of operations from differing perspectives, which are described as follows:

Government-wide Financial Statements. The government-wide financial statements are designed to provide readers with a broad overview of the District's finances, in a manner similar to a private-sector business. There are two government-wide statements: the statement of net position and the statement of activities.

The statement of net position presents information on all of the District's assets and deferred outflows of resources, and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources with the difference between them presented as net position. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the District is improving or deteriorating.

The statement of activities presents information showing how the government's net position changed during the most recent fiscal year. All changes in net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in this statement for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods.

Both of the government-wide financial statements distinguish functions of the District that are principally supported by taxes and intergovernmental revenues (governmental activities) from other functions that are intended to recover all or a significant portion of their costs through user fees and charges (business-type activities). The District does not report any business-type activities.

Fund Financial Statements. A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The District, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. The District only reports one fund type, governmental funds.

Governmental funds. Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as on balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. Such information may be useful in evaluating a government's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for governmental funds with similar information presented for governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between governmental funds and governmental activities.

The District maintains one governmental fund, the general fund, which is its only major fund. As provided for by Louisiana R.S. 47:1906, the general fund is the principal fund of the District and used to account for the operations of the District.

Notes to the Financial Statements

The notes to the financial statements provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

Required Supplementary Information

The basic financial statements are followed by a section of required supplementary information. There is a budget comparison schedule for the general fund.

Supplementary Information

The schedule of compensation, benefits and other payments to agency head or chief executive officer is presented to fulfill the requirements of Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513(A)(3).

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE DISTRICT AS A WHOLE

Net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of the District's financial position. The total net position changed from a year ago, increasing from \$3,813,108 to \$3,912,119.

The following table provides a summary of the District's net position as December 31,:

	Governmental Activities	
ASSETS	2025	2024
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,046,424	\$ 878,373
Investments	565,024	544,669
Accounts receivable	511,262	477,760
Prepaid expenses	25,669	30,457
Capital assets, net	1,771,644	1,901,930
Total assets	3,920,023	3,833,189
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities	7,904	20,081
Total liabilities	7,904	20,081
NET POSITION		
Net investment in capital assets	1,771,644	1,901,930
Unrestricted	2,140,475	1,911,178
Total net position	\$ 3,912,119	\$ 3,813,108

A portion of the District's net position, \$1,771,644 (45.29%) reflects its net investment in capital assets such as vehicles, buildings, and firefighting equipment, with an historical cost of \$4,285,299 less accumulated depreciation of \$2,513,655. The District uses these capital assets to provide services to the public; consequently, these assets are not available for future spending.

\$2,140,475 (54.71%) of the District's net position is unrestricted as of December 31, 2025, compared to \$1,911,178 (50.12%) as of December 31, 2024, and may be used to meet the ongoing obligations to the citizens of DeSoto Parish.

An analysis of the government-wide Statement of Activities for the years ended December 31,:

	Governmental Activities	
	2025	2024
Program Revenues:		
Operating grants and contributions	\$ -	\$ 9,600
General Revenues:		
Ad Valorem Taxes	495,994	462,428
Intergovernmental revenues	3,617	15,111
Miscellaneous income	14,306	1,720
Interest income	21,521	23,459
Total revenues	535,438	512,318
Expenses		
Public Safety	436,427	356,025
Total expenses	436,427	356,025
Increases in net position	99,011	156,293
Net Position, beginning	3,813,108	3,656,815
Net Position, ending	\$ 3,912,119	\$ 3,813,108

As the above presentation demonstrates, the District has increased its reserves by \$99,011 or 2.60%.

The District received \$495,994 (92.63%) and \$462,428 (90.26%) of its total revenues through property taxes during 2025 and 2024, respectively. Investment earnings decreased 8.26% from \$23,459 for the year ending December 31, 2024 to \$21,521 for the year ending December 31, 2025 due to slightly lower interest rates realized during the year.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE DISTRICT'S GOVERNMENTAL FUND

For the year ended December 31, 2025, differences between the government-wide presentation and the fund financial statements were due to depreciation charges associated with capital assets and differences in unavailable property tax revenue.

GENERAL BUDGET BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS

The District did not formally adopt a budget for the year ended December 31, 2025. For budgetary comparison purposes, the District has presented the last formally adopted budget, the budget adopted for the year ended December 31, 2024. Because no budget was adopted for 2025, the budget was not amended during the year, and the original and final budgeted amounts are the same. For the year ended December 31, 2025, actual revenues on a budgetary basis were \$36,346 (6.36%) less than budgeted amounts, and actual expenditures on a budgetary basis were \$314,859 (50.70%) less than budgeted amounts. The District's failure to adopt a budget for the year ended December 31, 2025 is reported as a finding in the Schedule of Findings and Responses.

CAPITAL ASSET ADMINISTRATION

For the year ended December 31, 2025, the District did not acquire any new capital assets.

DEBT ADMINISTRATION

At December 31, 2025, the District had no debt on capital assets.

ECONOMIC FACTORS EXPECTED TO AFFECT FUTURE OPERATIONS

At the present time, no known issues are expected to have a significant impact on future operations. The 2026 budget was prepared based on December 31, 2025 results.

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the District's finances, compliance with governmental financial reporting laws and regulations, and demonstrate the District's commitment to public accountability. The financial report is also available on the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's website at www.lia.state.la.us. If you have questions about this report or would like to request additional information, contact Rebecca Conleay, Secretary/Treasurer, at P.O. Box 1089, Logansport, Louisiana, 71049.

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DESOTO PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 5
Stanley, Louisiana

GOVERNMENTAL FUND BALANCE SHEET / STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

December 31, 2025

	Governmental Fund Financial Statements		Government-wide Statements
	Balance Sheet		Statement of
	General Fund	Adjustments	Net Position
ASSETS			
Current assets:			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,046,424	\$ -	\$ 1,046,424
Investments	565,024	-	565,024
Accounts receivable	511,262	-	511,262
Prepaid expenses	25,669	-	25,669
Noncurrent assets:			
Capital assets, net (see note 4)	-	1,771,644	1,771,644
Total assets	\$ <u>2,148,379</u>	\$ <u>1,771,644</u>	\$ <u>3,920,023</u>
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities:			
Accounts payable	\$ 5,113	\$ -	\$ 5,113
Payroll liabilities	2,791	-	2,791
Total liabilities	<u>7,904</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,904</u>
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Unavailable ad valorem taxes	14,165	(14,165)	-
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>14,165</u>	<u>(14,165)</u>	<u>-</u>
FUND BALANCE / NET POSITION			
Fund Balances:			
Nonspendable - Prepaid expenses	25,669	(25,669)	-
Unassigned	2,100,641	(2,100,641)	-
Total fund balances	<u>2,126,310</u>	<u>(2,126,310)</u>	<u>-</u>
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and fund balance	\$ <u>2,148,379</u>	<u>(2,140,475)</u>	
Net Position:			
Net investment in capital assets		1,771,644	1,771,644
Unrestricted		2,140,475	2,140,475
Total net position		\$ <u>-</u>	\$ <u>3,912,119</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.
See the accompanying independent auditor's report.

