

ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT
ST. TAMMANY PARISH
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED
DECEMBER 31, 2019



ERICKSEN KRENTEL^{LLP}
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS • CONSULTANTS

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Commissioners
St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4
Mandeville, Louisiana

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund of the St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4, a component unit of St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2019, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

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

Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, the *Louisiana Governmental Audit Guide* and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements 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 entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.



St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4

June 23, 2020

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We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and the major fund of the St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4 as of December 31, 2019, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis, budgetary comparison information, schedule of OPEB funding progress, schedule of proportionate share of the net pension liability, schedule of contributions – retirement plan, and the related notes to the required supplementary information on pages 4 through 8 and 46 through 50 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquires 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.



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Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4's basic financial statements. The accompanying schedules of compensation paid to board members and compensation, benefits and other payments to agency head are presented to comply with the requirements issued by the State of Louisiana, and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The schedules of compensation paid to board members and compensation, benefits and other payments to agency head are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the schedules of compensation paid to board members and compensation, benefits and other payments to agency head are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by *Government Auditing Standards*

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 23, 2020 on our consideration of the St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4'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 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 internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

June 23, 2020

Mandeville, Louisiana

Erickson Krentel, LLP
Certified Public Accountants

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
MANDEVILLE, LOUISIANA
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019

This section of St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4's (The District) annual financial report presents our discussion and analysis of the District's financial performance during the fiscal year that ended December 31, 2019. This analysis should be read in conjunction with the audited financial statements, which follow this section.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- The District's net position increased by \$961,674
- The District's general revenues were \$17,231,609 and program revenues were \$2,049,571.
- The total expenses of the District were \$18,319,506

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This report consists of two sections: Management's Discussion and Analysis and audited financial statements. The financial statements also include notes that provide additional detail of the information included in the financial statements.

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements of the District report information about the District using accounting methods similar to those used by private companies. These financial statements provide financial information about the activities of the District.

The Statement of Net Position presents information that includes all of the District's assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources, with the difference reported as net position. Over time, increases and decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the District as a whole is improving or deteriorating.

The Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance and the Statement of Activities presents information on how the District's net position changed as a result of current period operations.

The following presents condensed financial information of the District.

SUMMARY OF NET POSITION
AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018

	December 31, 2019	December 31, 2018
Current assets	\$ 25,256,545	\$ 23,554,576
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	4,759,261	5,200,252
Deposits	987	987
Total assets	\$ 30,016,793	\$ 28,755,815

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
MANDEVILLE, LOUISIANA
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (CONTINUED)
AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

	<u>December 31,</u> <u>2019</u>	<u>December 31,</u> <u>2018</u>
Total deferred outflows of resources	\$ 4,675,240	\$ 2,971,534
Current liabilities	\$ 713,356	\$ 1,030,359
Long-term liabilities	<u>23,277,367</u>	<u>21,092,886</u>
Total liabilities	<u>\$ 23,990,723</u>	<u>\$ 22,123,245</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>\$ 2,704,984</u>	<u>\$ 2,569,452</u>
Net investment in capital assets	\$ 4,003,025	\$ 4,495,396
Excess fund balance	3,711,201	2,398,206
Restricted for:		
Debt service	<u>282,100</u>	<u>141,050</u>
Total net position	<u>\$ 7,996,326</u>	<u>\$ 7,034,652</u>

Total assets increased by \$1,260,978 (4%) primarily due to an increase in the ad valorem taxes, net of allowance for uncollectible taxes of \$745,835. Total liabilities increased by \$1,867,478 (8%) due to the changes in deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources in accordance with the recognition of GASB 68 pension liabilities as well as the re-measurement of other post-employment benefits in accordance with GASB 75.

Net position increased by \$961,674 (14%) primarily as a result of the increase in ad valorem taxes in 2019.

SUMMARY OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES/EXPENSES
AND CHANGES IN NET POSITION
FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019 AND 2018

	<u>December 31,</u> <u>2019</u>	<u>December 31,</u> <u>2018</u>
General revenues	\$ 17,231,609	\$ 16,215,695
Program revenues	<u>2,049,571</u>	<u>2,482,613</u>
Total revenue	19,281,180	18,698,308
Expenditures/expenses	<u>(18,319,506)</u>	<u>(16,545,393)</u>
Change in net position	<u>\$ 961,674</u>	<u>\$ 2,152,915</u>
Ending net position	<u>\$ 7,996,326</u>	<u>\$ 7,034,652</u>

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
MANDEVILLE, LOUISIANA
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (CONTINUED)
AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Total revenues increased by \$582,872. The District had a decrease in program revenues due to a federal grant obtained during 2018 that was not received in 2019. Expenditures/expenses increased by \$1,774,113 primarily due to an increase in firefighter retirement expenses and employer health benefit expenses.

CAPITAL ASSETS

Following is a schedule of capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation:

	<u>December 31,</u> 2019	<u>December 31,</u> 2018
Land	\$ 699,473	\$ 699,473
Construction-in-progress	2,500	2,500
Buildings and improvements	3,626,515	3,626,515
Firefighting equipment	1,209,334	1,162,607
Medical equipment	486,952	558,142
Transportation vehicles	4,827,899	4,738,010
Furniture and fixtures	<u>56,573</u>	<u>64,563</u>
	10,909,246	10,851,810
Less: accumulated depreciation	<u>(6,149,985)</u>	<u>(5,651,558)</u>
Total capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	<u>\$ 4,759,261</u>	<u>\$ 5,200,252</u>

During the current year, the District purchased vehicles, stretchers, and improvements to stations. Additionally, the District purchased firefighting equipment using funds obtained from a Federal grant.

The District also conducted a review of capital assets in the current year and identified old, fully depreciated firefighting and transportation equipment, which had been treated as disposals in the prior year, that were still in service. As such, the District has restated beginning capital assets for proper presentation of these assets. There is no net effect on capital assets.

LONG-TERM DEBT

At December 31, 2019, the District had \$215,000 in long-term debt which consisted of a certificate of indebtedness. Long-term debt decreased by \$479,148 due to scheduled principal payments as well as the completed pay-off of the municipal lease-purchase agreement.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
MANDEVILLE, LOUISIANA
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (CONTINUED)
AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019

BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS

The following table presents the variance between the final budget and the actual results for the fiscal year.

	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Revenues:			
Ad valorem taxes	\$ 14,100,000	\$ 14,901,864	\$ 801,864
State revenue sharing	200,000	227,926	27,926
Fire insurance rebate	220,000	223,477	3,477
State supplemental pay	-	589,894	589,894
Charges for services (EMS)	1,300,000	1,327,734	27,734
Training revenue	-	44,895	44,895
Interest income	250,000	247,124	(2,876)
Other	<u>430,000</u>	<u>1,055,386</u>	<u>625,386</u>
Total	<u>\$ 16,500,000</u>	<u>\$ 18,618,300</u>	<u>\$ 2,118,300</u>
Expenditures:			
Fire protection and EMS	\$ 15,910,000	\$ 15,915,813	\$ (5,813)
Capital outlays	450,000	208,613	241,387
Debt service	<u>140,000</u>	<u>509,782</u>	<u>(369,782)</u>
Total	<u>\$ 16,500,000</u>	<u>\$ 16,634,208</u>	<u>\$ (134,208)</u>

ECONOMIC FACTORS AND A LOOK AT NEXT YEAR

The District's tax base has remained stable but with little overall economic growth. The District will have to address financial cuts and aggressively seek new revenue to maintain the high level of services our citizens currently expect. The District has begun to replace the aging fleet to offset some of the high maintenance costs associated with older equipment. In order to fund these acquisitions, the District has used both tax and Federal grant funding; however, much of the fleet still requires replacement and repairs. Additionally, all aspects of personnel costs continue to rise, which places a further strain on our resources.

The District and its citizens currently enjoy a Class 1 fire rating which provides substantial reductions in property insurance. The District is committed to keeping insurance rates low for all its citizens and providing the highest level of Emergency Response and other services. The District is committed to fiscal responsibility and maintaining the trust from the citizens with their tax dollars.

In December 2019, an outbreak of a novel strain of coronavirus (COVID-19) originated in Wuhan, China and has since spread to other countries, including the U.S. On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic. In addition, multiple jurisdictions in the U.S. have declared a state of emergency. It is anticipated that these impacts will continue for some time. There has been no immediate impact to the District's operations. Future potential impacts may include disruptions in the ability of citizens to continue making tax payments as a result of job loss or other pandemic related issues.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
MANDEVILLE, LOUISIANA
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS (CONTINUED)
AS OF AND FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019

CONTACTING THE DISTRICT'S MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens, taxpayers, and customers with an overview of the District's finances and to demonstrate the District's accountability for the money it receives. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact Fire Chief Kenneth Moore, St Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4, 709 Girod Street, Mandeville, Louisiana, 70448.

