

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR

St. Martinville, Louisiana

Financial Report

Year Ended December 31, 2024

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

The Honorable R. Todd Dugas
St. Martin Parish Assessor
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and the major fund of the St. Martin Parish Assessor, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the St. Martin Parish Assessor's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and the major fund of the St. Martin Parish Assessor, as of December 31, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America 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 St. Martin Parish Assessor 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.

Change in Accounting Principle

As described in Note 15 to the financial statements, in 2024, the St. Martin Parish Assessor adopted new accounting guidance, GASB Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*. Our opinion is not modified with respect to this matter.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of 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 St. Martin Parish Assessor'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.

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 misstatements, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditors' 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 St. Martin Parish Assessor'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 St. Martin Parish Assessor's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the budgetary comparison information, schedule of changes in assessor's total OPEB liability and related ratios, schedule of employer's share of net pension liability, schedule of employer contributions, and notes to the required supplementary information on pages 39 through 43 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information

in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

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

Other Information

Management is responsible for the other information included in the annual report. The other information comprises the statement of expenditures compared to budget (GAAP basis) but does not include the basic financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. Our opinions on the basic financial statements do not cover the other information, and we do not express an opinion or any form of assurance thereon.

In connection with our audit of the basic financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and consider whether a material inconsistency exists between the other information and the basic financial statements, or the other information otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the other work performed, we conclude that an uncorrected material misstatement of the other information exists, we are required to describe it in our report.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 18, 2025, on our consideration of the St. Martin Parish Assessor'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 effectiveness of the St. Martin Parish Assessor'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 St. Martin Parish Assessor's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Champagne & Company, LLC

Certified Public Accountants

Breaux Bridge, Louisiana
June 18, 2025

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**GOVERNMENT-WIDE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (GWFS)**

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Statement of Net Position
December 31, 2024

| | <u>Governmental Activities</u> |
|---|------------------------------------|
| ASSETS | |
| Current Assets: | |
| Cash and interest-bearing deposits | \$ 2,763,905 |
| Investments | 5,803,224 |
| Receivables: | |
| Ad valorem taxes | 1,786,103 |
| Allowance for uncollectibles | (296,999) |
| Accrued interest | 1,774 |
| Prepaid expenses | 1,751 |
| Total current assets | <u>10,059,758</u> |
| Noncurrent assets: | |
| Capital assets, net | 63,676 |
| Net pension asset | 225,995 |
| Total noncurrent assets | <u>289,671</u> |
| Total assets | <u>10,349,429</u> |
| DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES | |
| Deferred amount on pension | 95,158 |
| Deferred amount on post employment benefit plan | 711,660 |
| Total deferred outflows of resources | <u>806,818</u> |
| LIABILITIES | |
| Current Liabilities: | |
| Accounts payable | 17,689 |
| Compensated absences | 38,267 |
| Total current liabilities | <u>55,956</u> |
| Noncurrent liabilities: | |
| Compensated absences | 117,498 |
| OPEB obligation | 2,431,779 |
| Total noncurrent liabilities | <u>2,549,277</u> |
| Total liabilities | <u>2,605,233</u> |
| DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES | |
| Deferred amount on pension | 329,716 |
| Deferred amount on post employment benefit plan | 342,436 |
| Total deferred inflows of resources | <u>672,152</u> |
| NET POSITION | |
| Net investment in capital assets | 63,676 |
| Unrestricted | 7,815,186 |
| Total net position | <u>\$ 7,878,862</u> |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

| | <u>Governmental Activities</u> |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Expenses: | |
| General government: | |
| Personnel services and related benefits | \$ 1,000,361 |
| Operating services | 176,067 |
| Operations and maintenance | <u>105,535</u> |
| Total expenses | <u>1,281,963</u> |
| Program revenues: | |
| Charges for services | <u>831</u> |
| Net program expense | <u>(1,281,132)</u> |
| General revenues: | |
| Property taxes | 1,607,070 |
| State revenue sharing | 95,184 |
| Gain on sale of assets | 17,766 |
| Other | <u>466,028</u> |
| Total general revenues | <u>2,186,048</u> |
| Change in net position | 904,916 |
| Beginning net position (as restated) | <u>6,973,946</u> |
| Ending net position | <u>\$ 7,878,862</u> |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (FFS)

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Balance Sheet - Governmental Fund
December 31, 2024

| ASSETS | General Fund |
|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Cash and interest-bearing deposits | \$ 2,763,905 |
| Investments | 5,803,224 |
| Receivables: | |
| Ad valorem taxes | 1,786,103 |
| Allowance for uncollectibles | (296,999) |
| Accrued interest | 1,774 |
| Prepaid expenses | <u>1,751</u> |
| Total assets | <u>\$ 10,059,758</u> |
| LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE | |
| Liabilities: | |
| Accounts payable | \$ 17,689 |
| Compensated absences | <u>38,267</u> |
| Total liabilities | <u>55,956</u> |
| Fund balance: | |
| Nonspendable | 1,751 |
| Restricted | - |
| Committed | - |
| Assigned | - |
| Unassigned | <u>10,002,051</u> |
| Total fund balance | <u>10,003,802</u> |
| Total liabilities and fund balance | <u>\$ 10,059,758</u> |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Reconciliation of the Governmental Fund Balance Sheet
to the Statement of Net Position
December 31, 2024

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Total fund balance for the governmental fund at December 31, 2024 | \$ 10,003,802 |
|---|---------------|

Total net position reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position is different because:

Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds. Those assets consist of:

| | |
|---|--------|
| Equipment and vehicles, net of \$420,203 accumulated depreciation | 63,676 |
|---|--------|

The deferred outflows of expenditures are not a use of current resources, and, therefore, are not reported in the funds:

| | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------|---------|
| Pension plan | \$ 95,158 | |
| Post employment benefit obligation | <u>711,660</u> | 806,818 |

General long-term debt of governmental activities is not payable from current resources and, therefore, not reported in the funds. This debt is:

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| Compensated absences | (117,498) | |
| Net OPEB obligation payable | (2,431,779) | |
| Net pension asset | <u>225,995</u> | (2,323,282) |

The deferred inflows of contributions are not available resources, and therefore, are not reported in the funds:

| | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Pension plan | (329,716) | |
| Post employment benefit obligation | <u>(342,436)</u> | <u>(672,152)</u> |

| | |
|--|---------------------|
| Total net position of governmental activities at December 31, 2024 | <u>\$ 7,878,862</u> |
|--|---------------------|

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balance
Governmental Fund
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

| | <u>General Fund</u> |
|---|----------------------|
| Revenues: | |
| Ad valorem taxes | \$ 1,607,070 |
| Intergovernmental revenues - | |
| Preparation of tax roll | 831 |
| State revenue sharing | 95,184 |
| Interest | 309,272 |
| Other | <u>28,254</u> |
| Total revenues | <u>2,040,611</u> |
| Expenditures: | |
| Current - | |
| Personnel services and related | |
| benefits | 794,026 |
| Operating services | 176,067 |
| Operations and maintenance | 74,795 |
| Capital outlay | <u>39,880</u> |
| Total expenditures | <u>1,084,768</u> |
| Net change in fund balance | 955,843 |
| Fund balance, beginning of year (as restated) | <u>9,047,959</u> |
| Fund balance, end of year | <u>\$ 10,003,802</u> |

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and
Changes in Fund Balance of the Governmental Fund
to the Statement of Activities
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

| | |
|--|------------|
| Total net change in fund balance for the year ended December 31, 2024 per Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance | \$ 955,843 |
|--|------------|

The change in net position reported for governmental activities in the
statement of activities is 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 useful lives and reported as depreciation expense.

| | | |
|--|-----------------|--------|
| Capital outlay which is considered expenditures on Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances | \$ 39,880 | |
| Depreciation expense for the year ended December 31, 2024 | <u>(24,462)</u> | 15,418 |

Because governmental funds do not record fixed assets and accumulated
depreciation, any assets sold are reflected in the statement of revenues,
expenditures, and changes in fund balance for the sale proceeds.
However, in the statement of activities, a gain or loss is shown on those
assets.

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|---------|
| Gain on sale of assets | 17,766 | |
| Proceeds from the sale of assets | <u>(25,378)</u> | (7,612) |

Expenses not requiring the use of current financial resources and, therefore,
are not reported as expenditures in the governmental funds:

| | | |
|---|------------------|-----------------|
| Net change in compensated absences | (2,715) | |
| Net change in net pension asset and related deferrals | 101,873 | |
| Net change in post employment benefit obligation payable and related deferrals | <u>(157,891)</u> | <u>(58,733)</u> |

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Total change in net position for the year ended December 31, 2024 per Statement of Activities | \$ <u>904,916</u> |
|--|-------------------|

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the basic financial statements.

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements

(1) Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

As provided by Article VII, Section 24 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, the Assessor is elected by the voters of the parish and serves a term of four years. The Assessor assesses property, prepares tax rolls and submits the rolls to the Louisiana Tax Commission as prescribed by law.

The accompanying financial statements of the St. Martin Parish Assessor (Assessor) have been prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) as applied to governmental units. GAAP includes all relevant Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) pronouncements. The accounting and reporting framework and the more significant accounting policies are discussed in subsequent subsections of this note.

Such accounting and reporting procedures also conform to the industry audit guide, *Audits of State and Local Governments*.

The following is a summary of certain significant accounting policies:

A. Financial Reporting Entity

For financial reporting purposes, the Assessor includes all funds that are controlled by the Assessor as an independently elected parish official. The activities of the parish government, parish school board, other independently elected parish officials, and municipal level government are not included within the accompanying financial statements as they are considered autonomous governments. These units of government issue financial statements separate from that of the Parish Assessor.

