ASCENSION PARISH SALES AND USE TAX AUTHORITY
GONZALES, LOUISIANA

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
JUNE 30, 2026

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DDR
DIEZ, DUPUY & RUIZ, LLC

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

To the Board of Directors of
Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority
Gonzales, Louisiana

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority (the Authority), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2026, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Authority, as of June 30, 2026, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

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

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

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

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Auditors' Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

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

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

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

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and budgetary comparison schedule and notes information on pages 4-8 and 24 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

Supplementary Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements. The accompanying schedule of compensation, benefits and other payments to agency head and the schedule of collections, distributions, and costs of collections are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and was derived from and relates directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. The information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the schedule of compensation, benefits and other payments to agency head and the schedule of collections, distributions, and costs of collections 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 October 23, 2026, on our consideration of the Authority's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Authority's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the Authority's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Dicq, Dupuy & Duig

Gonzales, Louisiana
October 23, 2026

ASCENSION PARISH SALES AND USE TAX AUTHORITY
GONZALES, LOUISIANA
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
JUNE 30, 2026

The purpose of management's discussion and analysis (MD&A) is to help readers understand what the financial statements and notes in this financial report say about the Authority's financial health and why it has changed since last year. It contains information drawn from those other parts of the report, accompanied by explanations informed by the finance staff's knowledge of the Authority's finances. If you have questions about this report or require further information, contact Kressy Krennerich at 225-621-2635.

OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Authority's financial report contains basic financial statements. Those financial statements present the Authority's finances at both an overall and a detailed level. The *government-wide financial statements*- cover all the Authority's governmental activities. (See the diagram in Figure A-1.)

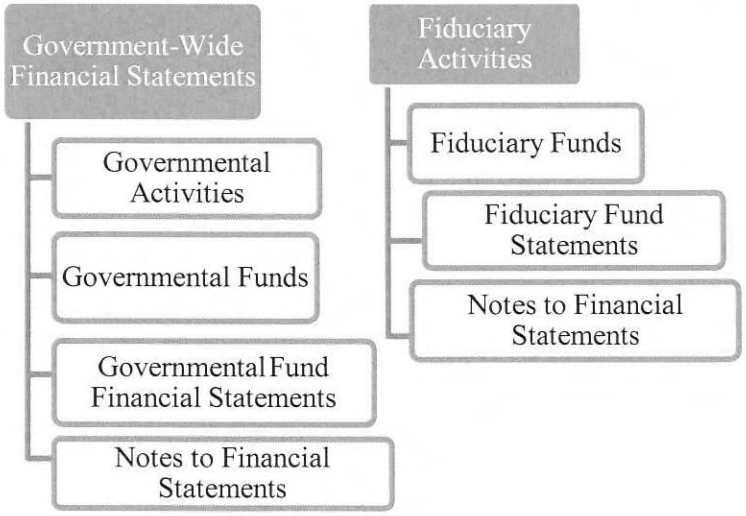
> Governmental activities comprise the Authority's most basic functions, such as general government. Governmental activities primarily are financed by intergovernmental coordination.

The remaining basic financial statements present the Authority's finances in greater detail and present fiduciary activities. As their name implies, the *fund financial statements* disaggregate financial information by separate funds to report on the specific purposes for which resources are used or for which they are restricted. The Authority reports on two types of funds:

Governmental fund financial statements report on all the governmental activities. The General Fund is the Authority's main operating fund.

Fiduciary fund financial statements report on resources for which the Authority acts as a trustee or custodian. The resources in this fund do not belong to the Authority and cannot be used to provide services, which is why they are not included in the government-wide financial statements.

(Figure A-1) Contents of the Authority's Basic Financial Statements



TYPES OF INFORMATION IN THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

All the Authority's financial statements, except for the governmental fund financial statements, use the *economic resources measurement focus* and *accrual basis of accounting*. (See Figure A-2.) In other words, they comprehensively report all types of financial statement elements:

- Assets - resources the Authority's controls, from short-term assets like cash to long-term assets like land.
- Liabilities - amounts the Authority owes, from short-term liabilities such as accounts payable to long-term liabilities such as net amounts for compensated absences and lease liabilities.
- Revenues and expenses - inflows and outflows of economic resources, respectively, related to the current year.

Governmental fund financial statements use the current financial resources measurement focus and modified accrual basis of accounting to report on the sources, uses, and balances of current financial resources. The governmental fund does not report non-financial assets, such as capital assets, or certain other long-term items, but they do report the flows of current financial resources related to those long-term items; for example, the proceeds from leasing or selling equipment.

(Figure A-2) Types of Information Reported in the Authority's Financial Statements

	Financial Statements		
	Government -wide Statements	Fiduciary Fund	Governmental Fund
Types of assets and liabilities	All assets and liabilities, both financial and nonfinancial, short-term and long-term		Only current financial resources, such as cash, taxes receivable, and accounts payable
Types of revenues/additions	All types of revenues/additions that flow into the government during the year that relate to that year, regardless of when cash is received		Only revenues that are measurable and available to finance expenditures of that year
Types of expenses/deductions/ expenditures	All types of expenses/deductions that flow out of the government during the year that relate to that year, regardless of when cash is paid		Only expenditures for which the related governmental fund liability is incurred in that year

More details about the measurement focus and basis of accounting can be found in the first note to financial statements, the summary of significant accounting policies beginning on page 17.

ANALYSIS OF THE AUTHORITY'S FINANCES

Table A-1 shows that as of June 30, 2026, the Authority's net position – assets minus liabilities were $(96,591), an increase of $17,259 or 15.2 percent compared with 2025. This is primarily due to a $69,594 or 20.5 percent decrease in capital assets. Noncurrent liabilities consist of compensated absences and lease liabilities. Decreases in total liabilities of $86,853 are due to normal pay downs of lease liabilities and larger payouts of compensated absences during the year.

Table A-1
Statement of Net Position

	Governmental Activities		Variance	Percentage Change
	2026	2025	2026-2025	2026-2025
Capital assets, net	$ 274,576	$ 344,170	$ (69,594)	(20.5%)
Total Assets	$ 274,576	$ 344,170	(69,594)	(20.5%)
Current liabilities	$ 149,533	$ 126,866	$ 22,667	17.9%
Noncurrent liabilities	221,634	331,154	(109,520)	(33.1%)
Total Liabilities	371,167	458,020	(86,853)	(19.0%)
Net investment in capital assets	9,577	13,939	(4,362)	(31.3%)
Unrestricted deficit	(106,168)	(127,789)	21,621	16.9%
Total Net Position	(96,591)	(113,850)	17,259	15.2%
Total Liabilities and Net Position	$ 274,576	$ 344,170	$ (69,594)	(20.5%)

Table A-2 shows that revenues exceed expenses in the current year, resulting in an increase in net position. Total revenues increased $54,054 or 2.4 percent from prior year. Total expenses decreased $5,451 or 0.2% from prior year. The increase in the intergovernmental revenues received in the current year was the primary factor that contributed to this increase in the net position. The Authority incurs the costs of operating, maintaining, and administering the activity through an intergovernmental agreement with the School Board.