DESOTO PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 5
Stanley, Louisiana

**RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET TO
THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**
December 31, 2025

Fund Balance - Governmental Fund	\$	2,126,310
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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.		1,771,644
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Unavailable ad valorem taxes are reported as deferred inflows of resources in the governmental funds, but are reflected as income in the Government-wide statement.		14,165
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Total Net Position of Government Activities	\$	3,912,119
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The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.
See the accompanying independent auditor's report.

DESOTO PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 5
Stanley, Louisiana

**STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENTAL FUND REVENUES, EXPENDITURES
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE / STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**
For the year ended December 31, 2025

	<u>Governmental Funds Financial Statements</u>		<u>Government-wide Statements</u>	
	<u>Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance</u>		<u>Statement of Activities</u>	
	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Adjustments</u>		
Expenditures / Expenses				
Current				
General Government-Public Safety:	\$ 306,141	\$ -	\$	306,141
Depreciation	-	130,286		130,286
Total expenditures / expenses	<u>306,141</u>	<u>130,286</u>		<u>436,427</u>
Program revenues				
Operating grants and contributions	-	-		-
Total program revenues	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>
Net program expense				(436,427)
General revenues				
Property taxes	496,110	(116)		495,994
Intergovernmental revenues	3,617	-		3,617
Miscellaneous income	14,306	-		14,306
Investment earnings	21,521	-		21,521
Total general revenues	<u>535,554</u>	<u>(116)</u>		<u>535,438</u>
Net change in fund balance / Change in net position	229,413	(130,402)		99,011
Fund balance / Net position				
Beginning of the year	1,896,897			3,813,108
End of the year	\$ <u>2,126,310</u>		\$	<u>3,912,119</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.
See the accompanying independent auditor's report.

DESOTO PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 5
Stanley, Louisiana

**RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF GOVERNMENTAL FUND REVENUES, EXPENDITURES,
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

For the year ended December 31, 2025

Net change in Fund Balance - Governmental Fund	\$ 229,413
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However in the Statement of Activities, the cost of the assets are capitalized and allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. Therefore, capital expenditures are not recorded in the statement of activities.	
Capital outlays	-
Depreciation	(130,286)
Revenues in the Statement of Activities that do not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenues in the funds.	
Change in unavailable ad valorem taxes	(116)
Net change in Net Position	\$ <u><u>99,011</u></u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.
See the accompanying independent auditor's report.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

DESOTO PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 5

Stanley, Louisiana

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As of and for the year ended December 31, 2025

INTRODUCTION

DeSoto Parish Fire Protection District No. 5 (the District) was created by the DeSoto Parish Police Jury (the Police Jury), as authorized by Louisiana Revised Statute 40:1492 on April 16, 1988. The District is governed by a five-member Board of Commissioners appointed in accordance to LRS 40:1496 as follows: two members by the Police Jury, two members by the Village of Stanley, and one by the other four members. The District has two paid employees; a part-time administrative employee and a part-time fire chief. The District is responsible for maintaining and operating four fire stations and related equipment, and providing fire protection within the District's boundaries.

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The accompanying basic financial statements of the District have been prepared in conformity with governmental accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America applicable to state and local governments (GAAP). The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard-setting body for GAAP for state and local governments through its pronouncements. Such accounting and reporting procedures also conform to the requirements of Louisiana Revised Statutes 24:513 and the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide*.

A. Reporting Entity

A primary government is financially accountable for an organization if (a) it appoints a voting majority of the organization's governing board and is able to impose its will on the organization or there is a potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to or impose specific financial burdens on the primary government; or (b) total outstanding debt, including leases, is expected to be repaid entirely or almost entirely with resources from the primary government. The Police Jury appoints or ratifies a voting majority of the board and has the ability to impose its will on them. Based on these criteria, the District was determined to be a component unit of the Police Jury, the primary government. The accompanying financial statements present information only on the funds maintained by the District and do not present information on the Police Jury.

B. Basis of Presentation—Government-wide Financial Statements — The government-wide financial statements consist of a statement of net position and a statement of activities to report information about the District as a whole. The statement of net position reports all financial and capital resources. 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) operational grants and contributions for the Public Safety function. Other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues. Gains and losses on the sale of capital assets are reported as general revenues.

C. Basis of Presentation—Fund Financial Statements — Fund financial statements report detailed information about the District. The District has only governmental funds. The focus of governmental fund financial statements is on major funds rather than reporting funds by type. Each major fund is reported in a separate column. All remaining governmental funds are aggregated and presented in a single column as non-major funds.

The District has only one governmental fund, the general fund, its only major fund. As provided by LA R.S. 47:1906, the general fund is the principal fund of the District. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund. The general fund is always reported as a major fund in the governmental fund statements.

D. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting — The accounting and financial reporting treatment is determined by the applicable measurement focus and basis of accounting. Measurement focus indicates the type of resources being measured such as current financial resources or economic resources. The basis of accounting indicates the timing of transactions or events for recognition in the financial statements.

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned, and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met. Amounts reported as program revenues include: (1) operational grants and contributions for the Public Safety function. Internally dedicated resources are reported as general revenues rather than as program revenues. General revenues include ad valorem taxes, intergovernmental revenues, investment earnings and other amounts not reported as program revenues.

DESOTO PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 5

Stanley, Louisiana

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As of and for the year ended December 31, 2025

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

D. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting (Continued)

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the District considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. An exception to this is federal and state grants collected on a reimbursement basis, which are recognized as revenue when reimbursable expenditures are made. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures, as well as expenditures related to compensated absences and claims and judgments, are recorded only when payment is due. General capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Issuance of long-term debt and acquisitions under financed purchases are reported as other financing sources.

Interest on invested funds is recognized when earned. Intergovernmental revenues that are reimbursements for specific purposes or projects are recognized in the period in which the expenditures are recorded. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the District.

The District funds outlays for a particular purpose from both restricted and unrestricted resources. In order to calculate the amounts to report as restricted net position and unrestricted net position in the government-wide financial statements, a flow assumption must be made about the order in which the resources are considered to be applied. 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. In order to calculate the amounts to report as restricted, committed, assigned and unassigned fund balance in the governmental fund financial statements a flow assumption must be made about the order in which the resources are considered to be applied. It is the District's policy to consider restricted fund balance to have been depleted before any of the components of unrestricted fund balance. Further, when the components of unrestricted fund balance can be used for the same purpose, committed fund balance is depleted first, followed by assigned fund balance. Unassigned fund balance is applied last.