B. Basis of Presentation

Government-Wide Financial Statements (GWFS)

The statement of net position and statement of activities display information about the reporting government as a whole. They include the fund of the reporting entity, which is considered to be a governmental activity. The statement of activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the Assessor'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 (a) fees and charges paid by the recipients for goods or services offered by the programs, and (b) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular program. Revenues that are not classified as program revenues, including all taxes, are presented as general revenues.

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (continued)

Fund Financial Statements (FFS)

The accounts of the Assessor are organized and operated on the basis of funds. A fund is an independent fiscal and accounting entity with a separate set of self-balancing accounts. Fund accounting segregates funds according to their intended purpose and is used to aid management in demonstrating compliance with finance-related legal and contractual provisions. The minimum number of funds is maintained consistent with legal and managerial requirements.

The fund of the Assessor is classified as a governmental fund. The emphasis on fund financial statements is on major governmental and enterprise funds, each displayed in a separate column. A fund is considered major if it is the primary operating fund of the entity or meets the following criteria:

- a. Total assets, liabilities, revenues, or expenditures/expenses of that individual governmental or enterprise fund are at least 10 percent of the corresponding total for all funds of that category or type; and
- b. Total assets, liabilities, revenues, or expenditures/expenses of the individual governmental or enterprise fund are at least 5 percent of the corresponding total for all governmental and enterprise funds combined.

The major fund of the Assessor is described below:

Governmental Fund -

General Fund

The General Fund, as provided by Louisiana Revised Statute 13:781, is the principal fund of the Assessor. It is used to account for and report all financial resources not accounted for and reported in another fund. The various fees and charges due to the Assessor's office are accounted for in this fund. General operating expenditures are paid from this fund.

C. Measurement Focus/Basis of Accounting

Measurement focus is a term used to describe "which" transactions are recorded within the various financial statements. Basis of accounting refers to "when" transactions are recorded regardless of the measurement focus applied.

Measurement Focus

On the government-wide statement of net position and the statement of activities, governmental activities are presented using the economic resources measurement focus. The accounting objectives of this measurement focus are the determination of operating income, changes in net position (or cost recovery) and financial position. All assets and liabilities (whether current or noncurrent) associated

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (continued)

with its activities are reported. Government-wide fund equity is classified as net position. In the fund financial statements, the "current financial resources" measurement focus is used. Only current financial assets and liabilities are generally included on its balance sheet. Their operating statement presents sources and uses of available spendable financial resources during a given period. This fund uses fund balance as its measure of available spendable financial resources at the end of the period.

Basis of Accounting

In the government-wide statement of net position and statement of activities, the governmental activities are presented using the accrual basis of accounting. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recorded when the liability is incurred or economic asset used. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources resulting from exchange and exchange-like transactions are recognized when the exchange takes place.

Governmental fund financial statements are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the government considers revenues to be available if they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Revenues are classified by source and expenditures are classified by function and character. Expenditures (including capital outlay) generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures are recorded only when payment is due.

D. Assets, Deferred Outflows, Liabilities, Deferred Inflows and Equity

Cash, Interest-Bearing Deposits, and Investments

Cash, interest-bearing deposits and investments include amounts in demand deposits, interest-bearing demand deposits, time deposits, and interest-bearing securities invested with the Louisiana Asset Management Pool (LAMP), which are stated at cost. An investment in the amount of \$5,548,028 at December 31, 2024 is deposited in LAMP, a local government investment pool. In accordance with GASB Codification Section 150.165, the investment in LAMP is not categorized into the three risk categories provided by GASB Codification Section 150.164 because the investment is in the pool of funds and thereby not evidenced by securities that exist in physical or book entry form. LAMP is administered by LAMP, Inc., a non-profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana, and is governed by a board of directors comprised of representatives from various local governments and statewide professional organizations. Only local governments having contracted to participate in LAMP have an investment interest in its pool of assets. The primary objective of LAMP is to provide a safe environment for the placement of public

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (continued)

funds in short-term, high quality investments. The LAMP portfolio includes only securities and other obligations in which local governments in Louisiana are authorized to invest. Accordingly, LAMP investments are restricted to securities issued, guaranteed, or backed by the U.S. Treasury, the U.S. government, or one of its agencies, enterprises, or instrumentalities, as well as repurchase agreements collateralized by those securities. The dollar weighted average portfolio maturity of LAMP assets is restricted to not more than 90 days, and consists of no securities with a maturity in excess of 397 days. LAMP is designed to be highly liquid to give its participants immediate access to their account balances. LAMP is rated AAAM by Standard & Poor's.

Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property, plant, and equipment, are reported in the governmental activities column in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are capitalized at historical cost or estimated cost if historical cost is not available. Donated assets are recorded as capital assets at their estimated fair market value at the date of donation. The Assessor maintains a threshold level of \$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 assets lives are not capitalized.

Depreciation of all exhaustible capital assets is recorded as an expense in the statement of activities, with accumulated depreciation reflected in the statement of net position. Depreciation is provided over the assets' estimated useful lives using the straight-line method of depreciation. The range of estimated useful lives by type of asset is as follows:

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| Furniture, fixtures, and equipment | 5-7 years |
|------------------------------------|-----------|

Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources

In some instances, the GASB requires a government to delay recognition of decreases in net position as expenditures until a future period. In other instances, governments are required to delay recognition of increases in net position as revenues until a future period. In these circumstances, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources result from the delayed recognition of expenditures or revenues, respectively.

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (continued)

Equity Classifications

In the government-wide 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 and increased by balances of deferred outflows of resources related to 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.

In the fund statements, governmental fund equity is classified as fund balance. Fund balance of the governmental fund is further classified as follows:

Nonspendable — amounts that cannot be spent either because they are in nonspendable form or because they are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

Restricted — amounts that can be spent only for specific purposes because of constitutional provisions or enabling legislation or because of constraints that are externally imposed by creditors, grantors, contributors, or the laws or regulations of other governments.

Committed — amounts that can be used only for specific purposes determined by a formal action of the Assessor. The Assessor is the highest level of decision-making authority for the St. Martin Parish Assessor.

Assigned — amounts that do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed but that are intended to be used for specific purposes. Under the Assessor's policy, only the Assessor may assign amounts for specific purposes.

Unassigned — all other spendable amounts.

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (continued)

As of December 31, 2024, fund balances are composed of the following:

| | <u>General Fund</u> |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Nonspendable (not in spendable form): | \$ 1,751 |
| Restricted: | - |
| Committed: | - |
| Assigned: | - |
| Unassigned: | <u>10,002,051</u> |
| Total fund balances | <u>\$ 10,003,802</u> |

When an expenditure is incurred for purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available, the Assessor considers restricted funds to have been spent first. When an expenditure is incurred for which committed, assigned, or unassigned fund balances are available, the Assessor considers the amounts to have been spent first out of committed funds, then assigned funds, and finally unassigned funds, as needed, unless the Assessor has provided otherwise in its commitment or assignment actions.

E. Vacation and Sick Leave (Paid Time Off)

Paid time off includes both vacation and sick leave. Employees of the Assessor's office earn from 25 to 30 days of paid time off (depending on length of service). Paid time off earned, but not paid, can be accumulated and carried over. Paid time off is payable upon retirement (but not termination). If an employee accumulates 70 or more days of paid time off at the end of the calendar year, the Assessor's office can pay employees for up to 10 days of paid time off each year at the discretion of the employee.

The St. Martin Parish Assessor adopted GASB Statement 101 (see Note 15). At December 31, 2024, the Assessor has \$155,765 of accumulated leave benefits required to be accrued and reported.

F. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, deferred outflows of resources, liabilities, and deferred inflows of resources, and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (continued)

date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenditures during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

(2) Cash and Interest-Bearing Deposits

Under state law, the Assessor may deposit funds within a fiscal agent bank organized under the laws of the State of Louisiana, the laws of any other state in the Union, or the laws of the United States. The Assessor may invest in certificates and time deposits of state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having principal offices in Louisiana. At December 31, 2024, the Assessor has cash and interest-bearing deposits (book balances) totaling as follows:

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------|
| Demand deposits | \$ 2,194,866 |
| Time deposits | <u>569,039</u> |
| Total | <u>\$ 2,763,905</u> |

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution, the Assessor's deposits may not be recovered or will not be able to recover the collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. 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 pledging financial institution. The market value of the pledged securities plus the federal deposit insurance must at all times equal the amount on deposit within the financial institution. These securities are held in the name of the pledging financial institution in a holding or custodial bank that is mutually acceptable to both parties.

| | |
|---------------|---------------------|
| Bank balances | <u>\$ 2,787,678</u> |
|---------------|---------------------|

At December 31, 2024 the deposits are secured as follows:

| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Federal deposit insurance | 986,765 |
| Uninsured and collateral held by pledging bank not in the Assessor's name | <u>1,800,913</u> |
| Total | <u>\$ 2,787,678</u> |

Deposits in the amount of \$1,800,913 were exposed to custodial credit risk. These deposits are uninsured and collateralized with pledged securities held by the custodial bank in the name of the pledging financial institution for the Assessor. The Assessor does not have a policy for custodial credit risk.

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (continued)

(3) Investments

The Assessor had only one investment on which GASB Statement No. 31 applied. This investment was an investment in LAMP. GASB Statement No. 31 requires that investments that fall within the definitions of said statement be recorded at fair value. However, Statement No. 31 also states that investments in an external investment pool operates in a manner consistent with the Security Exchange Commission's (SEC's) Rule 2a7. LAMP is an external investment pool that operates in a manner consistent with SEC Rule 2a7. LAMP is also regulated by the Treasury of the State of Louisiana and fair value of the position in the pool is the same as the value of pool shares. At December 31, 2024, the Assessor's investment in LAMP, at cost, is \$5,548,028. The amortized cost of the investment at December 31, 2024 is \$5,566,821.

An investment in the amount of \$255,196 at December 31, 2024 is deposited into Royal Road Wealth Partners, LLC. Investments are permitted as outlined in R.S. 33:2955.