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2019

ASSETS:

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 9,898,879
Receivables:	
Ad valorem taxes, net of allowance for uncollectible taxes of \$745,835	13,514,346
State revenue sharing	150,492
EMS receivable	709,175
Other receivables	3,069
Due from other governments	63,349
Prepaid insurance	917,235
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	4,759,261
Utility deposits	987
	<hr/>
Total assets	30,016,793

DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES:

Other post-employment benefits	1,012,755
Pensions	3,662,485
	<hr/>
Total deferred outflows of resources	4,675,240

LIABILITIES:

Accrued payroll and related payables	167,749
Accrued interest	8,921
Sheriff's pension deduction payable	468,029
Compensated absences	746,607
Other post-employment benefits	5,478,575
Net pension liability	16,905,842
Long-term liabilities:	
Due within one year	70,000
Due after one year	145,000
	<hr/>
Total liabilities	23,990,723

DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES:

Other post-employment benefits	349,691
Pensions	2,355,293
	<hr/>
Total deferred inflows of resources	2,704,984

NET POSITION:

Net investment in capital assets	4,003,025
Unrestricted	3,711,201
Restricted for:	
Debt service	282,100
	<hr/>
Total net position	\$ 7,996,326

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement

ST. TAMMANY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019

Function/Programs	Expenses	Program Revenues		Net (Expense)
		Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Revenue and Changes in Net Position
<u>Governmental activities:</u>				
Fire protection and EMS	\$ 18,319,506	\$ 1,327,734	\$ 721,837	\$ (16,269,935)
 Total governmental activities	 <u>\$ 18,319,506</u>	 <u>\$ 1,327,734</u>	 <u>\$ 721,837</u>	 <u>\$ (16,269,935)</u>
 General revenues:				
Property taxes				14,871,214
Fire insurance rebate				223,477
State revenue sharing				227,926
State supplemental pay				589,894
Training revenue				44,895
Investment earnings				247,124
Loss on disposal of assets				(28,307)
Miscellaneous				<u>1,055,386</u>
 Total general revenues				 <u>17,231,609</u>
 Change in net position				 961,674
 Net position - beginning				 <u>7,034,652</u>
 Net position - ending				 <u>\$ 7,996,326</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
DECEMBER 31, 2019

ASSETS:

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 9,898,879
Receivables:	
Ad valorem taxes, net of allowance for uncollectible taxes of \$745,835	13,514,346
State revenue sharing	150,492
EMS receivable	709,175
Other receivables	3,069
Due from other governments	63,349
Prepaid insurance	917,235
Utility deposits	<u>987</u>
 Total assets	 <u><u>\$ 25,257,532</u></u>

LIABILITIES:

Accounts payable	\$ 1,343
Accrued payroll and related payables	166,406
Sheriff's pension deduction payable	<u>468,029</u>
 Total liabilities	 <u>635,778</u>

DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES:

Unavailable revenue - property taxes	<u>1,620,866</u>
 Total deferred inflows of resources	 <u>1,620,866</u>

FUND BALANCE:

Nonspendable: prepaid expenses	917,235
Unrestricted	21,201,553
Restricted for:	
Debt service	282,100
Committed to emergencies	<u>600,000</u>
 Total fund balance	 <u>23,000,888</u>
 Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and fund balance	 <u><u>\$ 25,257,532</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET
TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2019

Fund balance - total governmental funds	S	23,000,888
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 governmental funds.		4,759,261
Deferred outflows of resources related to OPEB and pensions are not reported in governmental funds		4,675,240
Deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB and pensions are not reported in governmental funds		(2,704,984)
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds. All liabilities (both current and long-term) are reported in the Statement of Net Position:		
Accrued annual leave		(746,607)
Accrued interest		(8,921)
Long-term debt		(215,000)
Pension liability		(16,905,842)
Other post-employment benefits		(5,478,575)
Certain property tax collections are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and therefore are reported as deferred inflows of resources in the governmental funds.		1,620,866
Net position of governmental activities	S	7,996,326

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019

	<u>General Fund</u>
<u>GENERAL REVENUES:</u>	
Ad valorem taxes	\$ 14,901,864
Intergovernmental revenues:	
State revenue sharing	227,926
Fire insurance rebate	223,477
State supplemental pay	589,894
Charges for services (EMS)	1,327,734
Training revenue	44,895
Investment earnings	247,124
Miscellaneous	<u>1,055,386</u>
Total general revenues	<u>18,618,300</u>
<u>EXPENDITURES:</u>	
Current for fire protection and EMS:	
Salaries and related expenditures	11,918,136
Insurance	1,039,669
Deduction from ad valorem taxes for Sheriff's pension	468,029
Accounting and professional fees	603,658
Vehicle operations	376,834
Dispatch	231,536
Telephone and utilities	116,913
Office, station, medical supplies and small equipment	184,814
Repairs and maintenance	284,316
Wellness program	136,635
Training	105,051
Uniforms and apparel	216,016
Dues and subscriptions	41,903
Mechanic	44,076
Travel	72,563
Miscellaneous	37,593
Assessor's office furniture and fixtures	18,998
Fire prevention	<u>19,073</u>
Total current fire protection and EMS expenditures	15,915,813
Debt service:	
Principal	479,148
Interest	<u>30,634</u>
Total debt service	509,782

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019

EXPENDITURES:

Capital outlays	208,613
Total expenditures	16,634,208
Excess of revenues over expenditures	1,984,092
Net change in fund balance	1,984,092

FUND BALANCE:

Beginning of year	21,016,796
End of year	\$ 23,000,888

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019

Net change in fund balance - governmental fund	S	1,984,092
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:		
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the Statement of Activities the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated lives and reported as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which capital asset additions of \$208,615 were exceeded by depreciation expense of \$621,299 in the current period.		(412,684)
Repayments of note principal are reported as financing used in governmental funds and thus contribute to the reduction in fund balance. In the Statement of Net Position, however, repayment of debt decreases the long-term liabilities and does not affect the Statement of Activities.		479,148
Under the modified accrual basis of accounting used in the governmental funds, advances of derived tax revenues is not recognized until received, rather than as it is earned. This is the amount by which prior year advances of derived tax revenues recognized of \$1,651,516 exceeded current advances of derived tax revenues recognized of \$1,620,866.		(30,650)
In the Statement of Activities, only the gain on the sale of capital assets is reported. However, in the governmental funds, the proceeds from the sale increase financial resources. Thus, the change in net position differs from the change in fund balance by the cost of the capital assets sold		(28,307)
Interest accrued on the government-wide financial statements are not expensed until paid under the modified accrual basis used in the governmental funds.		1,787
Some expenses reported in the Statement of Activities do not require the use of current financial resources and are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds:		
Accrued annual leave - The change in the amount by which current year accrued annual leave recognized of \$746,607 exceeded prior accrued annual leave recognized of \$756,528.		9,921
Pensions		(1,201,304)
Non-employer contributions for pensions		721,837
Other post-employment benefits		(563,093)
Change in net position	\$	<u>960,747</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(1) SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Reporting Entity

The St. Tammany Fire Protection District No. 4 (the District) was created by the St. Tammany Parish Council as provided by Louisiana Revised Statute 40:1492. The District is responsible for fire protection and emergency medical services for the entire fourth ward of St. Tammany Parish. The administration of the District is governed by a board of commissioners consisting of five members. Two members are appointed by the parish governing authority and two by the governing body of the municipal corporation in the district. The fifth member is selected by the other four members and serves as chairman. Vacancies are filled by the governing bodies making the original appointments. Board members serve two-year terms with a per diem compensation of \$100 for regular and special board meetings and \$50 per committee meetings attended, limited to payment of two meetings of each type per month. The District operates four fire protection facilities and a training center. In addition to fire protection service, the District also provides fire prevention service to the public.

Fire protection districts are created for the purposes of acquiring, maintaining, and operating facilities, machinery, equipment, water tanks, water hydrants, water lines, and other resources necessary to provide proper fire protection and control of the property within the District.

GASB Statement No. 14, *The Financial Reporting Entity*, established criteria for determining the governmental reporting entity and component units that should be included within the reporting entity. Under provisions of this statement, the District is considered a component unit of the St. Tammany Parish Council. As a component unit, the accompanying financial statements are included within the reporting of the primary government, either blended into those financial statements or separately reported as discrete component units.

Basis of Presentation

The District's financial statements are prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is responsible for establishing GAAP for state and local governments through pronouncements (Statements and Interpretations). Governments are also required to follow the pronouncements of the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued through November 30, 1989 (when applicable) that do not conflict with or contradict GASB pronouncements. The more significant accounting policies established in GAAP and used by the District are discussed below.