Since the fund level statements are presented using a different measurement focus and basis of accounting than the government-wide statements, a reconciliation is presented on the page following each set of financial statements that summarizes the adjustments necessary to convert the fund level statements into the government-wide presentations.

E. Cash, Cash Equivalents, and Investments

Cash and cash equivalents includes amounts in demand accounts, interest-bearing demand deposits, and non-negotiable certificates of deposits with maturities of 90 days or less at the time of purchase. Investments include non-negotiable certificates of deposit with maturities over 90 days at the time of purchase. Under state law, the District may deposit funds with a fiscal agent organized under the laws of Louisiana, the laws of any other state in the union, or the laws of the United States. The District may invest in United States bonds, treasury notes and bills, government-backed agency securities, or certificates and time deposits of state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having principal offices in Louisiana.

F. Prepaid Expenses

Payments made for services that will benefit future accounting periods are recorded as prepaid expenses.

G. Accounts Receivable

The only receivables for the governmental activities are ad valorem taxes, state revenue sharing funds, and accrued interest. Substantially all receivables are considered to be fully collectible, and no allowance for uncollectibles is used.

DESOTO PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 5

Stanley, Louisiana

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As of and for the year ended December 31, 2025

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

H. Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property, plant, and equipment, are reported in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are capitalized at historical cost or estimated cost if historical cost is not available. Donated assets are recorded as capital assets at their estimated fair market value at the date of donation. The District maintains a threshold level of \$2,500 or more for capitalizing capital assets. The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend asset lives are not capitalized.

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 range of estimated useful lives by type of asset is as follows:

Buildings	20 years
Firefighting equipment	5-15 years
Fire trucks	15 years

I. Deferred Inflows of Resources

In addition to liabilities, the balance sheet will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. Deferred inflows of resources arise when potential revenues do not meet both the "available" and "measurable" criteria for recognition in the current period. In subsequent periods, when both revenue recognition criteria have been met the deferred inflows of resources is removed from the balance sheet and revenue is recognized.

This separate financial statement element, deferred inflows of resources, represents an acquisition of net position or fund balance that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. The District has only one type of item, which arises only under a modified accrual basis of accounting that qualifies for reporting in the category. Accordingly, the item, unavailable ad valorem revenue, is reported only in the governmental funds balance sheet. The District has \$14,165 in unavailable ad valorem revenue at December 31, 2025.

J. Compensated Absences

The District does not provide for the accumulation and vesting of leave.

K. Equity Classifications

Net Position

The District classifies net position in the government-wide financial statements, as follows:

- 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 balances of deferred outflows of resources related to those assets.
- Restricted net position – net position is considered restricted if its 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.

Fund Balances

The District classifies fund balances in governmental funds as follows:

- Nonspendable- Resources that are not in spendable form (such as prepaid expenses) because they are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

DESOTO PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 5

Stanley, Louisiana

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As of and for the year ended December 31, 2025

1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (Continued)

K. Equity Classifications (Continued)

- Restricted- Resources constrained to specific purposes by their providers (such as grantors or higher levels of government).
- Committed- Resources constrained by the District itself. To be reported as committed, amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the District takes the action to remove or change the constraint.
- Assigned- Resources the District intends to use for a specific purpose.
- Unassigned- Resources that are available for any purpose.

The District establishes (and modifies and rescinds) fund balance commitments and assignments through adoption and amendment of the budget. The District would typically use restricted fund balances first, followed by committed resources, and then assigned resources, as appropriate opportunities arise, but reserves the right to selectively spend unassigned resources first and to defer the use of these other classified funds.

The General Fund, the District's only governmental fund, has an unassigned fund balance of \$2,100,641.

L. Use of Estimates

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

2. Cash, Cash Equivalents, and Investments

At December 31, 2025, the District had cash, cash equivalents, and investments balances of \$1,611,448 (book balances) as follows:

Cash and interest bearing demand deposits	\$	1,046,424
Investments - Certificates of Deposit		565,024
Total	\$	<u>1,611,448</u>

The cash, cash equivalents, and investments of the District are subject to the following risks:

Interest Rate Risk: This is the risk that changes in market interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of the certificate of deposit. Generally, the longer the maturity of the investment, the greater the sensitivity of its fair value is to changes in market interest rates. The District does not have a formal investment policy that limits investment maturities as a means of managing its exposure to fair value losses arising from increasing interest rates. The District's deposits are in interest bearing and non-interest bearing checking and savings accounts and certificates of deposit with maturities of one-year or less which limits exposure to fair value losses.

Custodial Credit Risk: Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution, the government will not be able to recover its deposits. 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. Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1229 imposes a statutory requirement of the custodial bank to advertise and sell the pledged securities within 10 days of being notified by the District that the fiscal agent has failed to pay deposited funds upon demand. Further, Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1224 states that securities held by a third party shall be deemed to be held in the District's name.

At December 31, 2025, the District had \$1,614,722 in deposits (collected bank balances). These deposits were secured from risk by \$607,333 of federal deposit insurance and pledged marketable securities held by custodial banks in the name of the District with a total market value of \$1,918,992.

DESOTO PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 5

Stanley, Louisiana

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As of and for the year ended December 31, 2025

3. Accounts Receivable

At December 31, 2025, receivables consisted of the following:

Ad valorem taxes	\$	507,571
State revenue sharing		921
Accrued interest		2,770
Total	\$	<u>511,262</u>

4. Capital Assets

Capital asset balances and activity for the year ended December 31, 2025, are as follows:

<u>Governmental Activities</u>	<u>Balance 12/31/2024</u>	<u>Additions</u>	<u>Deletions / Reclassifications</u>	<u>Balance 12/31/2025</u>
Vehicles	\$ 2,223,721	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,223,721
Buildings	1,560,188	-	-	1,560,188
Firefighting Equipment	501,390	-	-	501,390
Total	<u>4,285,299</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,285,299</u>
Less accumulated depreciation				
Vehicles	1,489,666	72,179	-	1,561,845
Buildings	451,075	44,203	-	495,278
Firefighting Equipment	442,628	13,904	-	456,532
Total	<u>2,383,369</u>	<u>130,286</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,513,655</u>
Capital assets, net	\$ <u>1,901,930</u>	\$ <u>(130,286)</u>	\$ <u>-</u>	\$ <u>1,771,644</u>

Depreciation expense of \$130,286 was charged to the public safety function.

5. Levied Taxes

The District levies taxes on real and business property located within the boundaries of the District. Property taxes are levied by the District on property values assessed by the DeSoto Parish Tax Assessor and approved by the State of Louisiana Tax Commission. The DeSoto Parish Sheriff's offices bills and collects property taxes for the District. Collections are remitted to the District monthly. The District recognizes property tax revenues when levied.