As of December 31, 2024, the investments in Royal Road Wealth Partners, LLC were comprised of a money market account of \$2,913, and the following bonds and notes:

| Description; credit quality rating | Interest | Maturities | Cost | Unrealized | Fair Value |
|------------------------------------|----------|------------|-------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| | Rate | | | Gain / (Loss) | |
| Exchange Traded Fund: Ticker SPMB | 5.70% | N/A | \$ 94,183 | \$ (17,681) | 76,502 |
| Exchange Traded Fund: Ticker SGOV | 4.44% | N/A | 4,012 | 1 | 4,013 |
| US Treasury Note | 3.88% | 04/30/25 | 19,901 | 68 | 19,969 |
| US Treasury Note | 2.75% | 06/30/25 | 20,548 | 298 | 20,846 |
| US Treasury Note | 0.25% | 07/31/25 | 12,632 | 72 | 12,704 |
| Chevron Corp; AA- | 1.55% | 05/11/25 | 25,005 | (265) | 24,740 |
| Exxon Mobile AA- | 2.99% | 03/19/25 | 20,152 | (218) | 19,934 |
| Exxon Mobile AA- | 3.04% | 03/01/26 | 20,519 | (819) | 19,700 |
| Exxon Mobile AA- | 2.71% | 03/06/25 | 30,305 | (401) | 29,904 |
| FHLB; AA+ | 0.88% | 03/30/26 | 24,991 | (1,020) | 23,971 |
| Total | | | <u>\$ 272,248</u> | <u>\$ (19,965)</u> | <u>\$ 252,283</u> |

The Assessor categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset. Level 1 inputs are observable inputs such as quoted prices in active markets for identical assets; Level 2 inputs are inputs, other than the quoted prices in active markets, that are observable either directly or indirectly; Level 3 inputs are unobservable inputs where there is little or no market data which require the Assessor to develop its own assumptions. All investments listed are recurring fair value measurements with Level 1 inputs.

Securities from issuers totaling five percent or more of a portfolio are investments in Chevron Corp (9.81%) and Exxon Mobile (27.56%) corporate bonds. Investments issued by or explicitly guaranteed by the US Government and investments in mutual funds, external investment pools, and other pooled investments are exempt from this disclosure.

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
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Notes to Basic Financial Statements (continued)

Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in market interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. Generally, the longer the maturity of an investment the greater the sensitivity of its fair value to changes in market interest rates. Information about the exposure of the Assessor's debt type investments to this risk, using the segmented time distribution model is shown above.

The credit rate risk and concentration of credit risk is managed by adherence to R.S. 33:2955.

The custodial credit risk for investments is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty (e.g., broker-dealer) to a transaction, the Assessor will not be able to recover the value of its investment or collateral securities that are in the possession of another party.

The Assessor does not have a formally adopted investment policy that addresses interest rate risk, custodial credit risk, or credit rate risk.

(4) Capital Assets

Capital asset balances and activity for the year ended December 31, 2024 are as follows:

| | Balance 01/01/24 | Additions | Deletions | Balance 12/31/24 |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Maps | \$ 291,000 | \$ - | \$ - | \$ 291,000 |
| Office equipment | 15,929 | - | - | 15,929 |
| Computer equipment | 137,071 | - | - | 137,071 |
| Vehicles | 91,203 | 39,880 | (91,204) | 39,879 |
| Totals | 535,203 | 39,880 | (91,204) | 483,879 |
| Less: Accumulated depreciation | (479,333) | (24,462) | 83,592 | (420,203) |
| Net capital assets | <u>\$ 55,870</u> | <u>\$ 15,418</u> | <u>\$ (7,612)</u> | <u>\$ 63,676</u> |

Depreciation expense of \$24,462 was charged to the general government function.

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (continued)

(5) Compensated Absences

The Assessor's compensated absences are attributable to governmental activities. Amounts due within one year are reported on the General Fund. The following is a summary of the compensated absences transactions during the year.

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Compensated absences payable at December 31, 2023 | \$ 146,627 |
| Additions | 40,982 |
| Reductions | <u>(31,844)</u> |
| Compensated absences payable at December 31, 2024 | <u>\$ 155,765</u> |
| Amount due within one year | <u>\$ 38,267</u> |

(6) Ad Valorem Taxes

Ad valorem taxes attach as an enforceable lien on property as of January 1 of each year. During the current fiscal year, taxes were levied in June and billed to the taxpayers by the St. Martin Parish Sheriff in November. Billed taxes are due by December 31, becoming delinquent on January 1 of the following year. An allowance is established for delinquent taxes to the extent that collection has not occurred in the two months following the close of the calendar year.

The taxes are based on assessed values determined by the St. Martin Parish Tax Assessor and are collected by the Sheriff. The taxes are remitted to the Tax Assessor net of deductions for pension fund contributions.

Ad valorem taxes are budgeted and recorded in the year levied and billed. For the year ended December 31, 2024, special assessment district taxes were levied at the rate of 3.17 mills on property with assessed valuations totaling \$521,135,772.

Total special assessment district taxes levied during 2024 were \$1,652,008. Taxes receivable at December 31, 2024, was \$1,786,103 and the allowance for uncollectible receivables was \$296,999.

(7) Litigation

There is no litigation pending against the Assessor at December 31, 2024.

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (continued)

(8) Risk Management

The Assessor is exposed to risks of loss in the areas of general and auto liability and workers' compensation. Those risks are handled by purchasing commercial insurance. There have been no significant reductions in insurance coverage during the current year nor have settlements exceeded coverage for the past three years.

(9) Expenditures of the Assessor Paid by the Parish Government

The Assessor's office is located in the St. Martin Parish Courthouse. The upkeep and maintenance of the courthouse is paid by the St. Martin Parish Government. In addition, the Parish Government also pays some of the Assessor's operating expenditures. These expenditures are not reflected in the accompanying financial statements.

(10) Deferred Compensation Plan

Certain employees of the Assessor participate in the Louisiana Public Employees Deferred Compensation Plan adopted under the provisions of the Internal Revenue Code (IRC) Section 457. Complete disclosures relating to the Plan are included in the separately issued audit report for the Plan, available from the Louisiana Legislative Auditor, Post Office Box 94397, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804-9397.

(11) Other Postemployment Healthcare and Life Insurance Benefits / GASB 75

Plan description – The St. Martin Parish Assessor (the Assessor) provides certain continuing health care and life insurance benefits for its employees upon actual retirement. The St. Martin Parish Assessor's OPEB Plan is a single-employer defined benefit OPEB plan administered by the Assessor. The authority to establish and/or amend the obligation of the employer, employees and retirees rests with the Assessor. 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 – Benefits are provided through a fully insured plan through the Louisiana Assessors' Association. Generally, employees are eligible for benefits at age 55 with 12 years of service or after 30 years of service and any age. The Assessor pays 100% of the premium for retirees. Spouses of retiring members are also eligible.

Employees covered by benefit terms: At January 1, 2024, the following employees were covered by the benefit terms:

| | |
|----------|----------|
| Actives | 5 |
| Retirees | 3 |
| Total | <u>8</u> |

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (continued)

Total OPEB Liability

The Assessor's total OPEB liability of \$2,431,779 was measured as of December 31, 2024 and was determined by an actuarial valuation as of January 1, 2024.

Actuarial assumptions and other inputs: The total OPEB liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of the valuation date, calculated based on the discount rate and actuarial assumptions below, and was then projected forward to the measurement date. Any significant changes during this period have been reflected as prescribed by GASB 75.

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Valuation date | January 1, 2024 |
| Measurement date | December 31, 2024 |
| Actuarial cost method | Entry Age Normal |
| Inflation | 2.30% |
| Discount Rate | 4.08% per annum, compounded annually |
| Compensation Increase | 3.00% per annum, compounded annually |
| Mortality Rates | Sex-distinct Pub-2010 General Mortality with separate employee and healthy annuitant rates, projected generationally using IRS 2024 Adjusted Scale MP-2021 |

The discount rate was based on the Bond Buyer General Obligation 20-Bond Municipal Index.

Changes in Total OPEB Liability:

| | Total OPEB Liability |
|--|-------------------------|
| Balance as of December 31, 2023 | \$ 2,068,914 |
| Changes for the year: | |
| Service Cost | 73,100 |
| Interest on total OPEB liability | 68,845 |
| Effect of plan changes | - |
| Effect of economic/demographic gains or losses | 174,200 |
| Effect of assumption changes or inputs | 107,638 |
| Benefit payments | (60,918) |
| Balance as of December 31, 2024 | <u>2,431,779</u> |

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (continued)

Sensitivity of the total OPEB liability to changes in the discount rate: The following presents the total OPEB liability of the Assessor, calculated using the discount rate of 4.08%, as well as what the Assessor's total OPEB liability would be if it were as well as what the Assessor's total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1 percentage point lower (3.08%) or 1 percentage point higher (5.08%) than the current rate:

| | 1% Decrease 3.08% | Discount Rate 4.08% | 1% Increase 5.08% |
|----------------------|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Total OPEB Liability | \$ 2,862,433 | \$ 2,431,779 | \$ 2,087,147 |

Sensitivity of the total OPEB liability to changes in the healthcare cost trend rates: The following presents the total OPEB liability of the Assessor, calculated using the current healthcare cost trend rates as well as what the Assessor's total OPEB liability would be if it were calculated using trend rates that are 1 percentage point lower of 1 percentage point higher than the current trend rates.

| | 1% Decrease | Current Trend Rate | 1% Increase |
|----------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Total OPEB Liability | \$ 2,118,504 | \$ 2,431,779 | \$ 2,832,971 |

For the year ended December 31, 2024, the Assessor recognized an OPEB expense of \$218,809. At December 31, 2024, the Assessor 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 |
|--|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Differences between expected and actual experience | \$ 346,067 | \$ 28,729 |
| Changes of assumptions | 365,593 | 313,707 |
| Total | \$ 711,660 | \$ 342,436 |

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (continued)

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

| Year ended December 31: | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| 2025 | \$ 76,864 |
| 2026 | 76,864 |
| 2027 | 75,828 |
| 2028 | 59,271 |
| 2029 | 46,926 |
| Thereafter | 33,471 |
| | <u>\$ 369,224</u> |

(12) Pension Plan / GASB 68

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 the Louisiana Assessors' Retirement Fund and Subsidiary (Fund) and additions to / deductions from the Fund's fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the Fund. 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.

Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:

The Louisiana Assessors' Retirement Fund prepares its employer pension schedules in accordance with Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 68, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Pensions – an amendment of GASB Statement No. 27*. GASB Statement No. 68 established standards for measuring and recognizing liabilities, deferred outflows of resources, deferred inflows of resources and expenses/expenditures. It provides methods and assumptions that should be used to project benefit payments, discount projected benefit payments to their actuarial present value and attribute that present value to periods of employee service. It also provides methods to calculate participating employers' proportionate share of net pension liability, deferred outflows, deferred inflows, pension expense and amortization periods for deferred outflows and deferred inflows.

Basis of Accounting

The Louisiana Assessors' Retirement Fund's employer pension schedules are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting. Employer contributions, on which the employer allocations are based, are recognized in the period in which the employee is compensated for services performed.

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (continued)

Principles of Consolidation

The employer pension schedules include the accounts of the Fund and its wholly-owned subsidiary, Louisiana Assessors' Retirement Fund Excess Benefit Account.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of the schedules of employer allocations and pension amounts by employer in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires the use of estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities. Accordingly, actual results may differ from estimated amounts.

Plan Fiduciary Net Position

Plan fiduciary net position is a significant component of the Fund's collective net pension liability. The Fund's plan fiduciary net position was determined using the accrual basis of accounting. The Fund's assets, liabilities, revenues, and expenses were recorded with the use of estimates and assumptions in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Such estimates and assumptions primarily relate to actuarial valuations or unsettled transactions and events as of the date of the financial statements and estimates in the determination of the fair market value of the Fund's investments. Accordingly, actual results may differ from estimated amounts.

Fund Employees

The Fund is not allocated a proportionate share of the net pension liability related to its employees. The net pension liability attributed to the Fund's employees is allocated to the remaining employers based on their respective employer allocation percentage.

Plan Description:

The St. Martin Parish Assessor participates in the Louisiana Assessors' Retirement Fund, which was created by Act 91 Section 1 of the 1950 regular session of the Legislature of the state of Louisiana. The Fund is a cost sharing, multiple-employer, qualified governmental defined benefit pension plan covering assessors and their deputies employed by any parish of the State of Louisiana, under the provisions of Louisiana Revised Statutes 11:1401 through 1494. The plan is a qualified plan as defined by the Internal Revenue Code Section 401(a), effective January 1, 1998. Membership in the Fund is a condition of employment for assessors and their full-time employees. Eligibility requirements and benefit provisions are described in Louisiana Revised Statutes 11:1421 through 1458. The following information is a brief description of the eligibility requirements and benefit provisions.

Eligibility Requirements

Members who were hired before October 1, 2013, will be eligible for pension benefits once they have either reached the age of fifty-five and have at least twelve years of service or have at least thirty years of service, regardless of age. Members who were hired on or after October 1, 2013, will be eligible for pension benefits once they have either reached

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (continued)

the age of sixty and have at least twelve years of service or have reached the age of fifty-five and have at least thirty years of service.

Retirement Benefits

Members whose first employment making them eligible for membership began prior to October 1, 2006, are entitled to annual pension benefits equal to three and one-third percent of their highest monthly average final compensation received during any 36 consecutive months, multiplied by their total years of service, not to exceed 100% of monthly average final compensation.

Members whose first employment making them eligible for membership began on or after October 1, 2006 but before October 1, 2013, are entitled to annual pension benefits equal to three and one-third percent of their highest monthly average final compensation received during any 60 consecutive months, multiplied by their total years of service, not to exceed 100% of monthly average final compensation.

Members whose first employment making them eligible for membership began on or after October 1, 2013 but who have less than thirty years of service, are entitled to annual pension benefits equal to three percent of their highest monthly average final compensation received during any 60 consecutive months, multiplied by their total years of service, not to exceed 100% of monthly average final compensation. Members whose first employment making them eligible for membership began on or after October 1, 2013 and have thirty or more years of service, are entitled to annual pension benefits equal to three and one-third percent of their highest monthly average final compensation received during any 60 consecutive months, multiplied by their total years of service, not to exceed 100% of monthly average final compensation. Members may elect to receive their pension benefits in the form of a joint and survivor annuity.

If members terminate before rendering 12 years of service, they forfeit the right to receive the portion of their accumulated plan benefits attributable to the employer's contributions. Benefits are payable over the employees' lives in the form of a monthly annuity. Members may elect to receive the actuarial equivalent of their retirement allowance in a reduced retirement payable throughout life with the following options:

1. If the member dies before he has received in retirement payments purchased by his contributions the amount he had contributed to the fund before his retirement, the balance shall be paid to his legal representatives or to such person as he shall nominate by written designation.
2. Upon the member's death, his reduced retirement allowance shall be continued throughout the life of and paid to his surviving spouse.
3. Upon the member's death, one-half of his reduced retirement allowance shall be continued throughout the life of and paid to his surviving spouse.
4. The member may elect to receive some other board-approved benefit or benefits that together with the reduced retirement allowance shall be of equivalent actuarial value to his retirement allowance.

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
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Notes to Basic Financial Statements (continued)

Survivor Benefits

The Fund provides benefits for surviving spouses and minor children under certain conditions which are outlined in the Louisiana Revised Statutes.

Disability Benefits

The Board of Trustees shall award disability benefits to eligible members who have been officially certified as disabled by the State Medical Disability Board. The disability benefit shall be the lesser of (1) or (2) as set forth below:

1. A sum equal to the greater of forty-five percent (45%) of final average compensation or the member's accrued retirement benefit at the time of termination of employment due to disability; or
2. The retirement benefit which would be payable assuming accrued creditable service plus additional accrued service, if any, to the earliest normal retirement age based on final average compensation at the time of termination of employment due to disability.

Upon approval for disability benefits, the member shall exercise an optional retirement allowance as provided in R.S. 11:1423 and no change in the option selected shall be permitted after it has been filed with the board. The retirement option factors shall be the same as those utilized for regular retirement based on the age of the retiree and that of the spouse, had the retiree continued in active service until the earliest normal retirement date.

Back-Deferred Retirement Option Program (Back-DROP)

In lieu of receiving a normal retirement benefit pursuant to R.S. 11:1421 through 1423, an eligible member of the Fund may elect to retire and have their benefits structured, calculated, and paid as provided in R.S. 11:1456.1.

An active, contributing member of the Fund shall be eligible for Back-DROP only if all of the following apply:

1. The member has accrued more service credit than the minimum required for eligibility for a normal retirement benefit.
2. The member has attained an age that is greater than the minimum required for eligibility for a normal retirement benefit, if applicable.
3. The member has revoked his participation, if any, in the Deferred Retirement Option Plan pursuant to R.S. 11:1456.2.

At the time of retirement, a member who elects to receive a Back-DROP benefit shall select a Back-DROP period to be specified in whole months. The duration of the Back-DROP period shall not exceed the lesser of thirty-six months or the number of months of creditable service accrued after the member first attained eligibility for normal retirement.

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
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Notes to Basic Financial Statements (continued)

The Back-DROP period shall be comprised of the most recent calendar days corresponding to the member's employment for which service credit in the Fund accrued.

The Back-DROP benefit shall have two portions: a lump-sum portion and a monthly benefit portion. The member's Back-DROP monthly benefit shall be calculated pursuant to the provisions applicable for service retirement set forth in R.S. 11:1421 through 1423, subject to the following conditions:

1. Creditable service shall not include service credit reciprocally recognized pursuant to R.S. 11:142.
2. Accrued service at retirement shall be reduced by the Back-DROP period.
3. Final average compensation shall be calculated by excluding all earnings during the Back-DROP period.
4. Contributions received by the Fund during the Back-DROP period and any interest that has accrued on employer and employee contributions received during the period shall remain with the Fund and shall not be refunded to the member or to the employer.
5. The member's Back-DROP monthly benefit shall be calculated based upon the member's age and service and the Fund provisions in effect on the last day of creditable service before the Back-DROP period.
6. At retirement, the member's maximum monthly retirement benefit payable as a life annuity shall be equal to the Back-DROP monthly benefit.
7. The member may elect to receive a reduced monthly benefit in accordance with the options provided in R.S. 11:1423 based upon the member's age and the age of the member's beneficiary as of the actual effective date of retirement. No change in the option selected or beneficiary shall be permitted after the option is filed with the Board of Trustees.

In addition to the monthly benefit received, the member shall be paid a lump-sum benefit equal to the Back-DROP maximum monthly retirement benefit multiplied by the number of months selected as the Back-DROP period. Cost-of-living adjustments shall not be payable on the member's Back-DROP lump sum.

Upon the death of a member who selected the maximum option pursuant to R.S. 11:1423, the member's named beneficiary or, if none, the member's estate shall receive the deceased member's remaining contributions, less the Back-DROP benefit amount. Upon the death of a member who selected Option 1 pursuant to R.S. 11:1423, the member's named beneficiary or, if none, the member's estate, shall receive the member's annuity savings fund balance as of the member's date of retirement reduced by the portion of the Back-DROP account balance and his previously paid retirement benefits that are attributable to the member's annuity payments as provided by the annuity savings fund.

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Notes to Basic Financial Statements (continued)

Excess Benefit Plan

Under the provisions of this excess benefit plan, a member may receive a benefit equal to the amount by which the member's monthly benefit from the Fund has been reduced because of the limitations of Section 415 of the Internal Revenue Code.