The accompanying basic financial statements have been prepared in conformity with GASB Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements-and Management's Discussion and Analysis-for State and Local Governments*, issued in June 1999, as amended by GASB Statement No. 63, *Financial Reporting of Deferred Outflows of Resources, Deferred Inflows of Resources, and Net Position*.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(1) SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Basis of Presentation (continued)

The District's basic financial statements include both government-wide (reporting the District as a whole) and fund financial statements (reporting the District's major funds). Both the government-wide and fund financial statements categorize primary activities as either governmental or business type. The District's fire protection activities and related general administrative services are classified as governmental activities. The District does not have any business-type activities.

Basic Financial Statements - Government-Wide Financial Statements (GWFS)

In the government-wide Statement of Net Position (Exhibit A), the governmental activities column is presented on a consolidated basis and is reported on a full accrual, economic resource basis, which recognizes all long-term assets and receivables, as well as long-term debt and obligations. The District's net position are reported in two parts – net investment in capital assets and restricted for fire protection, debt service, and capital outlay.

The government-wide Statement of Activities (Exhibit B) reports both gross and net cost of the District's function. The function is supported by general government revenues (ad valorem tax). Any program revenues and operating grants received would reduce gross expenses in the Statement of Activities.

This government-wide focus is on the sustainability of the District as an entity and the change in the District's net position resulting from current year's activities.

Basic Financial Statements – Fund Financial Statements (FFS)

The financial transactions of the District are reported in individual funds in the fund financial statements. Each fund is accounted for by providing a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprises its assets, deferred outflow of resources, liabilities, deferred inflow of resources, reserves, fund equity, revenues and expenditures. The District's current operations require the use of only the following fund type:

Governmental Fund:

The focus of the governmental fund's measurement (in the fund statement) is upon determination of financial position and changes in financial position (sources, uses, and balances of financial resources) rather than upon net income. In general, fund balance represents the accumulated expendable resources, which may be used to finance future operations of the District.

General Fund

The General Fund is the principal fund of the District and is used to account for the operations of the District. General revenues are accounted for in this fund. General operating expenditures are paid from this fund.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(1) SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Basis of Accounting

Basis of accounting refers to when revenues and expenditures are recognized and reported in the financial statements. Basis of accounting relates to the timing of the measurements made, regardless of the measurement focus applied.

Accrual

The governmental activities in the government-wide financial are presented on the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recognized when incurred.

Modified Accrual

The governmental fund financial statements are presented on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when susceptible to accrual; i.e., both measurable and available. "Available" means collectible within the current period or within 60 days after year end. Expenditures are generally recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related liability is incurred. The exception to this general rule is that principal and interest on general obligation long-term debt, if any, is recognized when due.

The District records are maintained on the cash basis of accounting. However, the General Fund reported in the accompanying financial statements has been converted to a modified accrual basis of accounting utilizing the following practices in recording revenues and expenditures:

Revenues

Property taxes, parcel fees, state revenue sharing, charges for services and interest associated with the current fiscal period are all considered to be susceptible to accrual, subject to availability, and so have been recognized as revenue of the current fiscal period. All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the government.

Interest income on investments is recorded when the investments have matured and income is available.

All other revenues are recorded when received.

Expenditures

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

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(1) SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Deposits and Investments

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

Louisiana revised statutes authorize the District to invest in (1) United States bonds, treasury notes or certificates, or time certificates of deposit of state banks organized under the laws of Louisiana and national banks having their principal offices in the State of Louisiana, an investment as stipulated in LSA-R.S. 39:1271, or any other federally insured investments or (2) in mutual or trust fund institutions, which are registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Securities Act of 1933 and the Investment Act of 1940, and which have underlying investments consisting solely of and limited to securities of the U.S. Government or its agencies.

Investments are reported at fair value when the difference between cost and market is considered material.

Receivables and Payables

All property tax receivables are shown net of a 5% allowance for uncollectibles. The allowance is based on prior years' experience.

Property taxes are levied on a calendar year basis, become due on December 31 and are considered delinquent on January 1. The District authorized and levied a 26 mill ad valorem tax for operations and maintenance for the year ended December 31, 2019.

The following are the principal taxpayers and related property tax revenue for the District:

	<u>Assessed Valuation</u>	<u>% of Total Assessed Value</u>
Florida Marine Transporters	\$ 13,723,580	1.99%
Central LA Elec Co.	12,020,471	1.75%
Tri States NGL Pipeline LLC	5,868,650	0.85%
Parkway Pipeline LLC	4,554,567	0.66%
Epic Development Inc.	4,319,772	0.63%
Atmos Energy Corporation	4,098,347	0.60%
Capital One N A	3,588,560	0.52%
Premier Centre LLC	3,363,020	0.49%
JP Morgan Chase Bank	3,132,598	0.46%
Mechanical Equipment Co Inc.	<u>3,106,360</u>	<u>0.45%</u>
	<u>\$ 57,775,925</u>	<u>8.39%</u>

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(1) SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Receivable

In 1994, the District started providing emergency medical transportation to the residents of the fourth ward of St. Tammany Parish. Residents who use the medical transportation service are charged a fee ranging from \$150 to \$1,246 plus upcharges for additional specialized services during transport, as needed. Mileage is billed at a rate of \$20 per mile per occurrence. The District has agreements with other third-party payers that provide for payments at amounts different from its established rates. For the year ended December 31, 2019, the District provided \$2,150,121 for adjustments to established rates billed. Net emergency medical service revenue is recorded at the estimated realizable amount from patients, third-party payers, and others for services rendered, based upon prior years' experience and management's analysis of possible bad debts. Emergency medical receivables are written off when it is determined by the District that payment will not be received. Generally accepted accounting principles require that the allowance method be used to reflect bad debts. However, the effect of the use of the direct write-off method is not materially different from the results that would have been obtained had the allowance method been followed.

Prepaid Items

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

Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property and equipment, are reported in the government wide statements. Capital assets are recorded 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 of \$2,500 or more for capitalizing capital assets.

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

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

Buildings	40 Years
Building improvements	20 Years
Transportation equipment	5-15 Years
Medical/firefighting equipment	3-10 Years
Computers	3-5 Years
Furniture and fixtures	5 Years

Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources

In addition to assets, the Statement of Financial Position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *deferred outflows of resources*, represents a consumption of net position that applies to future periods and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/expenditure) until then. Currently, the District has one item that qualifies for reporting in this category, deferred amounts related to pensions.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(1) SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Deferred Outflows and Inflows of Resources (Continued)

In addition to liabilities, the Statement of Financial Position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *deferred inflows of resources*, represents an acquisition of net position or fund balance that applies to future periods and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until then. Currently, the District has one item that qualifies for reporting in this category, deferred amounts related to pensions.

Compensated Absences

Each full time employee shall be entitled to annual vacation of 18 days with full pay. This vacation period shall be increased one day for each year of service over 10 years, up to a maximum vacation period of 30 days, all of which shall be with full pay. Maximum accumulation of the total annual leave balance each year shall be evaluated on an annual basis by the Board of Commissioners. The Board of Commissioners will have the authority to reduce or increase the total accumulated hours allowed on an annual basis. Any member of the department for any cause shall not forfeit the vacation privileges herein provided for unless allowed by law.

All 24 hour shift personnel shall be entitled to 216 hours of annual vacation time with full pay. This vacation time shall be increased 12 hours each year of service over 10 years, up to a maximum of 450 hours of annual vacation time, all of which shall be with full pay.

The cost of current leave privileges, computed in accordance with GASB Codification Section C60, is recognized as current-year expenditures in the general fund when the leave is actually taken. The total cost of leave privileges is recorded in the Statement of Net Position.

Other Post-Employment Benefits

The District provides certain health care benefits for retired employees. The District recognizes the costs associated with providing these benefits monthly. In the government-wide financial statements, other post-employment benefits are reported as liabilities in the applicable governmental activities statement of net position.

Long-term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities. In the fund financial statements, the face amount of debt issued is reported as other financing sources. Premiums received on debt issuances are reported as other financing sources while discounts on debt issuances are reported as other financing uses. Issuance costs, whether or not withheld from the actual debt proceeds received, are reported as debt service expenditures.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(1) SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Long-term Obligations (Continued)

For purposes of measuring the net pension liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of Louisiana Firefighters' Retirement System and additions to/deductions from the system's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the system. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

Equity Classifications

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

- a. Net investment in capital assets - consists of capital assets including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes, or other borrowings and deferred inflows of resources that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.
- b. Restricted net position - consists of restricted assets reduced by liabilities and deferred inflows of resources related to those assets. Constraints may be placed on the use either by (1) external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (2) law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
- c. Unrestricted net position – net amount of the assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources that are not included in either of the other two categories of net position.