The property tax calendar is as follows:

Assessment date	January 1, 2025
Levy date	June 30, 2025
Tax bills mailed	October 15, 2025
Total taxes are due	December 31, 2025
Penalties & interest added	January 31, 2026
Tax sale	May 15, 2026

The District has an authorized and levied 10.24 mills ad valorem tax for 2025. The resolution assessing the taxes was approved by the District voters December 10, 2016, effective for 10 years beginning with the tax year 2018 and ending with the tax year 2027. The taxes are normally collected in December of the current year and January and February of the ensuing year. Total assessed value in the District was \$51,389,125 in 2025. Louisiana state law exempts the first \$75,000 of assessed value of a taxpayer's primary residence from parish property taxes. For the District, the homestead exemption represents \$2,952,209 in assessed value for 2025 or \$30,230 in total reduced revenues. The District recognized \$495,994 in Ad valorem tax revenues for 2025.

DESOTO PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 5

Stanley, Louisiana

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

As of and for the year ended December 31, 2025

5. Levied Taxes (Continued)

The following are the principal taxpayers for the District (2025 amounts):

	Type of business	Assessed Valuation	Ad valorem tax revenue for the District	% of total taxes
COMSTOCK OIL & GAS	Oil & Gas	\$ 12,425,978	\$ 127,242	25.65%
EXPAND ENERGY CORPORATION	Oil & Gas	10,291,133	105,381	21.25%
ENTERPRISE GATHERING L.L.C.	Oil & Gas	4,525,736	46,344	9.34%
ENABLE MIDSTREAM PARTNERS, LP	Oil & Gas	4,051,951	41,492	8.37%
DTM LOUISIANA GAS GATHERING, LLC	Oil & Gas	3,181,959	32,583	6.57%
LOUISIANA MIDSTREAM GAS SERVICE	Oil & Gas	1,727,648	17,691	3.57%
GEP HAYNESVILLE II	Oil & Gas	1,401,697	14,353	2.89%
TENNESSEE GAS PIPELINE CO.	Oil & Gas	959,240	9,823	1.98%
ATMOS ENERGY LOUISIANA	Oil & Gas	908,877	9,307	1.88%
SOUTHWESTERN ELECTRIC POWER	Utility	572,384	5,861	1.18%
Total		\$ 40,046,603	\$ 410,077	82.68%

The District's ad valorem tax revenue, its primary revenue source, is concentrated in oil and gas properties. The ten largest taxpayers account for 82.68% of the taxes levied, and nine of the ten are engaged in oil and gas activities. Because the District's revenue base is heavily dependent on a single industry, a significant decline in oil and gas property values — whether from market conditions or reassessment — could substantially reduce the District's ad valorem revenue.

6. Risk Management

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts, theft of or damage to and destruction of assets and errors and omissions. To reduce these risks, the District purchases commercial insurance. No settled claims from these risks have exceeded insurance coverage in the last three years. There were no significant changes to insurance coverage during the year ended December 31, 2025.

7. Litigation

There is no litigation pending against the District, at December 31, 2025, nor is it aware of any unasserted claims.

8. Lease Agreement

The District entered into an operating lease with the DeSoto Parish School Board in May of 1989 for the land on which one of the stations is located. The lease term was 98 years and the amount of the lease was one dollar, which was paid at the inception of the lease.

9. Compensation to Board Members

The members of the Board of Commissioners of the District receive no compensation for their services.

10. Cooperative Endeavor Agreements

During 2019, the District, along with 5 other Parish Fire Districts, entered into a Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the DeSoto Parish Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff's Office will provide the Fire Districts with adequate dispatching services for the annual sum of \$275,000 (payable in four quarterly payments) to be paid proportionally by each of the Fire Districts based on 2018 millage revenues. The total portion of Fire District 5 is \$11,187 (\$2,796.75 due quarterly). The DeSoto Sheriff agreed to hire 4 full time employees to provide the dispatching services and to employ a communications supervisor for those employees dispatching for the Fire Districts.

11. Subsequent events

Management has performed an evaluation of the District's activities through June 24, 2026, and has concluded that there are no significant events requiring recognition or disclosure through the date and time these financial statements were available to be issued.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (PART II)

DESOTO PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 5
Stanley, Louisiana

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE -- GENERAL FUND

For the year ended December 31, 2025

	Budgeted Amounts		Actual	Variance with final budget positive (negative)
	Original	Final		
Revenues				
Property taxes	\$ 563,000	\$ 563,000	\$ 496,110	\$ (66,890)
Intergovernmental revenues	-	-	3,617	3,617
Miscellaneous income	8,900	8,900	14,306	5,406
Investment earnings	-	-	21,521	21,521
Total revenues	<u>571,900</u>	<u>571,900</u>	<u>535,554</u>	<u>(36,346)</u>
Expenditures				
Current				
General government - public safety	371,000	371,000	306,141	64,859
Capital outlays	<u>250,000</u>	<u>250,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>250,000</u>
Total expenditures	<u>621,000</u>	<u>621,000</u>	<u>306,141</u>	<u>314,859</u>
Net change in fund balance	(49,100)	(49,100)	229,413	278,513
Fund Balance				
Beginning of the year	1,896,897	1,896,897	1,896,897	-
End of the year	<u>\$ 1,847,797</u>	<u>\$ 1,847,797</u>	<u>\$ 2,126,310</u>	<u>\$ 278,513</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.
See the accompanying independent auditor's report.

DESOTO PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 5

Stanley, Louisiana

NOTE TO BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE

December 31, 2025

Budgetary Information

DeSoto Parish Fire Protection District No. 5 (the "District") is required by state law to adopt an annual budget in accordance with the Louisiana Local Government Budget Act (LSA-R.S. 39:1301 et seq.). The budget is adopted on the modified accrual basis of accounting, consistent with the basis used to report the General Fund in the governmental fund financial statements. Under the District's normal process, a proposed budget is prepared by the governing board in November and made available for public inspection no later than 15 days prior to December 31 of each year. In an open meeting prior to December 31, the budget is adopted and becomes part of the official minutes of the District. Once adopted, the budget may be amended by approval of a majority of the Board at a regular open meeting.

The District did not adopt a budget for the year ended December 31, 2025. As a result, the budget adopted for the year ended December 31, 2024 has been used for the budgetary comparison schedule, and the original and final budgeted amounts presented are the same. For the year ended December 31, 2025, actual revenues on a budgetary basis were \$36,346 (6.36%) less than budgeted amounts, and actual expenditures on a budgetary basis were \$314,859 (50.70%) less than budgeted amounts. The District's failure to adopt a budget for 2025 is reported as a finding in the Schedule of Findings and Responses.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

DESOTO PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 5

Stanley, Louisiana

**SCHEDULE OF COMPENSATION, BENEFITS, AND OTHER PAYMENTS
TO AGENCY HEAD OR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

For the year ended December 31, 2025

AGENCY HEAD: Todd Kreamer, Fire Chief**Purpose:**

	Amount
Salary	\$ 10,428
Benefits- Medicare	151
Benefits- Social Security	647
Deferred compensation	-
Other benefits	-
Payroll taxes	-
Car Allowance	-
Reimbursements	2,000
Per diem travel	-
Travel - lodging	-
Registration fees	-
Conferences and seminars	-
Continuing professional education fees	-
Cell phone	-
Unvouchered expenses	
Special meals	

Supplementary information
See the accompanying independent auditor's report.

