

**NATCHITOCHE PARISH
FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 1**

**FINANCIAL REPORT
DECEMBER 31, 2017**

Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District No. 1
Financial Report
December 31, 2017

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Management is responsible for the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and major fund of the Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District No. 1 (District) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2017, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents, in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. We have performed a compilation engagement in accordance with Statements on Standards for Accounting and Review Services promulgated by the Accounting and Review Services Committee of the AICPA. We did not audit or review the financial statements nor were we required to perform any procedures to verify the accuracy or completeness of the information provided by management. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion, a conclusion, nor provide any form of assurance on these financial statements.

The accompanying Schedule of Compensation, Benefits, and Other Payments to Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer and Schedule of Findings are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements. The information is the representation of management. The information was subject to our compilation engagement, but we have not audited or reviewed the supplementary information and do not express an opinion, a conclusion, nor provide any form of assurance on such information.

Management has omitted the Management 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part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical content.

Thomas, Cunningham, Broadway & Todtenbier, CPA's

Thomas, Cunningham, Broadway, & Todtenbier, CPA's

April 25, 2019
Natchitoches, LA 71457

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

GOVERNMENT-WIDE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District No. 1
Statement of Net Position
December 31, 2017

	<u>Governmental Activities</u>
ASSETS:	
Current Assets-	
Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$ 520,487
Revenue Receivable	<u>36,475</u>
Total Current Assets	\$ 556,962
Non-current Assets-	
Capital Assets (Net)	<u>577,269</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$1,134,231</u>
LIABILITIES:	
Accounts Payable	\$ <u>875</u>
NET POSITION:	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	\$ 577,269
Unrestricted	<u>556,087</u>
Total Net Position	<u>\$1,133,356</u>

See notes to financial statements.

Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District No. 1
Statement of Activities
December 31, 2017

<u>Activities</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Program Revenues</u>			<u>Net (Expense) Revenue and Changes in Net Position Governmental Activities</u>
		<u>Charges for Services</u>	<u>Operating Grants and Contributions</u>	<u>Capital Grants and Contributions</u>	
Governmental Activities:					
Public Safety	<u>\$166,323</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$13,304</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$ (153,019)</u>
		General Revenues:			
		Taxes:			
					\$ 10,065
					25,074
		Miscellaneous:			
					<u>1,320</u>
					<u>\$ 36,459</u>
					\$ (116,560)
					<u>1,249,916</u>
					<u>\$1,133,356</u>

See notes to financial statements.

FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District No. 1
Balance Sheet-Governmental Fund
December 31, 2017

Assets:

Cash & Cash Equivalents	\$520,487
Revenue Receivable	<u>36,475</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$556,962</u>

Liabilities:

Accounts Payable	\$ 875
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Fund Balance:

Unassigned	<u>556,087</u>
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	<u>\$556,962</u>

See notes to financial statements.

Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District No. 1
Reconciliation of the Governmental Fund
Balance Sheet to the Statement of Net Position
December 31, 2017

Total Fund Balance for the Governmental Fund at December 31, 2017	\$ 556,087
Amounts reported for Governmental Activities in the Statement of Net Position is different because:	
Capital Assets used in Governmental Activities are not current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the Governmental Fund Balance Sheet. Those assets consist of:	
Land, Equipment, Buildings, and Vehicles	1,476,212
Less, Accumulated Depreciation	<u>(898,943)</u>
Total Net Position of Governmental Activities at December 31, 2017	<u>\$1,133,356</u>

See notes to financial statements.

Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District No. 1
Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance-
Governmental Fund
Year Ended December 31, 2017

REVENUES:	
Taxes-	
Ad Valorem Tax	\$ 10,065
Parcel Fee	25,074
Intergovernmental-	
Natchitoches Parish Government	13,304
Miscellaneous-	
Interest	<u>1,320</u>
Total Revenues	\$ <u>49,763</u>
EXPENDITURES:	
Current-	
Public Safety-	
Office Expense	\$ 5,763
Fuel	3,401
Insurance	39,640
Equipment Repair & Maint.	39,700
Utilities	7,725
Capital Expenditures	<u>4,836</u>
Total Expenditures	\$ <u>101,065</u>
Deficiency of Revenues over Expenditures	\$ (51,302)
Fund Balance-Beginning of Year	<u>607,389</u>
Fund Balance-End of Year	<u>\$556,087</u>

See notes to financial statements.

Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District No. 1
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, 2017

Net Change in Fund Balance-Governmental Fund	\$ (51,302)
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 these assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives as depreciation expense. This cost of capital assets recorded in the current period is	3,643
Depreciation expense on Capital Assets is reported in the Government-wide Financial Statements, but does not require the use of current financial resources and is not reported in the Fund Financial Statements. Current year depreciation expense is	<u>(68,901)</u>
Change in Net Position, per Statement of Activities	<u><u>\$ (116,560)</u></u>

See notes to financial statements.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District No. 1
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2017

1. Introduction:

Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District No. 1 was created by the Natchitoches Parish Government, by ordinance in June 1982, under the provisions of Louisiana Revised Statutes 40:1492-1601, for the purpose of providing fire protection for the citizens of the District. The District is governed by a Board of Commissioners who are resident property taxpayers of the District. The commissioners are approved/appointed by the Natchitoches Parish Government. The District was created to acquire and maintain buildings, machinery, equipment, water tanks, water hydrants and water lines, and any other such things necessary to provide proper fire protection and control within the District.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies:

The accounting and reporting policies of Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District No. 1 conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governmental units.