Governmental fund equity is classified as fund balance. In the governmental fund financial statements, fund balances are classified as follows:

- a. Nonspendable – amounts that cannot be spent either because they are in a nonspendable form or because they are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.
- b. Restricted – amounts that can be spent only for specific purposes because of state, local or federal awards or externally imposed conditions by grantors or creditors.
- c. Committed – amounts that can be used for specific purposes determined by formal action by an ordinance or resolution.
- d. Assigned – amounts that are designated by the formal action of the government's highest level of decision making authority.
- e. Unassigned – amounts not included in other classifications.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(1) SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Equity Classifications (Continued)

The Board of Commissioners, as the highest level of decision-making authority, can establish, modify or rescind a fund balance commitment by formal vote at a public board meeting. For assigned fund balance the Board of Commissioners authorizes management to assign amounts for a specific purpose.

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

Use of Estimates

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

Subsequent Events

Subsequent events have been evaluated through June 23, 2020, which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued. In December 2019, an outbreak of a novel strain of coronavirus (COVID-19) originated in Wuhan, China and has since spread to other countries, including the U.S. On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization characterized COVID-19 as a pandemic. In addition, multiple jurisdictions in the U.S. have declared a state of emergency. It is anticipated that these impacts will continue for some time. There has been no immediate impact to the District's operations. Future potential impacts may include disruptions in the ability of citizen's ability to continue making tax payments as a result of job loss or other pandemic related issues. The future effects of these issues are unknown.

(2) STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

The District published the proposed budget for the General Fund in the St. Tammany Farmer on November 28th and December 5th of 2018. A public hearing was held on December 18, 2018 and the board adopted the budget. The budget is prepared using GAAP basis of accounting. All appropriations lapse at year end. Formal budget integration within the accounting records is employed as a management control device during the year. The board also reviews budget versus actual reports on a monthly basis. Changes or amendments are made upon approval of the board.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(3) CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

At December 31, 2019, the District has cash and cash equivalents (book balances) totaling \$9,898,879 as follows:

Operating accounts	\$	72,411
EMS Billing		58,925
Budget Planning accounts		3,908,102
Investment account		659,291
Certificate of Deposits		5,200,000
Petty cash		<u>150</u>
	\$	<u>9,898,879</u>

These deposits are stated at cost, which approximates market. Under state law, these deposits (or the resulting bank balances) must be secured by federal deposit insurance or the pledge of securities owned by the fiscal agent bank. The market value of the pledged securities plus the federal deposit insurance must at all times equal the amount on deposit with the fiscal agent. These securities are held in the name of the pledging agent bank in a holding or custodial bank that is mutually acceptable to both parties.

Cash and deposits are categorized into three categories of credit risk.

Category 1 includes deposits covered by federal depository insurance or by collateral held by the District or its agent, in the District's name.

Category 2 includes deposits covered by collateral held by the pledging financial institution's trust department, or its agent in the District's name.

Category 3 includes deposits covered by collateral held by the pledging financial institution, or its trust department or agent but not in the District's name, and deposits which are uninsured or uncollateralized.

At December 31, 2019, the carrying amount and the bank balances of deposits of the primary government are summarized as follows:

	Bank Balances Category			Bank
	1	2	3	Balance
Cash	\$ 250,000	\$ 9,652,575	\$ -	\$ 9,902,575

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(4) RECEIVABLES

The receivables of \$14,440,431 at December 31, 2019 are as follows:

Class of Receivable	Amount
Taxes – ad valorem, net	\$ 13,514,346
State revenue sharing	150,492
EMS receivable, net	709,175
FEMA grant receivable	63,349
Misc. accounts	3,069
	\$ 14,440,431

(5) CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital assets and depreciation activity as of and for the year ended December 31, 2019 is as follows:

	1/1/2019	Additions	Reductions	12/31/2019
Governmental Activities:				
Capital assets not being depreciated:				
Land	\$ 699,473	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 699,473
Construction in progress	2,500	-	-	2,500
Total capital assets not being depreciated	701,973	-	-	701,973
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Buildings and improvements	3,626,515	-	-	3,626,515
Firefighting equipment	1,162,607	77,327	(30,600)	1,209,334
Medical equipment	558,142	-	(71,190)	486,952
Transportation vehicles	4,738,010	131,288	(41,399)	4,827,899
Furniture and fixtures	64,563	-	(7,990)	56,573
Total capital assets being depreciated	10,149,837	208,615	(151,179)	10,207,273
Less accumulated depreciation for:				
Buildings and improvements	1,735,468	111,279	-	1,846,747
Firefighting equipment	884,809	129,453	(30,601)	983,661
Medical equipment	448,329	57,529	(71,184)	434,674
Transportation vehicles	2,518,389	323,039	(13,098)	2,828,330
Furniture and fixtures	64,563	-	(7,990)	56,573
Total accumulated depreciation	5,651,558	621,300	(122,873)	6,149,985
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	4,498,279	(412,685)	(28,306)	4,057,288

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(5) CAPITAL ASSETS (CONTINUED)

Governmental activities
capital assets, net \$ 5,200,252 \$ (412,685) \$ (28,306) \$ 4,759,261

Depreciation expense of \$621,299 for the year ended December 31, 2019, was charged to fire protection and EMS.

(6) LONG-TERM DEBT

	Balance at 1/1/19	Additions	Reductions	Balance at 12/31/19	Due Within One Year
\$600,000 Limited tax certificate of indebtedness, interest rate at 1.74%, maturing on March 1, 2022, secured by ad valorem.	\$ 285,000	\$ -	\$ 70,000	\$ 215,000	\$ 70,000
Santander Bank Municipal lease-purchase agreement, interest rate at 3.54%, maturing on May 15, 2024	409,148	-	409,148	-	
	\$ 694,148	\$ -	\$ 479,148	\$ 215,000	\$ 70,000

Interest costs incurred and charged to expense for the year ended December 31, 2019 was \$28,847

The annual requirements to maturity for the certificates of indebtedness as of December 31, 2019 are as follows:

Year Ending December 31,	Principal	Interest
2020	\$ 70,000	\$ 3,132
2021	70,000	1,914
2022	75,000	653
Thereafter	-	-
	\$ 215,000	\$ 5,669

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(7) OPERATING LEASES

The District leases copier and radio equipment for a period of less than 12 months. Total payments charged to leased equipment expense for the year ended December 31, 2019 was \$60,577.

(8) COMPENSATED ABSENCES

A summary of compensated absences is as follows:

	Balance at January 1, 2019	Net Increase (Decrease)	Balance at December 31, 2019
Compensated absences	\$ 756,528	\$ (9,921)	\$ 746,607

(9) SUPPLEMENTAL SALARIES

During the year ended December 31, 2019, eligible full time employees received additional pay in the amount of \$589,894 from the State of Louisiana. These intergovernmental funds are reflected in the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance – governmental fund in salaries and related benefits.

(10) PENSION PLAN

Louisiana Firefighters' Retirement System

Plan Description

Substantially all full-time employees of the District are members of the Louisiana Firefighters' Retirement System (the System), a cost-sharing, multiple-employer defined benefit public retirement system, which is controlled and administered by a separate Board of Trustees.

The Firefighters' Retirement System is the administrator of a cost-sharing multiple-employer plan. Membership in the System is a condition of employment, for any full-time firefighters who earn at least \$375 per month and are employed by any municipality, parish, or fire protection district of the State of Louisiana in addition to employees of the Firefighters' Retirement System; however, employees may opt out of participation. The System provides retirement benefits for their members. The projections of benefit payments in the calculation of the total pension liability includes all benefits to be provided to current active and inactive employees through the System in accordance with benefit terms and any additional legal agreements to provide benefits that are in force at the measurement date.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(10) PENSION PLAN (CONTINUED)

Louisiana Firefighters' Retirement System (continued)

Benefit provisions are authorized within Act 434 of 1979 and amended by LRS 11:2251-11:2272. The following is a brief description of the plan and its benefits and is provided for general information purposes only. Participants should refer to the appropriate statutes for more complete information.

Any person who becomes an employee as defined in RS 11:2252 on and after January 1, 1980 shall become a member as a condition of employment.

No person who has attained age fifty or over shall become a member of the System, unless the person becomes a member by reason of a merger or unless the System received an application for membership before the applicant attained the age of fifty. No person who has not attained the age of eighteen years shall become a member of the System.

Any person who has retired from service under any retirement system or pension fund maintained basically for public officers and employees of the state, its agencies or political subdivisions, and who is receiving retirement benefits therefrom may become a member of this System, provided the person meets all other requirements for membership. Service credit from the retirement system or pension plan from which the member is retired shall not be used for reciprocal recognition of service with this System, or for any other purpose in order to attain eligibility or increase the amount of service credit in this System.

The System also provides death and disability benefits. Benefits are established by state statute. The System issues an annual publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information for the System. The report may be obtained by writing to the Louisiana Firefighters' Retirement System, Post Office Box 94095, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804, or by calling, (225) 925-4060.