Table A-2
Summary of Change in Net Position

	Governmental Activities		Variance	Percentage Change
	2026	2025	2026-2025	2026-2025
General revenues				
Intergovernmental	$ 2,284,808	$ 2,230,754	$ 54,054	2.4%
Total revenues	2,284,808	2,230,754	54,054	2.4%
Expenses	2,267,549	2,273,000	(5,451)	(0.2%)
Change in net position	$ 17,259	$ (42,246)	$ 59,505	140.9%

The sole source of revenue for Governmental Activities is intergovernmental revenues.

Revenues

Intergovernmental revenues are the sole source of revenues in governmental activities. There was an increase of 2.4% or $54.054 from 2025. For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2026, the Authority collected and distributed $248 million in gross revenues on behalf of the taxing bodies of the Parish. The Authority's own operating expenses totaled $2.3 million, which were 100% recovered through the cost-reimbursement agreement with the participating jurisdictions.

ANALYSIS OF THE VILLAGE'S FINANCES (continued)

Expenses

The Authority's total expenses for governmental activities fell by $5,451 or 0.2 percent. This variance is attributable to a decrease in compensated absences at year end.

Governmental fund

The Authority reports on one major fund in the governmental fund financial statements, the General Fund. Most of the discussion regarding governmental activities is equally applicable to the finances of the governmental fund. However, certain factors that are relevant to the Authority's current financial health are more apparent in the fund financial statements than in the government-wide financial statements. There were no significant changes in the General Fund. The General Fund is shown in Table A-3 and is discussed in more detail below.

Table A-3
REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE

	General Fund	
	2026	2025
Total Revenues	$ 2,284,808	$ 2,230,754
Total Expenditures	2,284,808	2,230,754
Change in fund balance	-	-
Fund balance – beginning of year	-	-
Fund balance – end of year	$ -	$ -

General fund

Fund balance represents the financial standing of a governmental fund as of the end of the fiscal year from a short-term perspective. The fund balance of the Authority's General Fund remained unchanged from prior year. As presented in Table A-3, the Authority's operating, maintenance, and administrative expenditures are funded by participating entities, which share costs proportionally based on their respective tax collections.

Fiduciary fund

The Authority accounts for all pass-through tax collections in its Custodial Fund. A summary of major collections and distributions by tax type are shown in Table A-4 below.

Table A-4
SUMMARY OF COLLECTIONS AND DISTRIBUTIONS

Tax Type	2026	2025
Sales and use tax	$ 242,519,985	$ 238,987,780
Occupancy license	$ 3,316,615	$ 3,107,173
Hotel tax	$ 1,353,135	$ 1,486,240

Significant factors affecting the variances are as follows:

- Increases in sales and use tax are due to expansions in the Petro Chemical industry
- Increases in occupancy license are due to target compliance reviews regarding remote lodging/short-term rentals

Significant capital asset and long-term financing activity

As of June 30, 2026, the Authority's net capital assets was $274,576. Notable activity for the current period included minor furniture and equipment additions and disposals. Depreciation and amortization expense was $17,510 and $64,249, respectively for the year ended June 30, 2026, and accumulated depreciation/amortization increased by $20,047. Table A-5 below provides further analysis of the changes in the current year:

Table A-5
CAPITAL ASSETS, NET
NET OF ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION/AMORTIZATION

	Government Activities		Variance	Percent Change
	2026	2025	2026-2025	2026-2025
Furniture, fixtures, & equipment	$ 329,788	$ 379,335	$ (49,547)	(13.1)%
RTU assets-leases	601,108	601,108	-	0.0%
Total capital assets	930,896	980,443	(49,547)	(13.1)%
Less: accumulated depreciation	277,079	321,281	(44,202)	(13.6)%
Less: accumulated amortization	379,241	314,992	64,249	20.4%
Total accumulated depreciation/amortization	656,320	636,273	20,047	3.2%
Capital assets, net	$ 274,576	$ 344,170	$ (69,594)	(20.2)%

As of June 30, 2026, the Authority's long-term liabilities totaled $221,634, which represented a decrease of $109,520 or 33.1 percent over the prior year. The Authority had no new long-term financing as of year-end. Long-term liabilities consisted of compensated absences of $20,827, lease liabilities of $195,107, and deposits of $5,700.

Currently known facts, decisions, or conditions

The Authority is not aware of any new developments that will have an impact on the Authority's finances in the future.

Amendments to the budget

The Authority did not make any amendments to the general fund's operating budget.

Adoption of the Authority's next year's budget

In June 2026, the Authority adopted its operating budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2027. The 2027 budget was prepared consistently with the current fiscal year.

ASCENSION PARISH SALES AND USE TAX AUTHORITY
GONZALES, LOUISIANA

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
JUNE 30, 2026

ASSETS		
Capital assets, net	$	274,576
Total Assets		274,576
LIABILITIES		
Current liabilities:		
Current portion of long-term liabilities		149,533
Long-term liabilities:		
Compensated absences payable		20,827
Deposits		5,700
Lease liabilities		195,107
Total Liabilities		371,167
NET POSITION		
Net investment in capital assets		9,577
Unrestricted deficit		(106,168)
Total Net Position	$	(96,591)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

ASCENSION PARISH SALES AND USE TAX AUTHORITY
GONZALES, LOUISIANA

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2026

	Expenses	Charges for Services	Net Expense and changes in Net Position
Functions/Programs			
Governmental activities			
General government	$ 2,252,239	$ -	$ 2,252,239
Interest expense	15,310	-	15,310
Total governmental activities	$ 2,267,549	$ -	2,267,549
General Revenues:			
Intergovernmental			2,284,808
Total general revenues			2,284,808
Change in net position			17,259
Net position, beginning of year			(113,850)
Net position, end of year			$ (96,591)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

ASCENSION PARISH SALES AND USE TAX AUTHORITY
GONZALES, LOUISIANA

BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUND
JUNE 30, 2026

ASSETS	
Due from other governments	$ -
Total Assets	$ -
LIABILITIES	
Accounts payable	$ -
Total Liabilities	-
FUND BALANCE	
Unassigned	-
Total Fund Balance	-
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	$ -