OTHER REPORTS REQUIRED BY
GOVERNMENTAL AUDITING STANDARDS



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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

DeSoto Parish Fire Protection District No. 5
Stanley, Louisiana

We have audited, in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, and the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide* the financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund of the DeSoto Parish Fire Protection District No. 5 (the District), a component unit of the DeSoto Parish Police Jury, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2025, 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 24, 2026.

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 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 preceding paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We identified certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses as items 2025-01 and 2025-02 that we consider to be material weaknesses.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the District'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 instances of noncompliance and other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards* and which are described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses as items 2025-03, 2025-04, and 2025-05.

The District's Responses to Findings

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the District's responses to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying management response to audit findings. The District's responses were not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on them.

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 District's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose. However, this report is a matter of public record, and its distribution is not limited. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the Louisiana Legislative Auditor as a public document in accordance with Louisiana Revised Statute 44:6.

Dees Gardner, Certified Public Accountants, LLC

Mansfield, Louisiana

June 24, 2026

DESOTO PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 5
Stanley, Louisiana
Schedule of Findings and Responses
For the year ended December 31, 2025

Part I. Summary of Auditor's Results

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT:

We have audited the basic financial statements of the DeSoto Parish Fire Protection District No. 5 (the District) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2025, and have issued our report thereon dated June 24, 2026. We conducted our audit 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 and the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide*. Our audit of the financial statements as of December 31, 2025, resulted in an unmodified opinion.

REPORT ON COMPLIANCE AND INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING:

Internal Control

Significant Deficiency

☐ Yes

☒ No

Material Weaknesses

☒ Yes

☐ No

Compliance

Compliance Material to Financial Statements

☒ Yes

☐ No

A management letter was not issued.

FEDERAL AWARDS

Not applicable

Part II. Findings relating to the Financial Statements which are required to be Reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

FINDINGS RELATED TO INTERNAL CONTROL

2025-01. Inadequate design of internal control over financial closing and reporting.

Criteria: Management has a duty to maintain controls to ensure financial statements are reliable. Controls should be in place to assure that transactions are classified correctly and are complete.

Condition: Transactions are not recorded to permit preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP.

Cause: The District's staff lacks knowledge necessary to internally complete the adjusting and closing entries for financial statement reporting requirements.

Effect: The District's management and staff may not identify material misstatements in the financial statements.

Recommendation: The District should either: 1) obtain the resources and/or knowledge necessary to internally prepare the closing and adjusting entries and preparing the financial statements in accordance with GAAP, or 2) determine if the cost of 1) overrides the benefit of correcting this control deficiency.

Management's Response: Based upon the cost versus benefit of obtaining the necessary resources and/or training, management has determined it is not cost effective and in our best interest to continue to outsource this task to the independent auditor, and to carefully review the draft financial statements and notes prior to approving them and accepting responsibility for their content and presentation.

DESOTO PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 5
Stanley, Louisiana
Schedule of Findings and Responses
For the Year ended December 31, 2025

2025-02 Inadequate segregation of duties and oversight over purchasing, disbursements and payroll.

Criteria: Good internal controls require checks and balances. More than one employee should be involved in the purchasing, disbursement, and payroll functions. Management and the board should ensure that controls are in place such that all disbursements and payments are (1) reasonable and necessary; (2) budgeted; (3) documented and approved; and (4) solely for the public purposes/functions of the District.

Condition: It was routinely observed that disbursements lacked documentation of approval. In addition, several duplicate payments and overpayments suggest a lack of oversight. The only employees of the District are paid a set salary. There is no documentation of time or approval for payment. The documentation for volunteer firemen reimbursements do not include documentation of management approval.

Cause: The small, part-time staff within the entity make good internal controls difficult to establish.

Effect: Unauthorized transactions could occur and not be detected.

Recommendation: Good internal controls should be established to the extent possible to prevent both intentional and unintentional errors. All disbursements, including payroll related disbursements should be approved by an employee that does not post and process the payment. Employees should be documenting that they have worked their required hours prior to payroll processing. Management and the board should closely review approvals for payment. Board members should be familiar with the process of reviewing financial statements and bank reconciliations to identify potential errors.

Management's response: Management is in agreement with the recommendations.

FINDINGS RELATED TO COMPLIANCE

2025-03 Failure to Adopt a Budget (Louisiana Local Government Budget Act)

Criteria: The Louisiana Local Government Budget Act (LSA-R.S. 39:1301 et seq.) requires the District to prepare a proposed budget, make it available for public inspection, provide for public participation and a public hearing, and adopt the budget in an open meeting before the beginning of the fiscal year. Because the District's proposed expenditures exceeded \$500,000, the public participation and advertisement requirements of LSA-R.S. 39:1307 apply.

Condition: The District did not adopt a budget for the year ended December 31, 2025. It did not prepare a proposed budget, make one available for public inspection, advertise or hold a public hearing, or adopt a budget in an open meeting. No 2025 budget appears in the District's minutes.

Cause: The District did not have procedures in place to ensure an annual budget was prepared and adopted as required by state law.

Effect: The District was not in compliance with the Louisiana Local Government Budget Act and operated the year without an adopted budget. For comparison purposes, the Budgetary Comparison Schedule presents the last adopted budget (for the year ended December 31, 2024). On that basis, actual revenues were \$36,346 (6.36%) less than budgeted and actual expenditures were \$314,859 (50.70%) less than budgeted.

Recommendation: The District should adopt an annual budget each year in accordance with the Louisiana Local Government Budget Act — preparing a proposed budget, advertising and holding a public hearing, and adopting the budget in an open meeting before the start of the fiscal year.

Management's response: Management is in agreement with the recommendations.

DESOTO PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 5
Stanley, Louisiana
Schedule of Findings and Responses
For the Year ended December 31, 2025

2025-04 Noncompliance with the Louisiana Code of Governmental Ethics.

Criteria: Louisiana Revised Statutes LSA-R.S. 42:1170(A)(3)(a)(i) require each public servant to receive a minimum of one hour of education and training on the Code of Governmental Ethics during each year of his public employment.

Condition: Two board members of the District did not complete the required training on the Code of Governmental Ethics.

Cause: The District did not monitor completion of required annual ethics training.

Effect: Penalties could be assessed by the Board of Ethics.

Recommendation: Management should ensure that all employees and commissioners complete the required Ethics training annually.