Funding Policy

For the twelve months ended December 31, 2019, members of the System are required to contribute 10% of their annual covered salary and the District is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate. At December 31, 2019, the employer contribution rate was 27.75% above poverty and 29.75% below poverty. The contribution requirements of plan members and the District are established and may be amended by state statute. As provided by Louisiana Revised Statute 11:103, the employer contributions are determined by actuarial valuation and are subject to change each year based on the results of the valuation for the prior fiscal year.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(10) PENSION PLAN (CONTINUED)

Louisiana Firefighters' Retirement System (continued)

Contributions

According to state statute, for the System, contribution requirements for all employees are actuarially determined each year. State statute requires covered employees to contribute a percentage of their salaries to the System. For the year ending December 31, 2019, the actual employer contribution rate and the actuarially determined employer contribution rate is listed below. The actual rate differs from the actuarially required rate due to state statutes that require the contribution rate be calculated and set two years prior to the year effective.

The amount of the District's employer contributions to the System for the year ended December 31, 2019 was \$1,765,593. The District's covered payroll for the System for the year ended December 31, 2019 was \$6,508,730.

Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

At December 31, 2019, the District reported a liability totaling \$16,831,119 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability for the System. The net pension liability was measured as of June 30, 2019 and the total pension liability used to calculate the Net Pension Liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The District's proportion of the Net Pension Liability was based on a projection of the District's long-term share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating employers, actuarially determined. At June 30, 2019, the District's proportion was 2.687857% for the System, which was a decrease of .015049% from its proportion measured as of June 30, 2018.

For the year ended December 31, 2019, the District recognized pension expense for the System totaling \$2,949,804. Deducted from pension expense is the employer's amortization of change in proportionate share and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions totaling \$(315,557) for the System.

For the year ended December 31, 2019, the District recognized revenue from ad valorem taxes and revenue sharing funds received by the System. These additional sources of income are used as employer contributions and are considered support from non-employer contributing entities totaling \$720,551.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(10) PENSION PLAN (CONTINUED)

Louisiana Firefighters' Retirement System (Continued)

Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions (Continued)

At December 31, 2019, the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the System:

	<u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u>	<u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u>
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ -	\$ 1,214,101
Change in assumptions	1,531,222	1,225
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	1,131,846	-
Changes in proportion and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions	27,012	1,135,316
Employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date	<u>905,307</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>\$ 3,595,387</u>	<u>\$ 2,350,642</u>

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(10) PENSION PLAN (CONTINUED)

Louisiana Firefighters' Retirement System (Continued)

Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions (Continued)

Employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date totaling \$905,306 and reported as deferred outflows of resources will be recognized as a reduction of the Net Pension Liability in the year ended December 31, 2019. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year Ended December 31:

2020	\$	294,886
2021		(343,216)
2022		164,697
2023		225,325
2024		(66,812)
2025		<u>45,732</u>
Total	\$	<u>320,612</u>

Actuarial Assumptions

The total pension liability in the June 30, 2019 actuarial valuation for the System was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Valuation Date	June 30, 2019
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age Normal Cost
Estimated Remaining Service Life	7 years, closed period
Investment Rate of Return	7.15% per annum (net of investment expenses)
Inflation Rate	2.500% per annum
Salary increases	Vary from 14.75% in the first two years of service to 4.50% with 25 or more years of service
Cost of Living Adjustments	Only those previously granted included

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(10) PENSION PLAN (CONTINUED)

Louisiana Firefighters' Retirement System (Continued)

Mortality Rate

The mortality rate assumption used was set based upon an experience study performed on plan data for the period July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2014. The data was then assigned credibility weighting and combined with a standard table to produce current levels of mortality. This mortality was then projected forward to a period equivalent to the estimated duration of the System's liabilities. Annuity values calculated based on this mortality were compared to those produced by using a set-back of standard tables. The result of the procedure indicated that the tables used would produce liability values approximating the appropriate generational mortality tables.

Long-term Expected Real Rate of Return

The estimated long term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a building block method in which best estimates ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation. The long term expected nominal rate of return was 7.94% as of June 30, 2019. Best estimates of real rates of return for each major asset class included in FRS' target asset allocation as of June 30, 2019 are summarized in the following table:

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Target Asset Allocation</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Portfolio Real Rate of Return</u>
Fixed income	31.0%	2.17%
Equity	49.0%	6.70%
Alternatives	10.0%	7.33%
Other	<u>10.0%</u>	<u>4.52%</u>
Totals	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>5.18%</u>
Inflation		2.75%
Expected arithmetic nominal return		7.94%

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(10) PENSION PLAN (CONTINUED)

Louisiana Firefighters' Retirement System (Continued)

Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.15%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from plan members will be made at the current contribution rates and that contributions from participating employers will be made at the actuarially determined rates approved by PRSAC taking into consideration the recommendation of the System's actuary. Based on those assumptions, the System's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the Authority's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following presents the District's proportionate share of the Net Pension Liability using the discount rate of 7.15%, as well as what the Authority's proportionate share of the Net Pension Liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower, or one percentage point higher than the current rate:

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
	<u>6.15%</u>	<u>7.15%</u>	<u>8.15%</u>
District's proportionate share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 24,372,599	\$ 16,831,119	\$ 10,501,375

Retirement System Audit Report

Firefighters' Retirement System issued a stand-alone audit report on its financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2019. Access to the audit report can be found on the System's website: www.lafirefightersret.com or on the Office of Louisiana Legislative Auditor's official website: www.lla.state.la.us.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(10) PENSION PLAN (CONTINUED)

Parochial Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana

Plan Description

The District has adopted "Parochial Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana Plan A" (the "System"), a public cost-sharing multiple employer defined benefit pension plan conforming with Chapter 5 Title 11 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950 (R.S. 11:1901) operated by the Parochial Employees' Retirement System Board of Trustees. Act 584 of 2006 implemented a new plan on benefits for employees hired January 1, 2007 and thereafter. The System provides retirement benefits to employees of taxing districts of a parish or any branch or section of a parish within the State which does not have their own retirement system and which elects to become members of the System.

All permanent parish government employees (except those employed by Orleans, Lafourche and East Baton Rouge Parishes) who work at least 28 hours a week shall become members on the date of employment. New employees meeting the age and Social Security criteria have up to 90 days from the date of hire to elect to participate.

The retirement allowance is equal to three percent of the member's final average compensation multiplied by his/her years of creditable service. Final average compensation shall be defined as the average of the highest consecutive 36 months' salary for members hired prior to January 1, 2007. For members hired on January 1, 2007 or later, final average compensation shall be defined as the average of the highest consecutive 60 months' salary.

Any employee who was a member of the supplemental plan prior to the revision date of January 1, 1980 has the benefit earned for service credited prior to the revision date on the basis of one percent of final compensation plus two dollars per month for each year credited prior to the revision date, and three percent of final compensation for each year of service credited after the revision date. The retirement allowance may not exceed the greater of one hundred percent of the member's final salary or the final average compensation. The System also provides death and disability benefits. Benefits are established by state statute.

Eligibility of Benefits Available:

<u>Members hired prior to January 1, 2007</u>		<u>Members hired after January 1, 2007</u>	
<u>Years</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Years</u>	<u>Age</u>
7	65	7	67
10	60	10	62
25	55	30	55
30	any age		

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(10) PENSION PLAN (CONTINUED)

Parochial Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana (Continued)

Plan Description (Continued)

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

The System issues an annual financial report to all participating employers. The financial report can be obtained by writing to: The Parochial Employees' Retirement System, P.O. Box 14619, Baton Rouge, LA 70898-4619.

St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4 does not guarantee the benefits granted by the System.

Funding Policy

In addition to certain dedicated taxes that are remitted to the System, (which constitute major funding of the System) members of the System are required by state statute to contribute 9.5% of their annual covered salary for the year ended December 31, 2019. The District is required to contribute at an actuarially determined rate, which was 11.5% at December 31, 2019. The contribution requirements of plan members and the District are established and may be amended by state statute. As provided by Louisiana Revised Statute 11:103, the employer contributions are determined by actuarial valuation and are subject to change each year based on the results of the valuation for the prior fiscal year.

Contributions

The amount of the District's employer contributions to the System for the year ended December 31, 2019 was \$12,356. The District's covered payroll for the System for the year ended December 31, 2019 was \$108,047.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(10) PENSION PLAN (CONTINUED)

Parochial Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana (Continued)

Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions

At December 31, 2019, the District reported a liability totaling \$74,723 for its proportionate share of the net pension liability for the System. The net pension liability was measured as of December 31, 2018 and the total pension liability used to calculate the net pension liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The District's proportion of the net pension liability was based on a projection of the District's long-term share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating employers, actuarially determined. At December 31, 2018, the District's proportion was 0.016835% for the System, which was an increase of .000202% from its proportion measured as of December 31, 2017.