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

ASCENSION PARISH SALES AND USE TAX AUTHORITY
GONZALES, LOUISIANA

RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUND BALANCE SHEET
TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
JUNE 30, 2026

Total fund balance - Governmental Fund		$ -
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:		
Cost of capital assets	930,896	
Less: accumulated depreciation	(277,079)	
Less: accumulated amortization	(379,241)	274,576
Long-term liabilities:		
Compensated absences		(100,468)
Deposits		(5,700)
Lease liabilities		(264,999)
Total net position - Governmental Activities		$ (96,591)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

ASCENSION PARISH SALES AND USE TAX AUTHORITY
GONZALES, LOUISIANA

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES,
AND CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE
GOVERNMENTAL FUND
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2026

REVENUES	
Intergovernmental	$ 2,284,808
Total revenues	2,284,808
EXPENDITURES	
General Government:	
Personnel	1,596,246
Travel	30,771
Operating services	280,556
Supplies	92,552
Professional services	272,518
Capital outlay	12,165
Total expenditures	2,284,808
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	-
Fund balance - beginning of year	-
Fund balance - end of year	$ -

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

ASCENSION PARISH SALES AND USE TAX AUTHORITY
GONZALES, LOUISIANA

RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE OF GOVERNMENTAL FUND TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2026

Net change in fund balance - Governmental Fund		$ -
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:		
Capital outlay capitalized	12,165	
Depreciation expense	(17,510)	
Amortization expense	(64,249)	(69,594)
Long-term liabilities:		
Principal payments on lease liabilities		65,232
Changes in compensated absences		21,621
Change in net position - Governmental Activities		$ 17,259

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

ASCENSION PARISH SALES AND USE TAX AUTHORITY
GONZALES, LOUISIANA

STATEMENT OF FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
FIDUCIARY FUND
JUNE 30, 2026

	Custodial Fund
ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	$ 19,075,390
Accounts receivables	19,743,651
Total Assets	38,819,041
LIABILITIES	
Accounts payable	38,138,693
Total Liabilities	38,138,693
NET POSITION	
Restricted for organizations and other governments	$ 680,348

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

ASCENSION PARISH SALES AND USE TAX AUTHORITY
GONZALES, LOUISIANA

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN FIDUCIARY NET POSITION
FIDUCIARY FUND
JUNE 30, 2026

	Custodial Fund
ADDITIONS	
Sales tax collections	$ 242,519,985
Occupancy license	3,316,615
Hotel tax	1,353,135
Late payment interest and penalties	562,291
Interest income	104,504
Total additions	247,856,530
DEDUCTIONS	
Transfer to taxing authorities	247,459,665
Tax refunds and fees	482,921
Total deductions	247,942,586
Net changes in fiduciary net position	(86,056)
Net position, beginning of year	766,404
Net position, ending of year	$ 680,348

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this financial statement.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Reporting Entity

As provided in Article VII, Section 3 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, the Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority (Authority) serves as the collector of sales and use taxes for the parish. The Authority was created October 5, 1989 for the purpose of collecting, administering and distributing the various sales and use taxes levied by entities and the hotel/motel tax within Ascension Parish, and the occupational license tax for the Ascension Parish Council. The Authority is governed by a Board of Directors. The Board is composed of the Chief Administrative Officer (or appointee) for each governing authority of any participating entity having a history of collecting in excess of $1,000,000 of sales taxes for two consecutive years. As of year-end, the Board consisted of members from the Authority, Ascension Parish Council, Ascension Parish School Board, the Ascension Parish Sheriff, the City of Gonzales, the City of Donaldsonville, and the West Ascension Parish Hospital Service District. The accounting and reporting policies of the Authority conform to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) as applicable to governments. The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is the accepted standard setting body for establishing governmental accounting and financial reporting principles.

Basis of Presentation, Basis of Accounting

Government-wide Statements:

The statement of net position and the statement of activities display information about the primary government. These statements include the financial activities of the overall government, except for fiduciary activities. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other non-exchange transactions.

The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the Authority's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function and, therefore, are clearly identifiable to a particular function. Program revenues include fees for the collection of taxes. Revenues that are not associated as program revenues, including interest revenue presented as general revenues, if received during the year.

Fund Financial Statements:

The fund financial statements provide information about the Authority's funds. Separate statements for each fund category are presented. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major funds. For the Authority, there is only one major fund, the General Fund. The General Fund is the Authority's primary operating fund. It accounts for all finance resources of the general government, except those accounted for in another fund.

Government-wide Financial Statements:

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus, and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred regardless of when the related cash flows take place. Non-exchange transactions, in which the Authority gives (or receives) value without directly receiving (or giving) equal value in exchange may include grants and donations. Revenue from grants, entitlements, and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. Exchange transactions in which the Authority gives or receives value in exchange for services rendered consist of the charges for collection services which are recognized when the services are provided and the revenue is earned.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Basis of Presentation, Basis of Accounting (continued)

Governmental Fund Financial Statements:

Governmental funds are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized when measurable and available. The Authority considers all revenues reported in the governmental fund to be available if the revenues are collected within sixty days after year-end. Interest is considered to be susceptible to accrual. Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred, except for claims and judgments and compensated absences, which are recognized as expenditures to the extent they have matured. General capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental fund.

Fiduciary Fund Financial Statements:

The Custodial Fund is used to account for assets held by the Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority in a trustee capacity or as an agent for the taxing authorities. Custodial funds are accounted for on the full accrual basis of accounting. Collections of sales taxes are recognized when received and expenditures are recognized when the related fund liability is incurred, regardless of when the related cash flow takes place.

Budgetary Accounting

Formal budgetary accounting is employed as a management control. The Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority prepares and adopts a budget prior to July 1 of each year for its general fund in accordance with Louisiana Revised Statutes. The operating budget is prepared based on prior year's revenues and expenditures and the estimated increase therein for the current year, using the modified accrual basis of accounting. The Authority amends its budget when projected revenues are expected to be less than budgeted revenues by five percent or more and/or projected expenditures are expected to be more than budgeted amounts by five percent or more. All budget appropriations lapse at year end.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

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.

Capital Assets

Capital assets are carried at historical costs. Depreciation of all exhaustible capital assets used by the Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority is charged as an expense against operations in the Statement of Activities. Capital assets net of accumulated depreciation is reported on the Statement of Net Position. Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method over the estimated useful life of the assets, generally 5 to 10 years for moveable property. Expenditures for maintenance, repairs and minor renewals are charged to earnings as incurred. Major expenditures for renewals and betterments are capitalized. The Authority maintains a threshold level of $500 or more for capitalizing capital assets.