Management's response: Management is in agreement with the recommendations.

2025-05 Noncompliance with Prevention of Sexual Harassment Law.

Criteria: Louisiana Revised Statutes LSA-R.S. 42:343A(1) require each public servant to receive a minimum of one hour of education and training on the prevention of sexual harassment during each full calendar year of his public employment. Louisiana Revised Statutes LSA-R.S. 42:344A require each agency head to compile an annual report by February 1 of each year containing information regarding compliance with training and complaint handling for the previous calendar year

Condition: All employees and board members did not complete the required training on prevention of sexual harassment. The District did not compile an annual report for the calendar year in accordance with LSA-R.S. 42:344.

Cause: The District did not monitor completion of required annual sexual harassment training.

Effect: The District is not in compliance with state law, and required training and reporting intended to prevent and address sexual harassment were not completed..

Recommendation: Management should ensure that all employees and commissioners complete the required sexual harassment training annually. Management should ensure an annual report on sexual harassment training and complaint handling be completed by February 1 of each year.

Management's response: Management is in agreement with the recommendations.

DESOTO PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 5
Stanley, Louisiana
Schedule of Prior Year Findings
For the Year ended December 31, 2025

2024-01, 2023-01. Inadequate design of internal control over financial closing and reporting.

Unresolved.

2024-02, 2023-02. Inadequate segregation of duties and oversight over purchasing, disbursements and payroll

Unresolved.

2024-03, 2023-03. Cooperative Endeavor Agreements

Resolved in current year.

2024-04, 2023-04. Noncompliance with the Louisiana Code of Governmental Ethics.

Unresolved.

2024-05. Noncompliance with Prevention of Sexual Harassment Law.

Unresolved.

OTHER REPORTS REQUIRED BY
LOUISIANA GOVERNMENTAL AUDIT GUIDE



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Independent Accountant's Report On Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures

DeSoto Parish Fire Protection District No. 5 and the
Louisiana Legislative Auditor:

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, which were agreed to by the DeSoto Parish Fire Protection District No. 5 (the District) and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor (LLA) on the control and compliance (C/C) areas identified in the LLA's Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures (SAUPs) for the fiscal period January 01, 2025 through December 31, 2025. The District's management is responsible for those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs.

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 C/C areas identified in LLA's SAUPs for the fiscal period January 01, 2025 through December 31, 2025. 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 as follows:

1) Written Policies and Procedures

- A. Obtain and inspect the entity's written policies and procedures and observe whether they address each of the following categories and subcategories if applicable to public funds and the entity's operations:
- i. **Budgeting**, including preparing, adopting, monitoring, and amending the budget.
 - ii. **Purchasing**, including (1) how purchases are initiated; (2) how vendors are added to the vendor list; (3) the preparation and approval process of purchase requisitions and purchase orders; (4) controls to ensure compliance with the Public Bid Law; and (5) documentation required to be maintained for all bids and price quotes.
 - iii. **Disbursements**, including processing, reviewing, and approving.
 - iv. **Receipts/Collections**, including receiving, recording, and preparing deposits. Also, policies and procedures should include management's actions to determine the completeness of all collections for each type of revenue or agency fund additions.
 - v. **Payroll/Personnel**, including (1) payroll processing, (2) reviewing and approving time and attendance records, including leave and overtime worked, and (3) approval process for employee rates of pay or approval and maintenance of pay rate schedules.
 - vi. **Contracting**, including (1) types of services requiring written contracts, (2) standard terms and conditions, (3) legal review, (4) approval process, and (5) monitoring process.
 - vii. **Travel and Expense Reimbursement**, including (1) allowable expenses, (2) dollar thresholds by category of expense, (3) documentation requirements, and (4) required approvers.
 - viii. **Credit Cards (and debit cards, fuel cards, purchase cards, if applicable)**, including (1) how cards are to be controlled, (2) allowable business uses, (3) documentation requirements, (4) required approvers of statements, and (5) monitoring card usage (e.g., determining the reasonableness of fuel card purchases).
 - ix. **Ethics**, including (1) the prohibitions as defined in Louisiana Revised Statute 42:1111-1121, (2) actions to be taken if an ethics violation takes place, (3) system to monitor possible ethics violations, and (4) a

requirement that documentation is maintained to demonstrate that all employees and officials were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy.

- x. **Debt Service**, including (1) debt issuance approval, (2) continuing disclosure/EMMA reporting requirements, (3) debt reserve requirements, and (4) debt service requirements..
- xi. **Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity**, including (1) identification of critical data and frequency of data backups, (2) storage of backups in a separate physical location isolated from the network, (3) periodic testing/verification that backups can be restored, (4) use of antivirus software on all systems, (5) timely application of all available system and software patches/updates, and (6) identification of personnel, processes, and tools needed to recover operations after a critical event.
- xii. **Prevention of Sexual Harassment**, including R.S. 42:342-344 requirements for (1) agency responsibilities and prohibitions, (2) annual employee training, and (3) annual reporting.

Entity does not have any written policies and procedures.

2) Board or Finance Committee

- A. Obtain and inspect the board/finance committee minutes for the fiscal period, as well as the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or equivalent document in effect during the fiscal period, and:

- 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.

No exception noted.

- ii. For those entities reporting on the governmental accounting model, review the minutes from all regularly scheduled board/finance committee meetings held during the fiscal year and observe whether the minutes from at least one meeting each month referenced or included monthly budget-to-actual comparisons on the general fund, quarterly budget-to-actual comparisons, at a minimum, on all proprietary funds, and semi-annual budget-to-actual comparisons, at a minimum, on all special revenue funds.

Exception noted, no discussion of budget to actual comparisons noted.

- 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.

Not applicable to entity.

- 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.

Exception noted. No discussion of findings was noted in the minutes.

3) Bank Reconciliations

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

A listing of client bank accounts from management and management's representation that the listing is complete were obtained. The main operating account is the only account for the entity.

- i. Bank reconciliations include evidence that they were prepared within 2 months of the related statement closing date (e.g., initialed and dated, or electronically logged);
- ii. Bank reconciliations include written evidence that a member of management or a board member who does not handle cash, post ledgers, or issue checks has reviewed each bank reconciliation within 1 month of the date the reconciliation was prepared (e.g., initialed and dated, electronically logged); and

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

Bank reconciliations do not include evidence of review, only bank statements. Multiple items outstanding over 12 months. Errors with bank reconciliations indicate a lack of review.

4) Collections (excluding EFTs)

- 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).

A listing of deposit sites for the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete were obtained. The only deposit site of the entity was selected.

- B. For each deposit site selected, obtain a listing of collection locations and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select one collection location for each deposit site (e.g. 5 collection locations for 5 deposit sites), obtain and inspect written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if there are no written policies or procedures, then inquire of employees about their job duties) at each collection location, and observe that job duties are properly segregated at each collection location such that:

A listing of collection locations and management's representation that the listing is complete was obtained. The only collection location of the entity was selected.