For the year ended December 31, 2019, the District recognized pension expense for the System totaling \$29,045. Subtracted from pension expense is the employer's amortization of change in proportionate share and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions totaling \$110 for the System.

For the year ended December 31, 2019, the District recognized revenue from ad valorem taxes and revenue sharing funds received by the System. These additional sources of income are used as employer contributions and are considered support from non-employer contributing entities totaling \$1,286.

At December 31, 2019, the District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the System:

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(10) PENSION PLAN (CONTINUED)

Parochial Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana (Continued)

Pension Liabilities, Pension Expense, Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to Pensions (Continued)

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ -	\$ 4,552
Change in assumptions	18,682	-
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	35,769	-
Changes in proportion and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions	291	99
Employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date	12,356	-
Total	\$ 67,098	\$ 4,651

Employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date totaling \$12,356 and reported as deferred outflows of resources will be recognized as a reduction of the Net Pension Asset in the year ended December 31, 2019. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year Ended December 31:

2020	\$	17,131
2021		9,329
2022		7,639
2023		15,803
Total	\$	49,902

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(10) PENSION PLAN (CONTINUED)

Parochial Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana (Continued)

Actuarial Assumptions

The total pension liability in the December 31, 2018 actuarial valuation for the System was determined using the following actuarial assumptions, applied to all periods included in the measurement:

Valuation Date:	December 31, 2018
Actuarial Cost Method:	Plan A - Entry Age Normal
Actuarial Assumptions:	
Investment Rate of Return	6.50%, net of investment expense, including inflation
Projected Salary Increases	4.75%
Mortality Rates	RP-2000 Employee Sex Distinct Table was selected for employees. RP-2000 Healthy Annuitant Sex Distinct Tables were selected for annuitants and beneficiaries. RP-2000 Disabled Lives Mortality Table was selected for disabled annuitants.
Expected Remaining Service Lives	4 years
Cost of Living Adjustments	The present value of future retirement benefits is based on benefits currently being paid by the System and includes previously granted cost of living increases. The present values do not include provisions for potential future increases not yet authorized by the Board of Trustees.

Mortality Rate

The mortality rate assumption used was set based upon an experience study performed on plan data for the period January 1, 2004 through December 31, 2009. The data was then assigned credibility weighting and combined with a standard table to produce current levels of mortality. This mortality was then projected forward to a period equivalent to the estimated duration of the System's liabilities. Annuity values calculated based on this mortality were compared to those produced by using a setback of standard tables. The result of the procedure indicated that the tables used would produce liability values approximating the appropriate generational mortality tables.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(10) PENSION PLAN (CONTINUED)

Parochial Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana (Continued)

Long-term Expected Real Rate of Return

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a triangulation method which integrated the CAPM pricing model (top-down), a treasury yield curve approach (bottom-up) and an equity building-block model (bottom-up). Risk return and correlations are projected on a forward looking basis in equilibrium, in which best-estimates of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These rates are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation of 2.00% and an adjustment for the effect of rebalancing/diversification. The resulting expected long-term rate of return is 7.43% for the year ended December 31, 2018.

Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in the System's target asset allocation as of December 31, 2018 are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Target Asset Allocation	Long-Term Expected Portfolio Real Rate of Return
Fixed income	35.0%	1.22%
Equity	52.0%	3.45%
Alternatives	11.0%	0.65%
Real assets	<u>2.0%</u>	<u>0.11%</u>
Totals	<u>100.0%</u>	<u>5.43%</u>
Inflation		2.00%
Expected arithmetic nominal return		7.43%

Discount Rate

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 6.50% for Plan A. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from plan members will be made at the current contribution rates and that contributions from participating employers and non-employer contributing entities will be made at the actuarially determined contribution rates, which are calculated in accordance with relevant statutes and approved by the Board of Trustees and the Public Retirement Systems' Actuarial Committee. Based on those assumptions, the System's fiduciary net position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(10) PENSION PLAN (CONTINUED)

Parochial Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana (Continued)

Sensitivity of the Authority's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following presents the Authority's proportionate share of the Net Pension Asset using the discount rate of 6.50%, as well as what the Authority's proportionate share of the Net Pension Asset would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage point lower, or one percentage point higher than the current rate:

	<u>1% Decrease</u>	<u>Current Discount Rate</u>	<u>1% Increase</u>
	<u>4.50%</u>	<u>6.50%</u>	<u>7.50%</u>
Authority's proportionate share of the Net Pension Asset	\$ 158,685	\$ 74,720	\$ 4,532

Retirement System Audit Report

Parochial Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana issued a stand-alone audit report on its financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2018. Access to the audit report can be found on the System's website: www.persla.org or on the Office of Louisiana Legislative Auditor's official website: www.lla.state.la.us.

(11) DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN

The District offers its employees a deferred compensation plan created in accordance with Internal Revenue Code Section 457. The Plan, available to all employees, permits them to defer a portion of their salary until future years. The deferred compensation is not available to employees until termination, retirement, death, or an unforeseeable emergency.

The District also participates in the Social Security Program; therefore individual employees can elect to opt out of the State of Louisiana Fire Fighters Retirement System. The Louisiana Fire Fighters Retirement System must approve all requests to opt out of the state program. By opting out of the Louisiana Fire Fighters Retirement System, an employee is allowed to participate in a deferred compensation plan, which means the employee bears the responsibility and associated risks of their retirement assets.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(11) DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN (CONTINUED)

Any employee that participates in a deferred compensation plan such as the Louisiana Public Employee Deferred Compensation Plan clearly understands the employee is responsible for their investment risks. The employee participating in a defined compensation plan such as the Louisiana Public Employee Deferred Compensation Plan acknowledges it is their sole responsibility to manage their investments and associated risks of their retirement assets. The employee also acknowledges there is no responsibility or liability on behalf of St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4 for any losses or reduction in value of the employee's investment or contribution or the District contributions.

The District will limit the employer's contributions to only one the following plans for an employee: Louisiana Fire Fighters Retirement System, Louisiana Parochial Employees Retirement System or Louisiana Public Employee Deferred Compensation Plan.

The District will contribute an equal or matching percentage of a full time employee's contributions to the Louisiana Public Employee Deferred Compensation Plan up to a maximum of ten (10%) of the employee's scheduled wages. The total annual contribution to the defined contribution plan must not exceed the totals allowable by law in the given year. Only full time employees are eligible for any matching contribution. The District's contributions to deferred compensation plans for the years ended December 31, 2018 and 2017, were \$57,399 and \$33,481, respectively, equal to the required contributions for the year.

(12) OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

Plan Description

The St. Tammany Parish Fire District #4 (the Fire District) provides certain continuing health care and life insurance benefits for its retired employees. The St. Tammany Parish Fire District #4's OPEB Plan (the OPEB Plan) is a single-employer defined benefit OPEB plan administered by the Fire District. The authority to establish and/or amend the obligation of the employer, employees and retirees rests with the Fire District. No assets are accumulated in a trust that meets the criteria in Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Codification Section P52 *Postemployment Benefits Other Than Pensions—Reporting For Benefits Not Provided Through Trusts That Meet Specified Criteria—Defined Benefit*.

Benefits Provided

Medical benefits are provided through a comprehensive medical plan and are made available to employees upon actual retirement. The employees are covered by a retirement system whose retirement eligibility requirements are age 55 and 12 years of service, age 50 and 20 years of service or completion of 25 years of service at any age. At 20 years of service at retirement, the employer pays 100% of retiree only medical benefits and at 16 to 20 years, the employer pays 50%.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(12) OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Employees Covered by Benefit Terms

At December 31, 2019, the following employees were covered by the benefit terms:

Inactive employees or beneficiaries currently receiving benefit payments	21
Inactive employees entitled to but not yet receiving benefit payments	-
Active employees	<u>112</u>
	<u>133</u>

Total OPEB Liability

The Fire District's total OPEB liability of \$5,478,575 was measured as of December 31, 2019 and was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date.

Actuarial Assumptions and other inputs

The total OPEB liability in the December 31, 2019 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions and other inputs, applied to all periods included in the measurement, unless otherwise specified:

Inflation	2.5%
Salary increases	4.0%, including inflation
Discount Rate	4.10% annually (Beginning of Year to Determine ADC) 2.74%, annually (As of End of Year Measurement Date)
Healthcare cost trend rates	Flat 5.5% annually

The discount rate was based on the average of the Bond Buyers' 20 Year General Obligation municipal bond index as of December 31, 2019, the end of the applicable measurement period.

Mortality rates were based on the RP-2000 Table without projection with 50%/50% unisex blend.