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Compensated Absences

Employees accrue from 10 to 12 days of sick leave per year depending upon the number of months worked. Sick leave may be accumulated without limitation. Upon death or retirement, unused accumulated sick leave of up to 45 days is paid to employees or their heirs at the employee's current rate of pay. The accrual computation for earned sick leave is calculated on a 45-day maximum per employee. Sick leave is not payable upon discharge or termination. Upon retirement, unpaid accumulated sick leave is used in the retirement benefit computation as earned service.

All 12-month employees earn from 10 to 20 days of annual vacation leave per year depending on length of service with the School Board. Vacation time does not vest.

Sick and vacation leave that has been claimed by employees as of the end of the fiscal year is recorded as an expense in the year claimed. Sick leave has been accrued as of the end of the fiscal year and is valued using employees' current rates of pay. Accrued sick and vacation leave will be paid from future years' resources. No allowance is made for the immaterial amounts of sick leave forfeited when employees resign or retire.

Leases

The Authority has leases for office space and equipment. The Authority determines if an arrangement is a lease at inception. The leases are recorded as right-to-use assets and leases payable in the statement of net position. Right-to-use assets represent the Authority's right to use the underlying asset for the lease term. Right-to-use assets and leases payable are recognized at commencement date based on the net present value of lease payments over the lease term discounted using an appropriate incremental borrowing rate. The Authority's incremental borrowing rate is based on the information available at the commencement date in determining the present value of the lease payments. The value of an option to extend or terminate a lease is reflected to the extent it is reasonably certain management will exercise the option. Right-to-use assets are amortized on a straight-line basis over the lease term. Interest expense is recognized as a component of the lease payment.

Net Position

For the government-wide statement of net position, net position is reported as restricted when constraints placed on net position use either:

- Net investment in capital assets – consists of historical costs of capital assets less accumulated depreciation and less any debt that remains outstanding that was used to finance those assets.
- Restricted net position – consists of assets that are restricted by the Authority's grantors (both federal and state).
- Unrestricted – all other net position is reported in this category.

Fund Equity of Fund Financial Statements

Accounting standards require the governmental fund balance to be reported in as many as five classifications as listed below:

1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Fund Equity of Fund Financial Statements (continued)

1. Nonspendable - represents amounts that are not expected to be converted to cash because they are either not in spendable form or legally contractually required to be maintained intact.
2. Restricted - represents balances where constraints have been established by parties outside the Authority or imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.
3. Committed - represents balances that can only be used for specific purposes pursuant to constraints imposed by formal action of the Authority's highest level of decision-making authority.
4. Assigned -represents balances that are constrained by the Authority's intent to be used for specific purposes but are not restricted nor committed.
5. Unassigned – represents balances that have not been assigned to other funds and that have not been restricted, committed, or assigned to specific purposes within the general fund.

When expenditures are incurred for the purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted amounts are available, the Authority reduces restricted amounts first, followed by unrestricted amounts. When expenditures are incurred for the purposes for which committed, assigned, and unassigned amounts are available, the Authority reduces committed amounts first, followed by assigned amounts and then unassigned amounts.

Estimates

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

Intergovernmental agreement

The Authority has an intergovernmental agreement with the Taxing Authorities within Ascension Parish for the purpose of administering and distributing sales and use taxes levied by the participating entities. The agreement provides that the School Board employs the Administrator and all other employees of the Authority. The Authority's employees are subject to the School Board's employment policies and procedures. The School Board pays all expenditures of the Authority. However, the agreement states that the costs of operating, maintaining, and administering the Authority shall be borne jointly by the participating entities on a prorated basis on a ratio of the entity's taxes collected to total taxes collected.

2. DEPOSITS WITH FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

Deposits with Financial Institutions

Cash and cash equivalents include demand deposits at local financial institutions with a carrying value of $19,079,924 at June 30, 2026. Deposits in financial institutions can be exposed to custodial credit risk. Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a financial institution failure, the Authority's deposits may not be returned to them. To mitigate this risk, state law requires deposits to be secured by federal deposit insurance and/or the pledge of securities owned by the fiscal agent financial institution. As of June 30, 2026, the Authority's bank balance was collateralized or FDIC insured and therefore not exposed to custodial credit risk.

3. CAPITAL ASSETS

A summary of the Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority's capital and right-to-use assets at June 30, 2026, follows:

	Balance July 1, 2025	Additions	Retirements	Balance June 30, 2026
Capital Assets				
Furniture, fixtures and equipment	$ 379,335	$ 12,165	$ (61,712)	$ 329,788
Right-to-use assets:				
Leased building	568,437	-	-	568,437
Leased equipment	32,671	-	-	32,671
Less accumulated depreciation/amortization	(636,273)	(81,759)	61,712	(656,320)
Total Capital Assets, net	$ 344,170	$ (69,594)	$ -	$ 274,576

For the year ending June 30, 2026, depreciation expense for capital assets was $17,510 and amortization expense for right-to-use assets was $64,249.

4. COMPENSATED ABSENCES

At June 30, 2026, the Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority had accumulated $100,468 in annual leave benefits. The following is a summary of the changes in accumulated annual leave benefits for the year ended June 30, 2026:

	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance	Due Within One Year
Governmental Activities:					
Compensated absences	$ 122,090	$ -	*$(21,621)	$ 100,469	$ 79,641
Total compensated absences	$ 122,090	$ -	$(21,621)	$ 100,469	$ 79,641

**The change in the compensated absences liability is presented as a net change.*

5. TAXES PAID UNDER PROTEST

Louisiana Revised Statute 47:1576 provides that taxpayers, at the time of payment of all taxes due, may give notice to the tax collector of their intention to file suit for recovery of all or a portion of the total taxes paid upon receipt of a notice, the amount paid shall be segregated and held by the Authority for a period of thirty days. If a suit is filed within 30 days, the segregated funds shall be held pending the outcome of the suit. If the taxpayer prevails, the Authority shall refund the amount due with interest from the date the funds were received by the Authority. There was $387,698 in sales taxes paid under protest as of June 30, 2026. These amounts are held and reported in the Authority's custodial fund cash and cash equivalents account balance.

6. LEASES

The Authority has entered into agreements to lease office space and equipment. The lease agreements qualify as other than short-term leases under GASB 87 and; therefore, have been recorded at the present value of the future minimum lease payments as of the date of their inception.