Employer Contributions:

Contributions for all members are established by statute at 8.00% of earned compensation. The St. Martin Parish Assessor has chosen to fund the employee's share of retirement contributions.

Administrative costs of the Fund are financed through employer contributions. According to state statute, contributions for all employers are actuarially determined each year. The actuarially determined employer contribution rate was 1.35% for the year ended September 30, 2024. The actual employer contribution rate was 5.00% of members' earnings for the year ended September 30, 2024.

The Fund also receives one-fourth of one percent of the property taxes assessed in each parish of the state, except for Orleans Parish, which is one percent, as well as a state revenue sharing appropriation. According to state statute, in the event that contributions for ad valorem taxes and revenue sharing funds are insufficient to provide for the gross employer actuarially required contribution, the employer is required to make direct contributions as determined by the Public Retirement System's Actuarial Committee. Non employer contributions were recognized as revenue in the amount of \$153,880 and excluded from pension expense for the year ended December 31, 2024.

Schedule of Employer Allocations:

The schedule of employer allocations reports the employer contributions in addition to the employer allocation percentage. The employer contributions are used to determine the proportionate relationship of each employer to all employers of the Fund. The allocation percentages were used in calculating each employer's proportionate share of the pension amounts.

The allocation method used in determining each employer's proportion was based on the employer's contribution effort to the plan for the current fiscal year as compared to the total of all employers' contribution effort to the plan for the current fiscal year. The employers' contribution effort was based on actual employer contributions made to the Fund for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024.

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

At December 31, 2024, the Assessor reported an asset of \$225,995 for its proportionate share of the net pension asset. The net pension asset was measured as of September 30, 2024 and the total pension asset used to calculate the net pension asset was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The Assessor's proportion of the net pension asset was based on a projection of the Assessor's long-term share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating employers, actuarially determined. At September 30, 2024, the Assessor's

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
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Notes to Basic Financial Statements (continued)

proportion was 0.886940%, which was an increase of .014098% from its proportion measured as of September 30, 2024.

For the year ended December 31, 2024, the Assessor recognized pension expense of \$55,663 plus employer's amortization of change in proportionate share and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions of \$2,032.

At December 31, 2024, the Assessor reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

| | <u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u> | <u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u> |
|--|---|--|
| Differences between expected and actual experience | \$ 22,312 | \$ 25,557 |
| Changes of assumptions | 57,433 | - |
| Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments | - | 302,868 |
| Change in proportion and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions | 9,725 | 1,291 |
| Employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date | <u>5,688</u> | <u>-</u> |
| Total | <u>\$ 95,158</u> | <u>\$ 329,716</u> |

Deferred outflows of resources of \$5,688 related to pensions resulting from the Assessor's contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability in the year ended December 31, 2024. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pension will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

| <u>Year Ended</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 12/31/2025 | \$ (23,605) |
| 12/31/2026 | 60,227 |
| 12/31/2027 | (156,699) |
| 12/31/2028 | (123,082) |
| 12/31/2029 | <u>2,913</u> |
| | <u>\$ (240,246)</u> |

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (continued)

Actuarial Methods and Assumptions:

The net pension asset was measured as the portion of the present value of projected benefit payments to be provided through the pension plan to current active and inactive employees that is attributed to those employees' past periods of service, less the amount of the pension plan's fiduciary net position.

A summary of the actuarial methods and assumptions used in determining the total pension asset as of December 31, 2024 are as follows:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Valuation Date | September 30, 2024 |
| Actuarial Cost Method | Entry age normal |
| Investment Rate of Return | 5.50%, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation |
| Inflation Rate | 2.10% |
| Salary Increases | 5.25% |
| Annuitant and Beneficiary Mortality | Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Mortality Table for General Healthy Retirees multiplied by 120% with full generational projection using the appropriate MP-2019 improvement scale. |
| Active Member Mortality | Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Mortality Table for General Employees multiplied by 120% with full generational projection using the appropriate MP-2019 improvement scale. |
| Disabled Annuitant Mortality | Pub-2010 Public Retirement Plans Mortality Table for General Disabled Retirees multiplied by 120% with full generational projection using the appropriate MP-2019 improvement scale. |

Discount Rate

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate 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, of 2.50%, and an adjustment for the effect of rebalancing/diversification. The resulting long-term expected arithmetic nominal return was 7.85% as of September 30, 2024.

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (continued)

Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in the Fund's target asset allocation as of September 30, 2024, are summarized in the following table:

| <u>Asset Class</u> | <u>Long-Term Expected Real Rate of Return</u> |
|----------------------|---|
| Domestic equity | 7.50% |
| International equity | 8.50% |
| Domestic bonds | 2.50% |
| International bonds | 3.50% |
| Real estate | 4.50% |

The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumes 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 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 these assumptions, the Fund'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 to Employer's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability to Changes in the Discount Rate:

The following presents the net pension liability (asset) of the participating employers calculated using the discount rate of 5.50% as of September 30, 2024, as well as what the net pension liability (asset) of the participating employers 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>Changes in Discount Rate</u> | | |
|--|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| | 1% Decrease 4.50% | Current Discount Rate 5.50% | 1% Increase 6.50% |
| Employer's proportionate share of net pension liability (asset) | \$ 330,904 | \$ (225,995) | \$ (699,635) |

Changes in Net Pension Liability:

The effects of certain other changes in the net pension liability are required to be included in pension expense over the current and future periods. The effects on the total pension liability of (1) changes of economic and demographic assumptions or of other inputs and (2) differences between expected and actual experience are required to be included in pension expense in a systematic and rational manner over a closed period equal to the average of the expected remaining service lives of

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (continued)

all employees that are provided with benefits through the pension plan (active employees and inactive employees), determined as of the beginning of the measurement period. The effect on net pension liability of differences between the projected earnings on pension plan investments and actual experience with regard to those earnings is required to be included in pension expense in a systematic and rational manner over a closed period of five years, beginning with the current period. The expected remaining service lives for 2024 is 6 years.

The changes in the net pension liability for the year ended September 30, 2024 were recognized in the current reporting period as pension expense except as follows:

- a. Differences between expected and actual experience: Differences between expected and actual experience with regard to economic or demographic factors in the measurement of total pension liability were recognized in pension expense using the straight-line amortization method over a closed period equal to the average of the expected remaining service lives of all employees that are provided with pensions through the pension plan. The difference between expected and actual experience resulted in a deferred outflow of resources in the amount of \$22,312 and a deferred inflow of resources in the amount of \$25,557 for the year ended December 31, 2024.
- b. Changes of assumptions: Changes of assumptions about future economic or demographic factors or of other inputs were recognized in pension expense using the straight-line amortization method over a closed period equal to the average of the expected remaining service lives of all employees that are provided with pensions through the pension plan. Changes of assumptions or other inputs resulted in a deferred outflow of resources in the amount of \$57,433 for the year ended December 31, 2024.
- c. Differences between projected and actual investment earnings: Differences between projected and actual investment earnings on pension plan investments were recognized in pension expense using the straight-line amortization method over a closed five-year period. The difference between projected and actual investment earnings resulted in a deferred inflow of resources in the amount of \$302,868 for the year ended December 31, 2024.
- d. Changes in proportion: Changes in the employer's proportionate shares of the collective net pension liability and collective deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources since the prior measurement date were recognized in employer's pension expense (benefit) using the straight-line amortization method over a closed period equal to the average of the expected remaining service lives of all employees that are provided pensions through the pension plan. Changes in proportion or other differences between employer contributions and the proportionate share of contributions resulted in a deferred outflow of resources in the amount of \$9,725 and deferred inflow of resources in the amount of \$1,291 for the year ended December 31, 2024.

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (continued)

Contributions-Proportionate Share:

Differences between contributions remitted to the Fund and the employer's proportionate share are recognized in pension expense using the straight-line amortization method over a closed period equal to the average of the expected remaining service lives of all employees that are provided with a pension through the pension plan. The resulting deferred inflow/outflow and amortization is not reflected in the schedule of pension amounts by employer due to differences that could arise between contributions reported by the Fund and contributions reported by the participating employer.

Retirement Fund Audit Report:

The Louisiana Assessors' Retirement Fund and Subsidiary has issued a stand-alone audit report on their financial statements for the year ended September 30, 2024. Access to the report can be found on the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's website, www.la.la.gov, or by contacting the Louisiana Assessors' Retirement Fund, Post Office Box 14699, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70898.

(13) Act 706 - Schedule of Compensation, Reimbursements, Benefits and Other Payments to Entity Head

Under Act 706, the Assessor is required to disclose the compensation, reimbursements, benefits, and other payments made to the Assessor, in which the payments are related to the position. The following is a schedule of payments made to the Assessor for the year ended December 31, 2024:

Agency Head Name: R. Todd Dugas

| | |
|---|-------------------|
| Base salary (as allowed by RS 47:1907 (A) (1) (b)) | \$ 98,290 |
| Additional salary (as allowed by RS 47:1907 (I)) | 10,000 |
| Additional salary (as allowed by RS 47:1907 (J)) | 7,000 |
| Additional salary (as allowed by RS 47:1907 (H) (2)) | 8,070 |
| Additional salary (as allowed by RS 47:1907 (K)) | 20,954 |
| Additional salary (as allowed by RS 47:1907 (L)) | 7,216 |
| Expense allowance (as allowed by RS 47:1907 (B)) | 15,153 |
| Benefits - insurance (as allowed by RS 47:1923) | 28,401 |
| Benefits - retirement - employer portion (as allowed by RS 11:1481) | 8,334 |
| Benefits - retirement - employee portion funded by employer (as allowed by RS 11:1481 (2) (b) (i)) | 13,335 |
| Benefits - deferred compensation (as allowed by RS 42:1301-1309) | 8,600 |
| Benefits - auto allowance (as allowed by RS 47:1925.13) | 20,835 |
| Reimbursements - registration fees | 414 |
| Total | <u>\$ 246,602</u> |

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Notes to Basic Financial Statements (continued)

(14) Tax Abatements

The Assessor is subject to certain property tax abatements granted by the Louisiana State Board of Commerce and Industry (the "State Board"), a state entity governed by board members representing major economic groups and gubernatorial appointees. Abatements to which the Assessor may be subject include those issued for property taxes under the Industrial Tax Exemption Program ("ITEP").