The actuarial assumptions used in the December 31, 2019 valuation were based on the results of ongoing evaluations of the assumptions from January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2019.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(12) OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

Changes in the Total OPEB Liability

Balance at December 31, 2018	\$ 4,252,418
Changes for the year:	
Service cost	105,874
Interest	171,310
Differences between expected and actual experience	231,430
Changes in assumptions	865,811
Benefit payments and net transfers	<u>(148,268)</u>
Net changes	<u>1,226,157</u>
Balance at December 31, 2019	<u>\$ 5,478,575</u>

Sensitivity of the Total OPEB Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate

The following presents the total OPEB liability of the Fire District, as well as what the Fire District's total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (1.74%) or 1-percentage-point higher (3.74%) than the current discount rate:

	1% Decrease <u>1.74%</u>	Current Discount Rate <u>2.74%</u>	1% Increase <u>3.74%</u>
Total OPEB Liability	\$ 6,479,751	\$ 5,478,575	\$ 4,689,563

Sensitivity of the Total OPEB Liability to Healthcare Cost Trend Rates

The following presents the total OPEB liability of the Fire District, as well as what the Fire District's total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using healthcare cost trend rates that are 1-percentage-point lower (4.5%) or 1-percentage-point higher (6.5%) than the current healthcare trend rates:

	1% Decrease <u>4.50%</u>	Current Trend Rate <u>5.50%</u>	1% Increase <u>6.50%</u>
Total OPEB Liability	\$ 4,943,220	\$ 5,478,575	\$ 6,687,036

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(12) OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (CONTINUED)

OPEB Expense and Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources Related to OPEB

For the year ended December 31, 2019, the Fire District recognized OPEB expense of \$334,688. At December 31, 2019, the Fire District reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB from the following sources:

	Deferred Outflows of Resources	Deferred Inflows of Resources
Changes in assumptions	\$ 799,210	\$ (313,845)
Differences between expected and actual experience	<u>213,545</u>	<u>(35,846)</u>
Total	<u>\$ 1,012,755</u>	<u>\$ (349,691)</u>

Amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to OPEB will be recognized in OPEB expense as follows:

Years ending June 30:	
2020	\$ 57,504
2021	57,504
2022	57,504
2023	57,504
2024	57,504
Thereafter	<u>375,629</u>
Total	<u>\$ 663,149</u>

(13) RISK MANAGEMENT

The District is exposed to all common perils associated with fire protection and EMS services. To minimize loss occurrence and transfer risk, the District carries various commercial insurance policies including property, casualty, employee dishonesty, public official's liability, business auto and other miscellaneous policies. These policies are reviewed for adequacy by management annually.

(14) LITIGATION

At December 31, 2019, the District is involved in various lawsuits. The District's legal advisors are unable to estimate the ultimate resolution of such matters. Consequently, no liability has been recorded in the accompanying financial statements. The claims are potentially within the District's insurance coverage limits.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(15) NEW ACCOUNTING PRONOUNCEMENTS

The GASB has issued Statement No. 83, “*Certain Asset Retirement Obligations*.” The objective of this Statement is to provide financial statement users with information about asset retirement obligations (AROs) that were not addressed in GASB standards by establishing uniform accounting and financial reporting requirements for these obligations. This Statement establishes criteria for determining the timing and the pattern of recognition of a liability and a corresponding deferred outflow of resources for AROs, and requires (1) that recognition occur when the liability is both incurred and reasonably estimable; (2) the measurement of an ARO to be based on the best estimate of the current value of outlays expected to be incurred; (3) the current value of a government’s AROs to be adjusted for the effects of general inflation or deflation at least annually; (4) a government to evaluate all relevant factors at least annually to determine whether the effects of one or more of the factors are expected to significantly change the estimated asset retirement outlays; and (5) disclosure of information concerning the nature of a government’s AROs, the methods and assumptions used for the estimates of the liabilities, and the estimated remaining useful life of the associated tangible capital assets. The requirements of this Statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2018. The District has adopted this Statement as applicable by the effective date.

The GASB has issued Statement No. 84, “*Fiduciary Activities*.” The objective of this Statement is to improve guidance regarding the identification of fiduciary activities for accounting and financial reporting purposes and how those activities should be reported. This Statement establishes criteria for identifying fiduciary activities of all state and local governments. The focus of the criteria generally is on (1) whether a government is controlling the assets of the fiduciary activity and (2) the beneficiaries with whom a fiduciary relationship exists. Separate criteria are included to identify fiduciary component units and postemployment benefit arrangements that are fiduciary activities. The requirements of this Statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2018. The District has adopted this Statement as applicable by the effective date.

The GASB has issued Statement No. 87, “*Leases*.” The objective of this Statement is to better meet the information needs of financial statement users by improving accounting and financial reporting for leases by governments. This Statement increases the usefulness of governments’ financial statements by requiring recognition of certain lease assets and liabilities for leases that previously were classified as operating leases and recognized as inflows of resources or outflows of resources based on the payment provisions of the contract. It establishes a single model for lease accounting based on the foundational principle that leases are financings of the right to use an underlying asset. Under this Statement, a lessee is required to recognize a lease liability and an intangible right-to-use lease asset, and a lessor is required to recognize a lease receivable and a deferred inflow of resources, thereby enhancing the relevance and consistency of information about governments’ leasing activities. The requirements of this Statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2019. The District plans to adopt this Statement as applicable by the effective date.

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019

	Budget	Actual	Variance- Favorable (Unfavorable)
GENERAL REVENUES:			
Ad valorem taxes	\$ 14,100,000	\$ 14,901,864	\$ 801,864
Intergovernmental revenues:			
State revenue sharing	200,000	227,926	27,926
Fire insurance rebate	220,000	223,477	3,477
State supplemental pay	-	589,894	589,894
Charges for services (EMS)	1,300,000	1,327,734	27,734
Training revenue	-	44,895	44,895
Interest income	250,000	247,124	(2,876)
Miscellaneous	430,000	1,055,386	625,386
	<u>16,500,000</u>	<u>18,618,300</u>	<u>2,118,300</u>
EXPENDITURES:			
Current for fire protection and EMS:			
Personnel	12,300,000	12,957,805	(657,805)
Services	810,000	603,658	206,342
Rent/lease expenses	75,000	-	75,000
Utilities	125,000	116,913	8,087
Repairs and maintenance	500,000	469,130	30,870
Other operating expenses	2,100,000	1,552,291	547,709
Non-capital expenses	-	216,016	(216,016)
	<u>15,910,000</u>	<u>15,915,813</u>	<u>(5,813)</u>
Debt service	140,000	509,782	(369,782)
Capital outlays	450,000	208,613	241,387
	<u>16,500,000</u>	<u>16,634,208</u>	<u>(134,208)</u>
Excess of revenues over expenditures	-	1,984,092	1,984,092
FUND BALANCE:			
Beginning of year	21,016,796	21,016,796	-
End of year	<u>\$ 21,016,796</u>	<u>\$ 23,000,888</u>	<u>\$ 1,984,092</u>

*Note: The Actual on Budgetary Basis amounts above reflect the modified accrual basis of accounting, except that state supplemental pay for firefighters (\$589,894) is not reflected above in revenues and expenditures.

(See Independent Auditors' Report)

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
SCHEDULE OF FUNDING PROGRESS OF OPEB PLAN
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019

Actuarial Valuation Date	Actuarial Value of Assets	Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) Projected Unit Cost	Unfunded AAL (UAAL)	Funded Ratio	Covered Payroll	UAAL as a Percentage of Covered Payroll
	(a)	(b)	(b-a)	(a/b)	(c)	[(b-a)/c]
1/1/2019	\$ -	\$ 5,478,575	\$ 5,478,575	0.00%	\$ 7,927,805	69.11%

(See Independent Auditors' Report)

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
SCHEDULE OF PROPORTIONATE SHARE OF THE NET PENSION LIABILITY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019*

	<u>12/31/2019</u>	<u>12/31/2018</u>	<u>12/31/2017</u>	<u>12/31/2016</u>	<u>12/31/2015</u>
<u>Louisiana Firefighters' Retirement System</u>					
District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	2.687857%	2.702906%	2.859543%	2.877815%	3.029979%
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability	\$ 16,831,121	\$ 15,547,326	\$ 16,390,469	\$ 18,823,508	\$ 16,353,137
District's Covered-Employee Payroll	\$ 6,496,888	\$ 6,430,065	\$ 6,928,839	\$ 6,574,323	\$ 6,439,270
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability as a Percentage of its Covered-Employee Payroll	259.06%	241.79%	236.55%	286.32%	253.96%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability	73.96%	74.76%	73.55%	68.16%	72.45%
<u>Parochial Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana</u>					
District's Proportion of the Net Pension Liability	0.016835%	0.016633%	0.016936%	0.017787%	0.017048%
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Asset (Liability)	\$ (74,720)	\$ 12,346	\$ (34,884)	\$ (46,821)	\$ (4,661)
District's Covered-Employee Payroll	103,491	\$ 102,373	\$ 100,442	\$ 101,983	\$ 96,468
District's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Asset (Liability) as a Percentage of its Covered-Employee Payroll	-72.20%	12.06%	34.73%	45.91%	4.83%
Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Asset (Liability)	88.86%	101.98%	94.15%	92.23%	99.15%