6. LEASES (continued)

The Authority leases office space as a tenant under a non-cancelable lease expiring in ten years. The agreement was executed on March 1, 2020 and requires 120 monthly payments as follows:

Term	Monthly Rent
Years 1-3	$5,700
Years 4-7	$6,000
Years 8-10	$6,300

There are no variable payment components of the lease. The lease liability is measured at an incremental borrowing rate of 5%. The lease provides for a renewal option for two ten-year options to renew. The base rent during any renewal period, shall increase by 10% in year 1 and year 6 of each renewal period. If no notice is given, the lease shall renew on a month-to-month basis at $7,000 and a six month notice of cancellation is required.

The Authority leases a copy machine under a lease expiring in 4 years. The agreement was executed in May 2024 and requires 48 monthly payments of $414.34. There are no variable payment components of the lease. The lease liability is measured at an incremental borrowing rate of 6.5%.

The Authority leases a postage meter machine under a lease expiring in 5 years. The agreement was executed in July 2023 and requires 60 monthly payments of $213.21. There are no variable payment components of the lease. The lease liability is measured at an incremental borrowing rate of 6.5%.

The Authority leases equipment under a lease expiring in 5 years. The agreement was executed in July 2023 and requires 60 monthly payments of $84.17. There are no variable payment components of the lease. The lease liability is measured at an incremental borrowing rate of 6.5%.

The future minimum lease obligation and net present value of these minimum lease payments as of June 30, 2026 are as follows:

Year Ending June 30,	Principal Payments	Interest Payments
2027	$ 69,892	$ 11,848
2028	74,455	8,083
2029	71,184	4,416
2030	49,468	932
	$ 264,999	$ 25,279

The following is a summary of the long-term liabilities for leases payable for the year ended June 30, 2026:

	Beginning Balance	Increases	Decreases	Ending Balance	Due Within One Year
Governmental Activities:					
Lease liabilities	$ 330,231	$ -	$ 65,232	$ 264,999	$ 69,892
Total long-term liabilities	$ 330,231	$ -	$ 65,232	$ 264,999	$ 69,892

7. COLLECTIONS ON BEHALF OF OTHER TAXING AUTHORITIES

The following are the total collections, collection costs, and final distributions for the year ended June 30, 2026.

	Total Collections	Collection Costs	Final Distribution
School Board (2%)	$ 109,187,217	$ 981,948	$ 108,205,269
Parish Council (1%)	41,588,196	406,354	41,181,842
Drainage District (0.5%)	24,491,561	228,454	24,263,107
City of Gonzales (2%)	21,250,278	149,729	21,100,549
District No. 2 (0.5%)	20,452,728	200,643	20,252,085
Sheriff (0.5%)	20,435,631	200,510	20,235,121
City of Donaldsonville (2%)	3,576,319	25,122	3,551,197
Hospital District (0.5%)	2,226,907	16,993	2,209,914
Sorrento (2%)	892,804	8,855	883,949
Tanger Mall DD (1%)	860,111	6,283	853,828
Conway EDD (1%)	158,449	1,085	157,364
Occupancy Tourism (2%)	766,163	5,242	760,921
Occupancy Gonzales (2%)	587,815	3,996	583,819
OLT	3,270,294	49,594	3,220,700
	$ 249,744,473	$ 2,284,808	$ 247,459,665

The Authority distributes all taxes and licenses, and interest collected each month to the respective entities less any funds paid under protest which are put in escrow accounts (see note 5).

8. LITIGATION

The Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority is involved in litigation as a defendant in numerous lawsuits and claims at June 30, 2026. In the opinion of the Authority's management and legal counsel, it is difficult to predict the outcome of these claims. As such, no liability has been recorded.

9. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management has evaluated subsequent events through October 23, 2026, the date that the financial statements were available to be issued, noting no subsequent events occurring after this date have been evaluated for inclusion in these financial statements.

10. IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW ACCOUNTING GASB PRONOUNCEMENTS

The Authority implemented GASB No. 103, *Financial Reporting Model Improvements*. The objective of this Statement is to improve key components of the financial reporting model to enhance its effectiveness in providing information that is essential for decision making and assessing a government's accountability. The Management's Discussion and Analysis section and budgetary comparison schedule have been revised as a result of the implementation of this standard as of June 30, 2026. Statement No. 104, *Disclosure of Certain Capital Assets*. The objective of this Statement is to improve financial reporting by providing users of financial statements with essential information about certain types of capital assets in order to make informed decisions and assess accountability. See Capital Asset footnote 3 for changes made as a result of implementing this standard as of June 30, 2026.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

ASCENSION PARISH SALES AND USE TAX AUTHORITY
GONZALES, LOUISIANA

BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2026

	Budgeted Amounts		Variance with Original Budget - over (under)	Actual Amounts Budgetary (and GAAP)	Variance with Final Budget - over (under)
	Original	Final	Final Budget	Basis	Actual Amounts
BUDGETARY REVENUES					
Intergovernmental	$ 2,395,872	$ 2,395,872	$ -	$ 2,284,808	$ (111,064)
Total Budgetary Revenues	2,395,872	2,395,872	-	2,284,808	(111,064)
BUDGETARY EXPENDITURES					
General Government:					
Personnel	1,714,392	1,714,392	-	1,596,246	(118,146)
Travel	33,000	33,000	-	30,771	(2,229)
Operating services	275,680	275,680	-	280,556	4,876
Supplies	69,850	69,850	-	92,552	22,702
Professional services	270,000	270,000	-	272,518	2,518
Capital outlay	32,950	32,950	-	12,165	(20,785)
Total Budgetary Expenditures	2,395,872	2,395,872	-	2,284,808	(111,064)
BUDGET EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	-	-	-	-	-
FUND BALANCE					
Budgetary fund balance, July 1, 2025	-	-	-	-	-
Budgetary fund balance, June 30, 2026	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -

Notes to Budgetary Comparison Schedule

Note A - Explanation of differences between revenues and expenditures for budgetary funds on a budgetary basis and GAAP General Fund on a GAAP basis.