- i. Employees responsible for cash collections do not share cash drawers/registers;
- ii. Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not also responsible for preparing/making bank deposits, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling collection documentation (e.g. pre-numbered receipts) to the deposit;
- iii. Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not also responsible for posting collection entries to the general ledger or subsidiary ledgers, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling ledger postings to each other and to the deposit; and
- iv. The employee(s) responsible for reconciling cash collections to the general ledger and/or subsidiary ledgers, by revenue source and/or custodial fund additions, is (are) not also responsible for collecting cash, unless another employee/official verifies the reconciliation.

Entity does not collect cash. Section not applicable. .

- 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.

No exceptions were noted as a result of this procedure.

- 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). Obtain supporting documentation for each of the 10 deposits and:

Random deposits were selected for testing as indicated.

- i. Observe that receipts are sequentially pre-numbered.
- ii. Trace sequentially pre-numbered receipts, system reports, and other related collection documentation to the deposit slip.
- iii. Trace the deposit slip total to the actual deposit per the bank statement.
- iv. Observe that the deposit was made within one business day of receipt at the collection location (within one week if the depository is more than 10 miles from the collection location or the deposit is less than \$100 and the cash is stored securely in a locked safe or drawer).
- v. Trace the actual deposit per the bank statement to the general ledger.

Deposits observed were not made timely and in some cases months after receipt. Deposits observed were not posted to the correct general ledger accounts..

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

- 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).

A listing of locations that process payments for the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete were obtained. The only location of the entity was selected.

- B. For each location selected under procedure #5A above, obtain a listing of those employees involved with non-payroll purchasing and payment functions. Obtain written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if the agency has no written policies and procedures, then inquire of employees about their job duties), and observe that job duties are properly segregated such that:
- i. At least two employees are involved in initiating a purchase request, approving a purchase, and/or placing an order/making the purchase;
 - ii. At least two employees are involved in processing and approving payments to vendors;
 - iii. The employee responsible for processing payments is prohibited from adding/modifying vendor files, unless another employee is responsible for periodically reviewing changes to vendor files;
 - iv. Either the employee/official responsible for signing checks mails the payment or gives the signed checks to an employee to mail who is not responsible for processing payments; and
 - v. Only employees/officials authorized to sign checks approve the electronic disbursement (release) of funds, whether through automated clearinghouse (ACH), electronic funds transfer (EFT), wire transfer, or some other electronic means.
- C. For each location selected under procedure #5A above, obtain the entity's non-payroll disbursement transaction population (excluding cards and travel reimbursements) and obtain management's representation that the population is complete. Randomly select 5 disbursements for each location, obtain supporting documentation for each transaction, and
- i. Observe whether the disbursement, whether by paper or electronic means, matched the related original itemized invoice and supporting documentation indicates that deliverables included on the invoice were received by the entity, and
 - ii. Observe whether the disbursement documentation included evidence (e.g., initial/date, electronic logging) of segregation of duties tested under procedure #5B above, as applicable.
- D. Using the entity's main operating account and the month selected in Bank Reconciliations procedure #3A, randomly select 5 non-payroll-related electronic disbursements (or all electronic disbursements if less than 5) and observe that each electronic disbursement was (a) approved by only those persons authorized to disburse funds (e.g., sign checks) per the entity's policy, and (b) approved by the required number of authorized signers per the entity's policy. Note: If no electronic payments were made from the main operating account during the month selected the practitioner should select an alternative month and/or account for testing that does include electronic disbursements.

Entity has no written policies and procedures but does require two signatures for checks. Many payments are set to auto draft. Statements are often not printed out for approval by the authorized signatories. Several statements were not located. Duplicate payments were also observed.

6) Credit Cards/Debit Cards/Fuel Cards/Purchase 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.

A listing of active cards for the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete were obtained.

- 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

A random monthly statement for the only 2 cards of the entity selected for review.

- i. Observe whether there is evidence that the monthly statement or combined statement and supporting documentation (e.g., itemized 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; and
 - ii. Observe that finance charges and late fees were not assessed on the selected statements.
- C. Using the monthly statements or combined statements selected under procedure #6B above, excluding fuel cards, randomly select 10 transactions (or all transactions if less than 10) from each statement, and obtain supporting documentation for the transactions (e.g., each card should have 10 transactions subject to inspection). For each transaction, observe that it is supported by (1) an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased, (2) written documentation of the business/public purpose, and (3) documentation of the individuals participating in meals (for meal charges only). For missing receipts, the practitioner should describe the nature of the transaction and observe whether management had a compensating control to address missing receipts, such as a "missing receipt statement" that is subject to increased scrutiny.
- D. Using the list of terminated employees obtained in Payroll and Personnel procedure #9C identify those individuals who had access to cards and randomly select 5 terminated employees (or all terminated employees with card access if less than 5) from this population. Observe evidence that the cards have been deactivated for these terminated employees. In cases where a card is shared by multiple users, obtain evidence that the terminated employees' authorization has been removed.

No statement for the random month could be located. Other statements were located but it was noted that the did not have itemized receipts for purchases. Entity did not have terminated employees during the year.

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

- A. Obtain from management a listing of all travel and travel-related expense reimbursements during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing or general ledger is complete. Randomly select 5 reimbursements, and obtain the related expense reimbursement forms/prepaid expense documentation of each selected reimbursement, as well as the supporting documentation. For each of the 5 reimbursements selected
 - i. If reimbursed using a per diem, observe that the approved reimbursement rate is no more than those rates established either by the State of Louisiana (doa.la.gov/doa/ost/ppm-49-travel-guide/) or the U.S. General Services Administration (www.gsa.gov);
 - ii. If reimbursed using actual costs, observe that the reimbursement is supported by an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased;
 - iii. Observe that each reimbursement is supported by documentation of the business/public purpose (for meal charges, observe that the documentation includes the names of those individuals participating) and other documentation required by Written Policies and Procedures procedure 1A(vii); and
 - iv. Observe that each reimbursement was reviewed and approved, in writing, by someone other than the person receiving reimbursement.

Entity reported no applicable expenses during the year.

8) Contracts

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

- iii. If the contract was amended (e.g. change order), observe that the original contract terms provided for such an amendment and that amendments were made in compliance with the contract terms (e.g., if approval is required for any amendment, the documented approval); and.
- iv. Randomly select one payment from the fiscal period for each of the 5 contracts, obtain the supporting invoice, agree the invoice to the contract terms, and observe that the invoice and related payment agreed to the terms and conditions of the contract.

Entity reported no applicable contracts during the year.

9) Payroll and Personnel

- A. Obtain a listing of employees and officials employed during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 employees or officials, obtain related paid salaries and personnel files, and agree paid salaries to authorized salaries/pay rates in the personnel files.