Note: Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

**The amounts presented for each fiscal year were determined as of the calendar year-end that occurred within the fiscal year.*

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
SCHEDULE OF CONTRIBUTIONS - RETIREMENT PLAN
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019

	<u>12/31/2019</u>	<u>12/31/2018</u>	<u>12/31/2017</u>	<u>12/31/2016</u>	<u>12/31/2015</u>
<u>Louisiana Firefighters' Retirement System</u>					
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ 1,725,759	\$ 1,709,422	\$ 1,679,423	\$ 1,696,055	\$ 1,953,370
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	<u>(1,725,759)</u>	<u>(1,703,422)</u>	<u>(1,679,423)</u>	<u>(1,696,055)</u>	<u>(1,953,370)</u>
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 6,000</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Authority's covered-employee payroll	\$ 6,508,731	\$ 6,486,856	\$ 6,492,182	\$ 6,596,541	\$ 6,953,267
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll	26.51%	26.26%	25.87%	25.71%	28.09%
<u>Parochial Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana</u>					
Contractually Required Contribution	\$ 11,619	\$ 12,812	\$ 12,797	\$ 13,057	\$ 14,788
Contributions in Relation to the Contractually Required Contribution	<u>(11,619)</u>	<u>(12,797)</u>	<u>(12,797)</u>	<u>(13,057)</u>	<u>(14,778)</u>
Contribution Deficiency (Excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 15</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 10</u>
Authority's covered-employee payroll	\$ 108,047	\$ 103,494	\$ 102,373	\$ 100,442	\$ 101,983
Contributions as a Percentage of Covered-Employee Payroll	10.75%	12.36%	12.50%	13.00%	14.49%

Note: Schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

ST.TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION
DECEMBER 31, 2019

(1) PENSION PLAN SCHEDULES

Changes of Benefit Terms

There were no changes of benefit terms during any of the years presented.

Changes of Assumptions

For the year ended December 31, 2019 (measurement date of June 30, 2019), the Firefighter's Retirement System inflation rate assumption was lowered from 2.700% to 2.500% annually, and the real investment rate of return was lowered from 7.30% to 7.15%.

For the year ended December 31, 2019 (measurement date of June 30, 2019), the Firefighter's Retirement System inflation rate assumption was lowered from 2.775% to 2.700% annually, and the real investment rate of return was lowered from 7.40% to 7.30%.

For the year ended December 31, 2018 (measurement date of June 30, 2018), the Firefighter's Retirement System inflation rate assumption was lowered from 2.875% to 2.700% annually, and the salary increase range assumption was lowered from 4.75% - 15.0% to 4.75% - 15.0%.

There were no changes of assumptions during the years ended December 31, 2019 (measurement date of December 31, 2018) for the Parochial Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana.

For the year ended December 31, 2018 (measurement date of June 30, 2018), the Firefighter's Retirement System inflation rate assumption was lowered from 2.700% to 2.500% annually, and the salary increase range assumption was lowered from 4.75% - 15.0% to 4.50% - 14.75%.

For the year ended December 31, 2017 (measurement date of December 31, 2016), the Parochial Employees' Retirement System of Louisiana's inflation rate assumption was lowered from 2.5% to 2.4% annually, and the salary increase assumption was lowered from 5.25% to 4.75%. The real investment rate of return also decreased from 7.00% in 2015 to 6.75% in 2016. Additionally, the System uses the RP-2000 Employee Sex Distinct Table for selected employees and the RP-2000 Healthy Annuitant Sex Distinct Tables to develop its mortality rate assumptions.

OTHER SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
SCHEDULE OF COMPENSATION PAID TO BOARD MEMBERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019

The schedule of compensation paid to Board of Commissioners is presented in compliance with House Concurrent Resolution No. 54 of the 1979 Session of the Louisiana Legislature. Payment per diem is made in accordance with Louisiana Revised Statute 40:1498 which authorizes per diem payments of \$100 per regular and special board meeting and \$50 per committee meeting. The maximum number of committee meetings per month allowed is two.

Name	Amount
William Dobson	\$ 1,500
Ambrose Amedee	1,300
John Schell	1,500
David Lindsey	1,500
Evans Spiceland	1,200
	\$ 7,000

(See Independent Auditors' Report)

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
SCHEDULE OF COMPENSATION, BENEFITS AND OTHER PAYMENTS
TO AGENCY HEAD
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019

Kenneth Moore, Fire Chief

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Salary	\$ 169,976
Benefits - insurance	8,979
Benefits - retirement	-
Benefits - other	141
Car allowance	-
Vehicle provided by government	-
Per diem	-
Reimbursements	-
Travel	-
Registration fees	-
Conference travel	-
Continuing professional education fees	-
Housing	-
Unvouchered expenses	-
Special meals	-
	<hr/>
Total Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments	\$ <u>179,096</u>

(See Independent Auditors' Report)



**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER
FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED
ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE
WITH *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS***

To the Board of Commissioners
St Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4
Mandeville, Louisiana

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund of St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2019, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated June 23, 2020.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4's internal control over financial reporting (internal control) to determine the 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 St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4's internal control.

A deficiency in internal control exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. *A material weakness* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control, such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

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



To the Board of Commissioners
St Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4
June 23, 2020

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4's financial statements are free from material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of financial statement amounts. However, providing an opinion on compliance with those provisions was not an objective of our audit, and accordingly, we do not express such an opinion. The results of our tests disclosed no instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose. However, under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the Legislative Auditor as a public document.

June 23, 2020
Mandeville, Louisiana

Ericksen Krentel, LLP
Certified Public Accountants

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019

SECTION I SUMMARY OF AUDIT RESULTS

1. The independent auditors' report expresses an unmodified opinion on the financial statements of St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4.
2. No significant deficiencies or material weaknesses disclosed during the audit of the financial statements is reported in the Independent Auditors' 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*.
3. No instances of noncompliance material to the financial statements of St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4, which would be required to be reported in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, were disclosed during the audit.
4. A management letter was not issued for the year ended December 31, 2019.

SECTION II FINANCIAL STATEMENT FINDINGS

Not Applicable

ST. TAMMANY PARISH FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
SUMMARY SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2019

**SECTION I INTERNAL CONTROL AND COMPLIANCE MATERIAL TO THE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

Not Applicable

SECTION II MANAGEMENT LETTER

Not Applicable



June 23, 2020

To the Board of Commissioners of
St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4
Mandeville, Louisiana

We have audited the financial statements of the governmental activities, the business-type activities, the aggregate discretely presented component units, each major fund and the aggregate remaining fund information of St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4 for the year ended December 31, 2019. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards (and, if applicable, *Government Auditing Standard* and the Uniform Guidance), as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated November 12, 2019. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

Significant Audit Matters

Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by St. Tammany Fire Protection District No. 4 are described in Note 1 to the financial statements. The application of existing policies was not changed during 2019. We noted no transactions entered into by the St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4 during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimates affecting St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4's financial statements were:

Management's estimate of the depreciation expense is based on historical information regarding asset life and usefulness. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop this expense in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Management's estimate of the unavailable revenue - ad valorem and parcel fee revenue is based on the measurability and availability of ad valorem tax receivable within 60 days subsequent to year end. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to calculate this receivable in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.



St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4
Mandeville, Louisiana
June 23, 2020
Page 2

Management's estimate of the collectability of the emergency medical service receivables is based upon the historical average of collections versus gross billings for services. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to calculate this receivable in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

Management's estimate of pension liability is based on estimates of the value of reported amounts and assumptions about the probability of occurrence of events far into the future. Assumptions include investment rate of return, projected salary increases, mortality rates, expected remaining service lives and cost of living adjustments. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to calculate this expense in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Management has corrected all such misstatements. In addition, none of the misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures and corrected by management were material, either individually or in the aggregate, to each opinion unit's financial statements taken as a whole.

Disagreements with Management

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

Management Representations

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated June 30, 2020.



St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4
Mandeville, Louisiana
June 23, 2020
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Management Consultations with Other Independent Accountants

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a “second opinion” on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4’s financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor’s opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

Other Audit Findings or Issues

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4’s auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Other Matters

We applied certain limited procedures to management’s discussion and analysis, budgetary comparison information, schedules of compensation paid to board members and agency head, schedule of the proportionate share of the net pension liability, schedule of contributions – retirement plan, and schedule of OPEB funding progress which are required supplementary information (RSI) that supplements the basic financial statements. Our procedures consisted of inquiries of management regarding 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 did not audit the RSI and do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the RSI.

Restriction on Use

This information is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Commissioners and management of St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District No. 4 and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Very truly yours,

Erickson Krentel, LLP

Certified Public Accountants