Under the ITEP, as authorized by *Article 7, Section 21(F) of the Louisiana Constitution and Executive Number JBE 2016-73*, companies that qualify as manufacturers can apply to the State Board for a property tax exemption on all new property, as defined, used in the manufacturing process. Under the ITEP, companies are required to promise to expand or build manufacturing facilities in Louisiana, with a minimum investment of \$5 million. The exemptions are granted for a 5-year term and are renewable for an additional 5-year term upon approval by the State Board. In the case of the local government, these state-granted abatements have resulted in reductions of property taxes, which the Assessor administers as a temporary reduction in the assessed value of the property involved. The abatement agreements stipulate a percentage reduction of property taxes, which can be as much as 100%. The Assessor may recapture abated taxes if a company fails to expand facilities or otherwise fails to fulfill its commitments under the agreement. At December 31, 2024, the Assessor's ad valorem taxes were reduced by \$38,045 for the industrial exemptions in effect.

(15) New Accounting Pronouncement

In June of 2022, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board issued GASB Statement No. 101, *Compensated Absences*. This Statement requires that liabilities for compensated absences be recognized for (1) leave that has not been used and (2) leave that has been used but not yet paid in cash or settled through noncash means. A liability should be recognized for leave that has not been used if (a) the leave is attributable to services already rendered, (b) the leave accumulates, and (c) the leave is more likely than not to be used for time off or otherwise paid in cash or settled through noncash means. The unified recognition and measurement model in this Statement will result in a liability for compensated absences that more appropriately reflects when a government incurs an obligation. In addition, the model can be applied consistently to any type of compensated absence and will eliminate potential comparability issues between governments that offer different types of leave. The Assessor adopted this standard in the year ended December 31, 2024. The implementation of this standard resulted in the Assessor restating its fund balance (for the current portion) and its net position (for the current and long-term portion) of the balance as of December 31, 2023.

| | <u>Fund Balance</u> | <u>Net Position</u> |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| Balance, as previously reported at December 31, 2023 | \$ 9,079,803 | \$ 7,120,573 |
| Effect of implementation | <u>(31,844)</u> | <u>(146,627)</u> |
| Balance, as restated at December 31, 2023 | <u>\$ 9,047,959</u> | <u>\$ 6,973,946</u> |

**REQUIRED
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Budgetary Comparison Schedule
General Fund
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

| | Original Budget | Final Budget | Actual | Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative) |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---|
| Revenues: | | | | |
| Ad valorem taxes | \$ 1,307,000 | \$ 1,395,000 | \$ 1,607,070 | \$ 212,070 |
| Intergovernmental revenues - | | | | |
| Preparation of tax roll | - | - | 831 | 831 |
| State revenue sharing | 95,000 | 95,000 | 95,184 | 184 |
| Interest | 240,000 | 275,000 | 309,272 | 34,272 |
| Other | 5,000 | 24,750 | 28,254 | 3,504 |
| Total revenues | <u>1,647,000</u> | <u>1,789,750</u> | <u>2,040,611</u> | <u>250,861</u> |
| Expenditures: | | | | |
| Current - | | | | |
| Personnel services and related | | | | |
| benefits | 809,737 | 791,628 | 794,026 | (2,398) |
| Operating services | 152,000 | 196,000 | 176,067 | 19,933 |
| Operations and maintenance | 90,575 | 86,750 | 74,795 | 11,955 |
| Capital outlay | 80,000 | 42,500 | 39,880 | 2,620 |
| Total expenditures | <u>1,132,312</u> | <u>1,116,878</u> | <u>1,084,768</u> | <u>32,110</u> |
| Net change in fund balance | 514,688 | 672,872 | 955,843 | 282,971 |
| Fund balance, beginning of year | <u>8,779,816</u> | <u>9,079,803</u> | <u>9,047,959</u> | * <u>31,844</u> |
| Fund balance, end of year | <u>\$ 9,294,504</u> | <u>\$ 9,752,675</u> | <u>\$ 10,003,802</u> | <u>\$ 314,815</u> |

* as restated.

See notes to required supplementary information.

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Schedule of Changes in the Assessor's Total OPEB Liability and Related Ratios
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

| | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Total OPEB Liability | | | | | |
| Service Cost | \$ 65,067 | \$ 53,851 | \$ 70,214 | \$ 84,396 | \$ 89,604 |
| Interest | 46,847 | 57,409 | 49,516 | 41,888 | 42,829 |
| Effect of economic/demographic gains or losses | 419,621 | - | (78,439) | - | 132,245 |
| Effect of changes of assumptions | (430,279) | 333,840 | 169,021 | 27,945 | (323,559) |
| Benefit payments | (49,853) | (53,567) | (55,331) | (56,236) | (56,236) |
| Net Changes in Total OPEB Liability | \$ 51,403 | \$ 391,533 | \$ 154,981 | \$ 97,993 | \$ (115,117) |
| Total OPEB Liability-beginning | \$ 1,321,496 | \$ 1,372,899 | \$ 1,764,432 | \$ 1,919,413 | \$ 2,017,406 |
| Total OPEB Liability-end | \$ 1,372,899 | \$ 1,764,432 | \$ 1,919,413 | \$ 2,017,406 | \$ 1,902,289 |
| Covered Employee Payroll | \$ 407,125 | \$ 423,093 | \$ 383,709 | \$ 399,309 | \$ 412,118 |
| Total OPEB Liability as a percentage of covered employee payroll | 337.22% | 417.03% | 500.23% | 505.22% | 461.59% |
| | 2023 | 2024 | | | |
| Total OPEB Liability | | | | | |
| Service Cost | \$ 60,997 | \$ 73,100 | | | |
| Interest | 71,908 | 68,845 | | | |
| Effect of economic/demographic gains or losses | - | 174,200 | | | |
| Effect of changes of assumptions | 94,820 | 107,638 | | | |
| Benefit payments | (61,100) | (60,918) | | | |
| Net Changes in Total OPEB Liability | \$ 166,625 | \$ 362,865 | | | |
| Total OPEB Liability-beginning | \$ 1,902,289 | \$ 2,068,914 | | | |
| Total OPEB Liability-end | \$ 2,068,914 | \$ 2,431,779 | | | |
| Covered Employee Payroll | \$ 434,487 | \$ 464,046 | | | |
| Total OPEB Liability as a percentage of covered employee payroll | 476.17% | 524.04% | | | |

This schedule is intended to show information for 10 years. Additional years will be displayed as they become available.

See notes to required supplementary information.

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Schedule of Employer's Share of Net Pension Liability (Asset)
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

| Year Ended Dec 31, | Employer Proportion of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) | Employer Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) | Employer's Covered Employee Payroll Obligation | Employer's Proportionate Share of the Net Pension Liability (Asset) as a Percentage of its Covered Employee Payroll | Plan Fiduciary Net Position as a Percentage of the Total Pension Liability |
|--------------------------|---|--|---|---|--|
| 2015 | 1.17% | \$ 610,541 | \$ 484,478 | 126.02% | 85.57% |
| 2016 | 1.09% | 383,923 | 475,495 | 80.74% | 90.68% |
| 2017 | 0.988% | 173,521 | 420,508 | 41.20% | 95.61% |
| 2018 | 0.916321% | 178,136 | 407,125 | 43.75% | 95.46% |
| 2019 | 0.942035% | 248,492 | 423,093 | 58.73% | 94.12% |
| 2020 | 0.946283% | 144,569 | 434,364 | 33.28% | 96.79% |
| 2021 | 0.874070% | (287,360) | 399,309 | -71.96% | 106.48% |
| 2022 | 0.859043% | 569,058 | 413,781 | 137.53% | 87.25% |
| 2023 | 0.872842% | 427,661 | 434,487 | 98.43% | 90.91% |
| 2024 | 0.886940% | (225,995) | 449,922 | -50.23% | 104.58% |

* The amounts presented have a measurement date of September 30 of the audit year end.

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Schedule of Employer Contributions
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

| Year ended Dec 31, | Contractually Required Contribution | Contributions in Relation to Contractual Required Contribution | Contribution Deficiency (Excess) | Employer's Covered Employee Payroll | Contributions as a % of Covered Employee Payroll |
|-----------------------|---|--|--|--|--|
| 2015 | \$ 65,405 | \$ 65,405 | \$ - | \$ 484,478 | 13.50% |
| 2016 | 59,968 | 59,968 | - | 475,495 | 12.61% |
| 2017 | 43,682 | 40,079 | 3,603 | 420,508 | 9.54% |
| 2018 | 32,570 | 32,570 | - | 407,125 | 8.00% |
| 2019 | 33,847 | 33,847 | - | 423,093 | 8.00% |
| 2020 | 34,749 | 34,749 | - | 434,364 | 8.00% |
| 2021 | 28,950 | 28,950 | - | 399,309 | 7.25% |
| 2022 | 19,137 | 19,137 | - | 413,781 | 4.62% |
| 2023 | 16,836 | 16,836 | - | 434,487 | 3.87% |
| 2024 | 22,753 | 22,753 | - | 455,067 | 5.00% |

See notes to required supplementary information.