	General Fund over (under)
BUDGETARY REVENUES	
Difference - final budget to actual:	
Actual amounts for intergovernmental reimbursements were less than budgeted amounts due to the terms of the reimbursement agreement following expenditures. The budget was not amended to reduce this item in the current year.	$ (111,064)
BUDGETARY EXPENDITURES	
Difference - final budget to actual:	
Actual amounts for personnel expenditures were less than budgeted amounts due to the expected costs to cover a full time position that was not filled. The budget was not amended to reduce these items from the current year.	$ (118,146)
Actual amounts incurred for supplies were more than budgeted amounts due to unanticipated costs for postage and delivery supplies. The budget was not amended to include these amounts in the current year.	$ 22,702

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

ASCENSION PARISH SALES AND USE TAX AUTHORITY
GONZALES, LOUISIANA

SCHEDULE OF COMPENSATION, BENEFITS AND OTHER PAYMENTS
TO THE AGENCY HEAD
FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2026

Agency Head: Kressynda Krennerich, Tax Administrator

Purpose	Amount
Salary	$ 121,071
Retirement	25,126
Benefits-insurance	15,836
Travel	1,464
Registration fees	2,009
Conference travel	6,433
	$ 171,939

ASCENSION PARISH SALES AND USE TAX AUTHORITY
GONZALES, LOUISIANA

SCHEDULE OF COLLECTIONS, DISTRIBUTIONS, AND COSTS OF COLLECTIONS-CASH BASIS
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2026

1	**Collections**	
	a. Sales and Use Tax	$ 242,441,591
	b. All other Taxes	4,669,751
	c. Interest	277,760
	d. Penalties	389,035
	e. Fees	-
	Total Collections Received	247,778,137
	f. Less Collections Received and Held in Escrow	(127,963)
	Total Collections Available for Disbursement	247,906,100
2	**Amounts Disbursed to Each Local Taxing Authority (Net of Collection Costs)**	
	Ascension Parish School Board (2.0%)	108,156,858
	Parish of Ascension (1.0%)	41,181,842
	EA Drainage District (0.5%)	24,263,107
	City of Gonzales (2.0%)	21,100,549
	City of Donaldsonville (2.5%)	3,551,197
	WA Hospital District (0.5%)	2,209,914
	Town of Sorrento (2.0%)	883,949
	Parish District #2 (0.5%)	20,252,085
	Ascension Parish Sheriff (0.5%)	20,235,121
	Tanger Economic Development District (1.0%)	853,828
	Conway Economic Development District (1.0%)	157,364
	Ascension Parish Occupancy Tourism (2.0%)	760,921
	City of Gonzales Occupancy (2.0%)	583,819
	Occupational Licenses and Taxes	3,220,700
	Total Amounts Disbursed to Local Taxing Authorities	247,411,254
3	**Total Amount Retained by Collector**	494,846
4	**Amounts Disbursed for Costs of Collections**	
	a. Collector Employee Salaries	1,135,690
	b. Collector Employee Benefits	439,008
	c. Contracted Collector Services	272,518
	d. All Other Costs of Collection	924,317
		2,771,533
5	**Balance in Excess (Deficiency) of Costs of Collection**	$ (2,276,687)

DDR
DIEZ, DUPUY & RUIZ, LLC

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*

Board of Directors
Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority
Gonzales, 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, the major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority (Authority), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2026, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Authority's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated October 23, 2026.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

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

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

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

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

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

1124 S. Burnside Ave, Suite 300A | Gonzales, LA, 70737 | 225.228.5800 | ddrcpas.com

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.

Gonzales, Louisiana
October 23, 2026

OTHER REPORTING REQUIRED BY *GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS*

ASCENSION PARISH SALES AND USE TAX AUTHORITY
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2026

SUMMARY OF AUDIT RESULTS

1. The independent auditors' report expressed an unmodified opinion on whether the financial statements of the Ascension Parish Sales and Use Tax Authority (the Authority) were prepared in accordance with GAAP.

2. No significant deficiencies related to the audit of the financial statements were 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*. No material weaknesses were identified.

3. No instances of noncompliance material to the financial statements of the Authority which is required to be reported in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, were disclosed during the audit.

FINDINGS - FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT

None noted.

FINDINGS - COMPLIANCE WITH STATE LAWS AND REGULATIONS

None noted.

ASCENSION PARISH SALES AND USE TAX AUTHORITY
SCHEDULE OF PRIOR YEAR FINDINGS
YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2026

FINDINGS – FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDIT

None noted.

FINDINGS – COMPLIANCE WITH STATE LAWS AND REGULATIONS

None noted.

ASCENSION PARISH SALES & USE TAX AUTHORITY

GONZALES, LOUISIANA

STATEWIDE AGREED UPON PROCEDURES

JUNE 30, 2026

DDR
DIEZ, DUPUY & RUIZ, LLC

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

To the Board of Directors, and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor:

We have performed the procedures enumerated below, which were agreed to by the Ascension Parish Sales & Use Tax Authority and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor (LLA) on the control and compliance (C/C) areas identified in the LLA's Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures (SAUPs) for the fiscal period July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. Ascension Parish Sales & Use Tax Authority's management is responsible for those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs.

Ascension Parish Sales & Use Tax Authority has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of the engagement, which is to perform specified procedures on the C/C areas identified in LLA's SAUPs for the fiscal period July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. Additionally, LLA has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate for its purposes. This report may not be suitable for any other purpose. The procedures performed may not address all the items of interest to a user of this report and may not meet the needs of all users of this report and, as such, users are responsible for determining whether the procedures performed are appropriate for their purposes.

The procedures and associated findings are as follows:

1) Written Policies and Procedures

A. Obtain and inspect the entity's written policies and procedures and observe whether they address each of the following categories and subcategories if applicable to public funds and the entity's operations:

i. ***Budgeting***, including preparing, adopting, monitoring, and amending the budget.

Written policies and procedures were obtained and address the functions noted above.

ii. ***Purchasing***, including (1) how purchases are initiated, (2) how vendors are added to the vendor list, (3) the preparation and approval process of purchase requisitions and purchase orders, (4) controls to ensure compliance with the Public Bid Law, and (5) documentation required to be maintained for all bids and price quotes.

Written policies and procedures were obtained and address the functions noted above.

iii. ***Disbursements***, including processing, reviewing, and approving.

Written policies and procedures were obtained and address the functions noted above.

iv. ***Receipts/Collections***, including receiving, recording, and preparing deposits. Also, policies and procedures should include management's actions to determine the completeness of all collections for each type of revenue or agency fund additions (e.g., periodic confirmation with outside parties, reconciliation to utility billing after cutoff procedures, reconciliation of traffic ticket number sequences, agency fund forfeiture monies confirmation).

Written policies and procedures were obtained and address the functions noted above.

v. ***Payroll/Personnel***, including (1) payroll processing, (2) reviewing and approving time and attendance records, including leave and overtime worked, and (3) approval process for employee rates of pay or approval and maintenance of pay rate schedules.