A listing of employees or officials employed during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete were obtained. The five employees of the entity selected for review.

- B. Randomly select one pay period during the fiscal period. For the 5 employees or officials selected under #9A above, obtain attendance records and leave documentation for the pay period, and:
 - i. Observe whether all selected employees or officials documented their daily attendance and leave (e.g., vacation, sick, compensatory);
 - ii. Observe whether supervisors approved the attendance and leave of the selected employees/officials.
 - iii. Observe whether any leave accrued or taken during the pay period is reflected in the entity's cumulative leave records; and
 - iv. Observe the rate paid to the employees or officials agrees to the authorized salary/pay rate found within the personnel file.

The entity has two employees who are paid a set salary. Employees do not document attendance or leave.

- C. Obtain a listing of those employees or officials that received termination payments during the fiscal period and management's representation that the list is complete. Randomly select two employees or officials and obtain related documentation of the hours and pay rates used in management's termination payment calculations and the entity's policy on termination payments. Agree the hours to the employee's or official's cumulative leave records, agree the pay rates to the employee's or official's authorized pay rates in the employee's or official's personnel files, and agree the termination payment to entity policy

No terminations reported during the year.

- 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) have been paid, and any associated forms have been filed, by required deadlines.

Late payments of payroll taxes were observed. Client could not produce evidence that all payroll tax forms were submitted timely.

10) Ethics

- A. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #9A obtain ethics documentation from management, and
 - i. Observe whether the documentation demonstrates that each employee/official completed one hour of ethics training during the calendar year as required by R.S. 42:1170; and
 - ii. Observe whether the entity maintains documentation which demonstrates that each employee and official were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy during the fiscal period, as applicable.

No exceptions were noted as a result of these procedures.

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

No exceptions were noted as a result of this procedure.

11) Debt Service

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

Section not applicable to entity.

- 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).

Section not applicable to entity.

12) Fraud Notice

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

No misappropriations reported by entity.

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

No exceptions were noted as a result of this procedure.

13) Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity

Perform the following procedures:

- A. 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.
- B. Obtain and inspect the entity's most recent documentation that it has tested/verified that its backups can be restored (if there is no written documentation, then inquire of personnel responsible for testing/verifying backup restoration) and observe evidence that the test/verification was successfully performed within the past 3 months.
- C. 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.
- D. Randomly select 5 terminated employees (or all terminated employees if less than 5) using the list of terminated employees obtained in payroll and personnel procedure #9C. Observe evidence that the selected terminated employees have been removed or disabled from the network.
- E. 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.

We performed the procedures and discussed the results with management.

14) Prevention of Sexual Harassment

- A. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #9A, obtain sexual harassment training documentation from management, and observe that the documentation demonstrates each employee/official completed at least one hour of sexual harassment training during the calendar year as required by R.S. 42:343
- B. Observe whether the entity has posted its sexual harassment policy and complaint procedure on its website (or in a conspicuous location on the entity's premises if the entity does not have a website).
- C. Obtain the entity's annual sexual harassment report for the current fiscal period, observe that the report was dated on or before February 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;
 - ii. Number of sexual harassment complaints received by the agency;
 - iii. Number of complaints which resulted in a finding that sexual harassment occurred;
 - iv. Number of complaints in which the finding of sexual harassment resulted in discipline or corrective action; and
 - v. Amount of time it took to resolve each complaint.

The entity had zero public servants complete sexual harassment training. The entity does not have a sexual harassment policy or complaint procedure posted. The entity did not compile an annual sexual harassment report for the fiscal period. The entity reported no sexual harassment complaints.

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 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 District and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to our agreed-upon procedures engagement.

The purpose of this report is 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.

Dees Gardner, Certified Public Accountants, LLC

Mansfield, LA
June 24, 2026

DeSoto Parish Fire Protection District No. 5

P.O. Box 1089
Logansport, LA 71049

Management Responses to Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedure Exceptions

Section 1 – Written Policies and Procedures

Management acknowledges that the District does not yet have formal written policies and procedures covering the required categories. Management is developing written policies and procedures addressing budgeting, purchasing, disbursements, receipts / collections, payroll / personnel, contracting, travel and expense reimbursement, credit/debit/fuel cards, ethics, debt service, IT disaster recovery / business continuity, and prevention of sexual harassment, and will adopt them by board action.

Section 2 – Board or Finance Committee

Management acknowledges that the minutes did not reflect monthly budget-to-actual comparisons on the general fund or written updates on the progress of resolving audit findings. Going forward, the board will review and document budget-to-actual comparisons in its monthly meetings and will receive and document updates on the status of outstanding audit findings at each meeting until they are fully resolved.

Section 3 – Bank Reconciliations

Management acknowledges that bank reconciliations did not include documented evidence of independent review and that several reconciling items remained outstanding for more than twelve months. Management will ensure each reconciliation is reviewed, initialed, and dated by a member of management or the board who does not handle cash, post ledgers, or issue checks, and will research and clear reconciling items outstanding more than twelve months.

Section 4 – Collections

The entity does not employ full-time staff and makes a limited number of collections. Management does not believe the cost of employing full-time staff solely to make same-day deposits is warranted, but acknowledges that deposits were not made timely and in some cases were posted to incorrect general ledger accounts. Management will ensure deposits are made within a reasonable timeframe and are posted to the correct general ledger accounts.

Section 5 – Non-Payroll Disbursements

Management acknowledges that supporting statements were not always printed for approval by the authorized signatories, that several statements could not be located, and that duplicate payments were observed. Management will ensure that all disbursements — including auto-draft payments — are supported by an original, itemized invoice and documented approval by an authorized signatory who does not process the payment, that statements are retained, and that controls are in place to detect and prevent duplicate payments.

Section 6 – Credit Cards / Debit Cards / Fuel Cards

Management acknowledges that a card statement for the randomly selected month could not be located and that available statements lacked itemized receipts. Management will retain all card statements, ensure each statement and its itemized supporting receipts are reviewed and approved in writing by someone other than the cardholder, and ensure statements are paid timely to avoid finance charges and late fees.

Section 9 – Payroll and Personnel

Management acknowledges that employees did not document attendance or leave and that payroll tax payments were made late, with insufficient evidence that all payroll tax forms were filed timely. Management will require employees to document and certify their attendance and leave prior to payroll processing, and will ensure that employer and employee third-party payroll amounts (including payroll taxes) are remitted and that all related forms are filed by their required deadlines.

Section 14 – Prevention of Sexual Harassment

Management acknowledges that the required sexual harassment training was not completed, that a sexual harassment policy and complaint procedure were not posted, and that the annual report required by LSA-R.S. 42:344 was not compiled. Management is developing a sexual harassment policy and complaint procedure that, once adopted, will be posted in a conspicuous location on the premises; management will ensure all employees and board members complete the required training and will compile the annual report by February 1 of each year.