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Notes to the Required Supplementary Information

A. Budgetary and Budgetary Accounting

The Assessor follows these procedures in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the financial statements:

1. A proposed budget is prepared for the fiscal year no later than fifteen days prior to the beginning of each fiscal year.
2. A summary of the proposed budget is published, and the public is notified that the proposed budget is available for public inspection. At the same time, a public hearing is called.
3. A public hearing is held on the proposed budget at least ten days after publication of the call for a hearing.
4. After the holding of the public hearing and completion of all action necessary to finalize and implement the budget, the budget is legally adopted prior to the commencement of the fiscal year for which the budget is being adopted.
5. All budgetary appropriations lapse at the end of each fiscal year.
6. The budget is adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). Budgeted amounts included in the accompanying financial statements are as originally adopted and as finally amended by the Assessor.

B. Pension Plan

Changes of Assumptions - Changes of assumptions about future economic or demographic factors or of other inputs were recognized in pension expense using the straight-line amortization method over a closed period equal to the average of the expected remaining service lives of all employees that are provided with pensions through the pension plan.

C. Post-Employment Health Insurance Plan

There are no assets accumulated in a trust that meets the requirements in paragraph 4 of GASB Statement 75 to pay related benefits.

Changes of assumptions and other inputs reflect the effects of changes in the discount rate each period. The discount rate increased to 4.08% from 3.26% since the previous valuation.

OTHER INFORMATION

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Statement of Expenditures Compared to Budget (GAAP Basis) -
General Fund
For the Year Ended December 31, 2024

| | Original Budget | Final Budget | Actual | Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative) |
|--|--------------------|-----------------|--------------|---|
| Current: | | | | |
| Personnel services and related benefits - | | | | |
| Salaries: | | | | |
| Assessor | \$ 152,622 | \$ 152,622 | \$ 152,558 | \$ 64 |
| Deputies | 287,900 | 289,000 | 294,715 | (5,715) |
| Other | 35,000 | 30,000 | 22,220 | 7,780 |
| Allowance/travel | 39,631 | 36,266 | 41,924 | (5,658) |
| Group insurance | 183,250 | 175,240 | 175,849 | (609) |
| Pension | 56,484 | 59,500 | 59,159 | 341 |
| Payroll tax | 8,350 | 10,200 | 9,197 | 1,003 |
| Workman's compensation insurance | 3,500 | 1,800 | 1,754 | 46 |
| Deferred compensation | 43,000 | 37,000 | 36,650 | 350 |
| Total personnel services and related benefits | 809,737 | 791,628 | 794,026 | (2,398) |
| Operating services: | | | | |
| Professional fees | 152,000 | 196,000 | 176,067 | 19,933 |
| Operations and maintenance: | | | | |
| Office supplies and expense | 18,075 | 12,600 | 14,536 | (1,936) |
| Telephone | 10,000 | 9,750 | 8,767 | 983 |
| Postage | 7,500 | 13,000 | 10,019 | 2,981 |
| Dues & subscriptions | 22,500 | 21,000 | 22,247 | (1,247) |
| Training - school and tuition | 2,500 | 8,000 | 997 | 7,003 |
| Equipment maintenance | 15,000 | 15,000 | 365 | 14,635 |
| Uniforms | 1,000 | 1,000 | - | 1,000 |
| Automobile supplies and maintenance | 14,000 | 6,400 | 17,864 | (11,464) |
| Total operations and maintenance | 90,575 | 86,750 | 74,795 | 11,955 |
| Capital outlay: | | | | |
| Equipment | 80,000 | 42,500 | 39,880 | 2,620 |
| Total expenditures | \$ 1,132,312 | \$ 1,116,878 | \$ 1,084,768 | \$ 32,110 |

**INTERNAL CONTROL,
COMPLIANCE, AND
OTHER MATTERS**

Champagne & Company, LLC

Certified Public Accountants

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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*

The Honorable R. Todd Dugas
St. Martin Parish Assessor
St. Martinville, 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 the St. Martin Parish Assessor, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the St. Martin Parish Assessor's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated June 18, 2025.

Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the St. Martin Parish Assessor'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 St. Martin Parish Assessor's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the St. Martin Parish Assessor'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 and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We identified certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying

schedule of prior and current audit findings and management's corrective action plan as items 2024-001 and 2024-002 that we consider to be material weaknesses.

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the St. Martin Parish Assessor'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 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*.

St. Martin Parish Assessor's Response to Findings

Government Auditing Standards requires the auditor to perform limited procedures on the St. Martin Parish Assessor's response to the findings identified in our audit and described in the accompanying schedule of prior and current audit findings and management's corrective action plan. The St. Martin Parish Assessor's response was not subjected to the other auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on the response.

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 Louisiana Legislative Auditor as a public document.

Champagne & Company, LLC
Certified Public Accountants

Breaux Bridge, Louisiana
June 18, 2025

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Schedule of Prior and Current Audit Findings and
Management's Corrective Action Plan
Year Ended December 31, 2024

I. Prior Year Findings:

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

2023-001 Inadequate Segregation of Accounting Functions

Finding:

The Assessor's office did not have adequate segregation of functions within the accounting department.

Status: Unresolved. See item 2024-001.

2023-002 Inadequate Controls over Financial Statement Preparation

Finding:

The Assessor's office does not have a staff person who has the qualifications and training to apply generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) in recording the entity's financial transactions or preparing its financial statements, including the related notes.

Status: Unresolved. See item 2024-002.

Compliance

There were no findings reported at December 31, 2023.

Management Letter Items

There were no items reported at December 31, 2023.

(continued)

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Schedule of Prior and Current Audit Findings and
Management's Corrective Action Plan (Continued)
Year Ended December 31, 2024

II. Current Year Findings and Management's Corrective Action Plan:

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

2024-001 Inadequate Segregation of Accounting Functions; Year Initially Occurred--Unknown

Condition and Criteria:

The Assessor's office did not have adequate segregation of functions within the accounting department.

Effect:

This condition represents a material weakness in the internal control of the Assessor's office.

Cause:

The condition resulted because of the small number of employees in the accounting department.

Recommendation:

No plan is considered necessary due to the fact that it would not be cost effective to implement a plan.

Management's Corrective Action Plan:

Mr. R. Todd Dugas, Assessor, has determined that it is not cost effective to achieve complete segregation of duties within the accounting department. No plan is considered necessary.

2024-002 Inadequate Controls over Financial Statement Preparation; Year Initially Occurred--Unknown

Condition and Criteria:

The Assessor's office does not have a staff person who has the qualifications and training to apply generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) in recording the entity's financial transactions or preparing its financial statements, including the related notes.

Effect:

This condition represents a material weakness in the internal control of the Assessor's office.

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR
St. Martinville, Louisiana

Schedule of Prior and Current Audit Findings and
Management's Corrective Action Plan (Continued)
Year Ended December 31, 2024

Cause:

The condition resulted because the Assessor's office personnel do not have the qualifications and training to apply GAAP in recording the entity's financial transactions or preparing the financial statements.

Recommendation:

The Assessor's office should consider outsourcing this task to its independent auditors and to carefully review the draft financial statements and notes prior to approving them and accepting responsibility for their contents and presentation.

Management's Corrective Action Plan:

Mr. R. Todd Dugas, Assessor, has evaluated the cost vs. benefit of establishing internal controls over the preparation of financial statements in accordance with GAAP, and determined that it is in the best interest of the government to outsource this task to its independent auditors, and to carefully review the draft financial statements and notes prior to approving them and accepting responsibility for their contents and presentation.

Compliance

There are no findings reported at December 31, 2024.

Management Letter Items

There are no items reported at December 31, 2024.

ST. MARTIN PARISH ASSESSOR

St. Martinville, Louisiana

Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures Report

Year Ended December 31, 2024

Champagne & Company, LLC

Certified Public Accountants

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INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2024

To the Management of St. Martin Parish Assessor and the Louisiana Legislative Auditor:

We have performed the procedures enumerated below on the control and compliance (C/C) areas identified in the Louisiana Legislative Auditor's (LLA's) Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures (SAUPs) for the fiscal period January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024. The St. Martin Parish Assessor's management is responsible for those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs.

The St. Martin Parish Assessor has agreed to and acknowledged that the procedures performed are appropriate to meet the intended purpose of the engagement, which is to perform specified procedures on the C/C areas identified in LLA's SAUPs for the fiscal period January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024. 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

Written Policies and Procedures was not tested at December 31, 2024 (Year 2) due to the fact that there were no exceptions noted in the prior year (Year 1).

- A. Obtain and inspect the entity's written policies and procedures and observe whether they address each of the following categories and subcategories if applicable to public funds and the entity's operations:
- i. ***Budgeting***, including preparing, adopting, monitoring, and amending the budget.
 - ii. ***Purchasing***, including (1) how purchases are initiated, (2) how vendors are added to the vendor list, (3) the preparation and approval process of purchase requisitions and purchase orders, (4) controls to ensure compliance with the Public Bid Law, and (5) documentation required to be maintained for all bids and price quotes.
 - iii. ***Disbursements***, including processing, reviewing, and approving.
 - iv. ***Receipts/Collections***, including receiving, recording, and preparing deposits. Also, policies and procedures should include management's actions to determine the completeness of all collections for each type of revenue or agency fund additions (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).

- v. **Payroll/Personnel**, including (1) payroll processing, (2) reviewing and approving time and attendance records, including leave and overtime worked, and (3) approval process for employee rates of pay or approval and maintenance of pay rate schedules.
- vi. **Contracting**, including (1) types of services requiring written contracts, (2) standard terms and conditions, (3) legal review, (4) approval process, and (5) monitoring process.
- vii. **Travel and Expense Reimbursement**, including (1) allowable expenses, (2) dollar thresholds by category of expense, (3) documentation requirements, and (4) required approvers.
- viii. **Credit Cards (and debit cards, fuel cards, purchase cards, if applicable)**, including (1) how cards are to be controlled, (2) allowable business uses, (3) documentation requirements, (4) required approvers of statements, and (5) monitoring card usage (e.g., determining the reasonableness of fuel card purchases).
- ix. **Ethics**, including (1) the prohibitions as defined in Louisiana Revised Statute (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.
- x. **Debt Service**, including (1) debt issuance approval, (2) continuing disclosure/EMMA reporting requirements, (3) debt reserve requirements, and (4) debt service requirements.
- xi. **Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity**, including (1) identification of critical data and frequency of data backups, (2) storage of backups in a separate physical location isolated from the network, (3) periodic testing/verification that backups can be restored, (4) use of antivirus software on all systems, (5) timely application of all available system and software patches/updates, and (6) identification of personnel, processes, and tools needed to recover operations after a critical event.
- xii. **Prevention of Sexual Harassment**, including R.S. 42:342-344 requirements for (1) agency responsibilities and prohibitions, (2) annual employee training, and (3) annual reporting.