There are no written policies and procedures noted, as the Ascension Parish School Board employs all employees of the Authority. The Authority's employees are subject to the School Board's employment policies and procedures.

vi. ***Contracting***, including (1) types of services requiring written contracts, (2) standard terms and conditions, (3) legal review, (4) approval process, and (5) monitoring process.

Written policies and procedures were obtained and address the functions noted above.

vii. ***Travel and Expense Reimbursement***, including (1) allowable expenses, (2) dollar thresholds by category of expense, (3) documentation requirements, and (4) required approvers.

Written policies and procedures were obtained and address the functions noted above.

viii. ***Credit Cards (and debit cards, fuel cards, purchase cards, if applicable)***, including (1) how cards are to be controlled, (2) allowable business uses, (3) documentation requirements, (4) required approvers of statements, and (5) monitoring card usage (e.g., determining the reasonableness of fuel card purchases).

Written policies and procedures were obtained and address the functions noted above.

ix. ***Ethics***, including (1) the prohibitions as defined in Louisiana Revised Statute (R.S.) 42:1111-1121, (2) actions to be taken if an ethics violation takes place, (3) system to monitor possible ethics violations, and (4) a requirement that documentation is maintained to demonstrate that all employees and officials were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy.

There are no written policies and procedures noted, as the Ascension Parish School Board employs all employees of the Authority. The Authority's employees are subject to the School Board's employment policies and procedures.

x. ***Debt Service***, including (1) debt issuance approval, (2) continuing disclosure/EMMA reporting requirements, (3) debt reserve requirements, and (4) debt service requirements.

Not applicable.

xi. ***Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity***, including (1) identification of critical data and frequency of data backups, (2) storage of backups in a separate physical location isolated from the network, (3) periodic testing/verification that backups can be restored, (4) use of antivirus software on all systems, (5) timely application of all available system and software patches/updates, and (6) identification of personnel, processes, and tools needed to recover operations after a critical event.

Written policies and procedures were obtained and address the functions noted above.

xii. ***Prevention of Sexual Harassment***, including R.S. 42:342-344 requirements for (1) agency responsibilities and prohibitions, (2) annual employee training, and (3) annual reporting.

There are no written policies and procedures noted, as the Ascension Parish School Board employs all employees of the Authority. The Authority's employees are subject to the School Board's employment policies and procedures.

2) Board or Finance Committee

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

i. Observe that the board/finance committee met with a quorum at least monthly, or on a frequency in accordance with the board's enabling legislation, charter, bylaws, or other equivalent document.

No exceptions noted.

ii. For those entities reporting on the governmental accounting model, observe whether the minutes referenced or included monthly budget-to-actual comparisons on the general fund, quarterly budget-to-actual, at a minimum, on proprietary funds, and semi-annual budget-to-actual, at a minimum, on all special revenue funds. *Alternatively, for those entities reporting on the not-for-profit accounting model, observe that the minutes referenced or included financial activity relating to public funds if those public funds comprised more than 10% of the entity's collections during the fiscal period.*

No exceptions noted.

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

Not applicable, the Authority did not have a negative unassigned fund balance in the prior year.

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

Not applicable, the Authority did not have prior year audit findings.

3) Bank Reconciliations

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

Obtained listing of client bank accounts for the fiscal period from management and management's representation that listing is complete.

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

No exceptions noted.

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

No exceptions noted.

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

No exceptions noted.

4) Collections (excluding electronic funds transfers)

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

Obtained a listing of deposit sites and management's representation that listing is complete.

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

Obtained a listing of collection locations and management's representation that listing is complete.

i. Employees responsible for cash collections do not share cash drawers/registers;

Not applicable, the Authority does not receive cash; therefore, the need for cash drawers/registers is not necessary.

ii. Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not also responsible for preparing/making bank deposits, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling collection documentation (e.g., pre-numbered receipts) to the deposit;

No exceptions noted.

iii. Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not also responsible for posting collection entries to the general ledger or subsidiary ledgers, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling ledger postings to each other and to the deposit; and

No exceptions noted.

iv. The employee(s) responsible for reconciling cash collections to the general ledger and/or subsidiary ledgers, by revenue source and/or agency fund additions, is (are) not also responsible for collecting cash, unless another employee/official verifies the reconciliation.

No exceptions noted.

C. Obtain from management a copy of the bond or insurance policy for theft covering all employees who have access to cash. Observe that the bond or insurance policy for theft was in force during the fiscal period.

No exceptions noted.

D. Randomly select two deposit dates for each of the 5 bank accounts selected for Bank Reconciliations procedure #3A (select the next deposit date chronologically if no deposits were made on the dates randomly selected and randomly select a deposit if multiple deposits are made on the same day). *Alternatively, the practitioner may use a source document other than bank statements when selecting the deposit dates for testing, such as a cash collection log, daily revenue report, receipt book, etc.* Obtain supporting documentation for each of the 10 deposits and:

i. Observe that receipts are sequentially pre-numbered.

No exceptions noted.

ii. Trace sequentially pre-numbered receipts, system reports, and other related collection documentation to the deposit slip.

No exceptions noted.

iii. Trace the deposit slip total to the actual deposit per the bank statement.

No exceptions noted.

iv. Observe that the deposit was made within one business day of receipt at the collection location (within one week if the depository is more than 10 miles from the collection location or the deposit is less than $100 and the cash is stored securely in a locked safe or drawer).

Exception Noted: Deposits were not made within one business day of receipt at the collection location.

Management's response: The Authority strives to deposit collections within one day of receipt. However, circumstances come up that hinder this process to extend to an additional day(s). Nonetheless, the Authority will continue to make sure daily collections are deposited within one business day going forward.

v. Trace the actual deposit per the bank statement to the general ledger.

No exceptions noted.

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

A. Obtain a listing of locations that process payments for the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 locations (or all locations if less than 5).

Obtained listing of locations that process payments and management's representation that listing is complete.

B. For each location selected under procedure #5A above, obtain a listing of those employees involved with non-payroll purchasing and payment functions. Obtain written policies and procedures

relating to employee job duties (if the agency has no written policies and procedures, then inquire of employees about their job duties), and observe that job duties are properly segregated such that

i. At least two employees are involved in initiating a purchase request, approving a purchase, and placing an order or making the purchase;

No exceptions noted.

ii. At least two employees are involved in processing and approving payments to vendors;

No exceptions noted.

iii. The employee responsible for processing payments is prohibited from adding/modifying vendor files, unless another employee is responsible for periodically reviewing changes to vendor files;

No exceptions noted.

iv. Either the employee/official responsible for signing checks mails the payment or gives the signed checks to an employee to mail who is not responsible for processing payments; and

No exceptions noted.

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

No exceptions noted.

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

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

No exceptions noted.

ii. Observe whether the disbursement documentation included evidence (e.g., initial/date, electronic logging) of segregation of duties tested under procedure #5B above, as applicable.

No exceptions noted.

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

No exceptions noted.

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

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

Obtained listing of the credit cards and management's representation that listing is complete.

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

i. Observe whether there is evidence that the monthly statement or combined statement and supporting documentation (e.g., original receipts for credit/debit card purchases, exception reports for excessive fuel card usage) were reviewed and approved, in writing (or electronically approved) by someone other than the authorized card holder (those instances requiring such approval that may constrain the legal authority of certain public officials, such as the mayor of a Lawrason Act municipality, should not be reported); and

No exceptions noted.

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

No exceptions noted.

C. Using the monthly statements or combined statements selected under procedure #7B above, excluding fuel cards, randomly select 10 transactions (or all transactions if less than 10) from each statement, and obtain supporting documentation for the transactions (e.g., each card should have 10 transactions subject to inspection). For each transaction, observe that it is supported by (1) an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased, (2) written documentation of the business/public purpose, and (3) documentation of the individuals participating in meals (for meal charges only). For missing receipts, the practitioner should describe the nature of the transaction and observe whether management had a compensating control to address missing receipts, such as a "missing receipt statement" that is subject to increased scrutiny.

No exceptions noted.

D. Using the list of terminated employees obtained in Payroll and Personnel procedure #9C identify those individuals who had access to cards and randomly select 5 terminated employees (or all terminated employees with card access if less than 5) from this population. Observe evidence that the cards have been deactivated for these terminated employees. In cases where a card is shared by multiple users, obtain evidence that the terminated employees' authorization has been removed.

No exceptions noted.

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

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

Obtained listing of travel and related expense reimbursements and management's representation that listing is complete.

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

No exceptions noted.

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

No exceptions noted.

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

No exceptions noted.

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

No exceptions noted.

8) Contracts

A. Obtain from management a listing of all agreements/contracts for professional services, materials and supplies, leases, and construction activities that were initiated or renewed during the fiscal period. *Alternatively, the practitioner may use an equivalent selection source, such as an active vendor list.* Obtain management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 contracts (or all contracts if less than 5) from the listing, excluding the practitioner's contract, and

Obtained listing of contracts initiated or renewed during the fiscal period and management's representation that listing is complete.

i. Observe whether the contract was bid in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law (e.g., solicited quotes or bids, advertised), if required by law;

No exceptions noted.

ii. Observe whether the contract was approved by the governing body/board, if required by policy or law (e.g., Lawrason Act, Home Rule Charter);

No exceptions noted.

iii. If the contract was amended (e.g., change order), observe that the original contract terms provided for such an amendment and that amendments were made in compliance with the contract terms (e.g., if approval is required for any amendment, the documented approval); and

No exceptions noted.

iv. Randomly select one payment from the fiscal period for each of the 5 contracts, obtain the supporting invoice, agree the invoice to the contract terms, and observe that the invoice and related payment agreed to the terms and conditions of the contract.

No exceptions noted.

9) Payroll and Personnel

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

Not applicable. Payroll procedures are addressed entirely by the Ascension Parish School Board.

B. Randomly select one pay period during the fiscal period. For the 5 employees or officials selected under procedure #9A above, obtain attendance records and leave documentation for the pay period, and

i. Observe that all selected employees or officials documented their daily attendance and leave (e.g., vacation, sick, compensatory);

Not applicable.

ii. Observe whether supervisors approved the attendance and leave of the selected employees or officials;

Not applicable.

iii. Observe that any leave accrued or taken during the pay period is reflected in the entity's cumulative leave records; and

Not applicable.

iv. Observe the rate paid to the employees or officials agrees to the authorized salary/pay rate found within the personnel file.

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

D. Obtain management's representation that employer and employee portions of third-party payroll related amounts (e.g., payroll taxes, retirement contributions, health insurance premiums, garnishments, workers' compensation premiums, etc.) have been paid, and any associated forms have been filed, by required deadlines.

Not applicable.

10) *Ethics*

A. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #9A obtain ethics documentation from management, and

Not applicable. Ethics procedures are addressed entirely by the Ascension Parish School Board.

i. Observe whether the documentation demonstrates that each employee/official completed one hour of ethics training during the calendar year as required by R.S. 42:1170; and

Not applicable.

ii. Observe whether the entity maintains documentation which demonstrates that each employee and official were notified of any changes to the entity's ethics policy during the fiscal period, as applicable.

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

11) Debt Service

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

No debt issued during the fiscal period.

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

Not applicable.

12) Fraud Notice

A. Obtain a listing of misappropriations of public funds and assets during the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Select all misappropriations on the listing, obtain supporting documentation, and observe that the entity reported the

misappropriation(s) to the legislative auditor and the district attorney of the parish in which the entity is domiciled as required by R.S. 24:523.

Management asserted that the entity did not have any misappropriations of public funds or assets.

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

No exceptions noted.

13) Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity

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

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

We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management.

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

We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management.

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

We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management.

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

We performed the procedure and discussed the results with management.

C. Randomly select 5 employees/officials from payroll and personnel and obtain cybersecurity training documentation from management, and observe that the documentation demonstrates that the following employees/officials with access to the agency's information technology assets have completed cybersecurity training as required by R.S. 42:1267. The requirements are as follows:

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

Not applicable.

14) Prevention of Sexual Harassment

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

Not applicable. Sexual harassment procedures are addressed entirely by the Ascension Parish School Board.

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

Not applicable. Sexual harassment procedures are addressed entirely by the Ascension Parish School Board.

C. Obtain the entity's annual sexual harassment report for the current fiscal period, observe that the report was dated on or before February 1, and observe that the report includes the applicable requirements of R.S. 42:344:

Not applicable. Sexual harassment procedures are addressed entirely by the Ascension Parish School Board.

We were engaged by the Ascension Parish Sales & Use Tax Authority to perform this agreed-upon procedures engagement and conducted our engagement in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants and applicable standards of *Government Auditing Standards*. We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination or review engagement, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

We are required to be independent of the Ascension Parish Sales & Use Tax Authority and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements related to our agreed-upon procedures engagement.

This report is intended solely to describe the scope of testing performed on those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs, and the result of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on control or compliance. Accordingly, this report is not suitable for any other purpose. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the LLA as a public document.

Daigle, Duplantis & Rivet

Gonzales, Louisiana
October 23, 2026