2) Board or Finance Committee

The St. Martin Parish Assessor is not required to maintain minutes; therefore, these steps are not applicable.

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

- 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.

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 a listing of entity bank accounts for the fiscal period from management and management's representation that the listing is complete. Management identified the entity's main operating account. Obtained bank statements and reconciliations for the main operating account and the one other account for one random month during the period.

- 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 or 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)

Collections (excluding electronic funds transfer) was not tested at December 31, 2024 (Year 2) due to the fact that there were no exceptions noted in the prior year (Year 1).

- A. Obtain a listing of deposit sites for the fiscal period where deposits for cash/checks/money orders (cash) are prepared and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 deposit sites (or all deposit sites if less than 5).
- B. For each deposit site selected, obtain a listing of collection locations and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select one collection location for each deposit site (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
 - i. Employees responsible for cash collections do not share cash drawers/registers;

- ii. Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not also responsible for preparing/making bank deposits, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling collection documentation (e.g., pre-numbered receipts) to the deposit;
 - iii. Each employee responsible for collecting cash is not also responsible for posting collection entries to the general ledger or subsidiary ledgers, unless another employee/official is responsible for reconciling ledger postings to each other and to the deposit; and
 - iv. The employee(s) responsible for reconciling cash collections to the general ledger and/or subsidiary ledgers, by revenue source and/or custodial fund additions, is (are) not also responsible for collecting cash, unless another employee/official verifies the reconciliation.
- 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.
- 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.
 - ii. Trace sequentially pre-numbered receipts, system reports, and other related collection documentation to the deposit slip.
 - iii. Trace the deposit slip total to the actual deposit per the bank statement.
 - iv. Observe that the deposit was made within one business day of receipt at the collection location (within one week if the depository is more than 10 miles from the collection location or the deposit is less than \$100 and the cash is stored securely in a locked safe or drawer).
 - v. Trace the actual deposit per the bank statement to the general ledger.

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

Non-Payroll Disbursements (excluding card purchases, travel reimbursements, and petty cash purchases) was not tested at December 31, 2024 (Year 2) due to the fact that there were no exceptions noted in the prior year (Year 1).

- A. Obtain a listing of locations that process payments for the fiscal period and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 locations (or all locations if less than 5).
- B. For each location selected under 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;
 - ii. At least two employees are involved in processing and approving payments to vendors;
 - iii. The employee responsible for processing payments is prohibited from adding/modifying vendor files, unless another employee is responsible for periodically reviewing changes to vendor files;

- iv. Either the employee/official responsible for signing checks mails the payment or gives the signed checks to an employee to mail who is not responsible for processing payments; and
 - v. Only employees/officials authorized to sign checks approve the electronic disbursement (release) of funds, whether through automated clearinghouse (ACH), electronic funds transfer (EFT), wire transfer, or some other electronic means.
- C. For each location selected under procedure #5A above, obtain the entity's non-payroll disbursement transaction population (excluding cards and travel reimbursements) and obtain management's representation that the population is complete. Randomly select 5 disbursements for each location, obtain supporting documentation for each transaction, and
- i. Observe whether the disbursement, whether by paper or electronic means, matched the related original itemized invoice and supporting documentation indicates that deliverables included on the invoice were received by the entity, and
 - ii. Observe whether the disbursement documentation included evidence (e.g., initial/date, electronic logging) of segregation of duties tested under procedure #5B above, as applicable.
- D. Using the entity's main operating account and the month selected in Bank Reconciliations procedure #3A, randomly select 5 non-payroll-related electronic disbursements (or all electronic disbursements if less than 5) and observe that each electronic disbursement was (a) approved by only those persons authorized to disburse funds (e.g., sign checks) per the entity's policy, and (b) approved by the required number of authorized signers per the entity's policy. *Note: If no electronic payments were made from the main operating account during the month selected the practitioner should select an alternative month and/or account for testing that does include electronic disbursements.*

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

Credit Cards/Debit Cards/Fuel Cards/Purchase Cards (Cards) was not tested at December 31, 2024 (Year 2) due to the fact that there were no exceptions noted in the prior year (Year 1).

- 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.
- 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., itemized receipts for credit/debit card purchases, exception reports for excessive fuel card usage) were reviewed and approved, in writing (or electronically approved) by someone other than the authorized card holder (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
 - ii. Observe that finance charges and late fees were not assessed on the selected statements.
- C. Using the monthly statements or combined statements selected under procedure #6B above, excluding fuel cards, randomly select 10 transactions (or all transactions if less than 10) from each statement, and obtain supporting documentation for the transactions (e.g., each card should have 10 transactions subject to inspection). For each transaction, observe that it is supported by (1) an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased, (2) written documentation of the business/public purpose, and (3) documentation of the individuals participating in meals (for meal charges only). For missing receipts, the practitioner should describe the nature of the transaction and observe whether

management had a compensating control to address missing receipts, such as a “missing receipt statement” that is subject to increased scrutiny.

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

Travel and Travel Related Expense Reimbursements (excluding card transactions) was not tested at December 31, 2024 (Year 2) due to the fact that there were no exceptions noted in the prior year (Year 1).

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

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 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 and management’s representation that the listing is complete. Selected all contracts from the listing.

- 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
The contracts were not amended; therefore, this step is not applicable.

- 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

Payroll and Personnel was not tested at December 31, 2024 (Year 2) due to the fact that there were no exceptions noted in the prior year (Year 1).

- 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.
- 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);
 - ii. Observe whether supervisors approved the attendance and leave of the selected employees or officials;
 - iii. Observe that any leave accrued or taken during the pay period is reflected in the entity's cumulative leave records; and
 - iv. Observe the rate paid to the employees or officials agrees to the authorized salary/pay rate found within the personnel file.
- 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.
- D. Obtain management's representation that employer and employee portions of third-party payroll related amounts (e.g., payroll taxes, retirement contributions, health insurance premiums, garnishments, workers' compensation premiums) have been paid, and any associated forms have been filed, by required deadlines.

10) Ethics

- A. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #9A obtain ethics documentation from management, and
 - i. Observe whether the documentation demonstrates that each employee/official completed one hour of ethics training during the calendar year as required by R.S. 42:1170; and

No exceptions noted.

 - 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.

There were no changes to the entity's ethics policy during the fiscal period; therefore, this step is not applicable.

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

No exceptions noted.

11) Debt Service

There were no bonds/notes and other debt instruments issued during the fiscal period nor bonds/notes outstanding at the end of the fiscal period; therefore, there were no items to test.

- 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.
- 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).

12) Fraud Notice

Fraud Notice was not tested at December 31, 2024 (Year 2) due to the fact that there were no exceptions noted in the prior year (Year 1).

- 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.
- 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.

13) Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity

Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity was not tested at December 31, 2024 (Year 2) due to the fact that it was not required to be tested in Year 2.

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

- A. Obtain and inspect the entity's most recent documentation that it has backed up its critical data (if there is no written documentation, then inquire of personnel responsible for backing up critical data) and observe evidence that such backup (a) occurred within the past week, (b) was not stored on the government's local server or network, and (c) was encrypted.
- B. Obtain and inspect the entity's most recent documentation that it has tested/verified that its backups can be restored (if there is no written documentation, then inquire of personnel responsible for testing/verifying backup restoration) and observe evidence that the test/verification was successfully performed within the past 3 months.

- C. Obtain a listing of the entity's computers currently in use and their related locations, and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select 5 computers and observe while management demonstrates that the selected computers have current and active antivirus software and that the operating system and accounting system software in use are currently supported by the vendor.
- D. Randomly select 5 terminated employees (or all terminated employees if less than 5) using the list of terminated employees obtained in Payroll and Personnel procedure #9C. Observe evidence that the selected terminated employees have been removed or disabled from the network.
- E. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #9A, obtain cybersecurity training documentation from management, and observe that the documentation demonstrates that the following employees/officials with access to the agency's information technology assets have completed cybersecurity training as required by R.S. 42:1267. The requirements are as follows:
 - Hired before June 9, 2020 - completed the training; and
 - Hired on or after June 9, 2020 - completed the training within 30 days of initial service or employment.

14) Prevention of Sexual Harassment

Prevention of Sexual Harassment was not tested at December 31, 2024 (Year 2) due to the fact that there were no exceptions noted in the prior year (Year 1).

- A. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #9A, obtain sexual harassment training documentation from management, and observe that the documentation demonstrates each employee/official completed at least one hour of sexual harassment training during the calendar year as required by R.S. 42:343.
- B. Observe 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).
- C. Obtain the entity's annual sexual harassment report for the current fiscal period, observe that the report was dated on or before February 1, and observe that the report includes the applicable requirements of R.S. 42:344:
 - i. Number and percentage of public servants in the agency who have completed the training requirements;
 - ii. Number of sexual harassment complaints received by the agency;
 - iii. Number of complaints which resulted in a finding that sexual harassment occurred;
 - iv. Number of complaints in which the finding of sexual harassment resulted in discipline or corrective action; and
 - v. Amount of time it took to resolve each complaint.

We were engaged by the St. Martin Parish Assessor 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 St. Martin Parish Assessor 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.

Champagne & Company, LLC

Certified Public Accountants

Breaux Bridge, Louisiana

June 18, 2025