A. Reporting Entity-

As the governing authority of the Parish, for reporting purposes, the Natchitoches Parish Government is the financial reporting entity for Natchitoches Parish. The financial reporting entity consists of (a) the primary government, (b) organizations for which the primary government is financially accountable, and (c) other organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the primary government are such that exclusion would cause the reporting entity's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete.

Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 14 established criteria for determining which component units should be considered part of the Natchitoches Parish Government for financial reporting purposes. The basic criteria for including a potential component unit within the reporting entity is financial accountability. The GASB has set forth criteria to be considered in determining financial accountability. This criteria includes:

1. Appointing a voting majority of an organization's governing body and
 - a. The ability of the Parish Government to impose its will on that organization and/or
 - b. The potential for the organization to provide specific financial benefits to or impose specific financial burdens on the Parish Government.
2. Organizations for which the Parish Government does not appoint a voting majority but are fiscally dependent on the Parish Government.
3. Organizations for which the reporting entity financial statements would be misleading if data of the organization is not included because of the nature or significance of the relationship.

Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District No. 1
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2017

Because the Natchitoches Parish Government created, by ordinance, Fire District No. 1, the District was determined to be a component unit of the Natchitoches Parish Government, the financial reporting entity. The accompanying financial statements present information only on the funds maintained by the District and do not present information on the Natchitoches Parish Government, the general government services provided by that governmental unit, or the other governmental units that comprise the financial reporting entity.

B. Basis of Presentation-

Government-Wide Financial Statements (GWFS)

The Statement of Net Position and Statement of Activities report information about the reporting government as a whole. They include all funds of the reporting entity. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other non-exchange revenues.

The Statement of Net Position presents the government-type activities on a consolidated basis, and is reported on a full accrual, economic resource basis, which recognizes all long-term assets and receivables as well as long-term debt and obligations.

The Statement of Activities presents a comparison between direct expenses and program revenues for each function of the District's governmental activities. Direct expenses are those that are specifically associated with a program or function. Program revenues include (a) fees and charges paid by the recipient for goods or services offered by the program, 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.

C. Fund Accounting-

The accounts of the District are organized 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 maintained is consistent with legal and managerial requirements.

The District maintains only one fund. It is categorized 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.

The major fund of the District is described below:

Governmental Fund-

General Fund

The General Fund is the general operating fund of the District. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund.

Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District No. 1
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2017

D. Measurement Focus/Basis of Accounting-

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

Accrual Basis - Government-Wide Financial Statements (GWFS)

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities display information about the District as a whole. Both of these statements have been prepared using the economic measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues, expenses, gains, losses, assets, and liabilities resulting from exchange and exchange-like transactions are recognized when the exchange takes place.

Modified Accrual Basis - Fund Financial Statements (FFS)

The accounting and financial reporting treatment applied to a fund is determined by its measurement focus. Governmental fund types use the flow of current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when susceptible to accrual; i.e., when they are both measurable and available. "Measurable" means the amount of the transaction can be determined and "available" means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. The District considers all revenues "available" if collected within 60 days after year-end. Expenditures are generally recorded under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related liability is incurred. The exceptions to this general rule are that (1) unmatured principal and interest on long-term debt, if any, are recorded when due and (2) claims and judgments and compensated absences are recorded as expenditures when paid with expendable available financial resources.

E. Assets, Liabilities, and Equity-

Cash and Interest-Bearing Deposits-

For purposes of the Statement of Net Position, cash and interest-bearing deposits include all demand accounts, savings accounts, and certificates of deposit of the District.

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 District 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 that asset or materially extend the life of that asset are not capitalized.

Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District No. 1
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2017

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 useful lives by type of asset is as follows:

Furniture, computers	5 years
Firefighting equipment	10 years
Ladders, hoses, airpacks	7 years
Radios	10 years
Fire trucks	15 years
Other vehicles	5 years
Buildings	40 years

Compensated Absences-

There are no employees of the District, therefore no entry is made to record compensated absences.

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 that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.
- b. Restricted net position - Consists of net resources with constraints placed on their use either by (1) external groups such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments; or (2) law through constitutional provision or enabling legislation.
- c. Unrestricted net position - All other net resources that do not meet the definition of "restricted" or "net investment in capital assets".

When an expense is incurred for the purposes for which both restricted and unrestricted net position are available, management applies unrestricted net resources first, unless a determination is made to use restricted net resources. The policy concerning which to apply first varies with the intended use and legal requirements. This decision is typically made by management at the incurrence of the expense.

In the fund statements, governmental fund equity is classified as fund balance and displayed in five components. The following classifications describe the relative strength of the spending constraints placed on the purposes for which resources can be used:

- a. Nonspendable fund balance - amounts that are not in a spendable form (such as prepaid expenses) or are required to be maintained intact;
- b. Restricted fund balance - amounts constrained to specific purposes by their providers (such as grantors, bondholders, and higher levels of government), through constitutional provisions, or by enabling legislation;

Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District No. 1
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2017

- c. Committed fund balance - amounts constrained to specific purposes by a government itself, using its highest level of decision-making authority; to be reported as committed, amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the government takes the same highest level action to remove or change the constraint;
- d. Assigned fund balance - amounts a government intends to use for a specific purpose; intent can be expressed by the governing body or by an official or body to which the governing body delegates the authority;
- e. Unassigned fund balance - amounts that are available for any purpose; positive amounts are reported only in the general fund.

The General Fund has an unassigned fund balance of \$556,087. If applicable, the District would typically use restricted fund balances first, followed by committed resources and assigned resources as appropriate opportunities arise, but reserves the right to selectively spend unassigned resources first and to defer the use of these other classified funds.

F. Budget-

Prior to the beginning of each fiscal year, the Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District No. 1 adopts a budget for the next fiscal year. The budget is open for public inspection. All budgetary appropriations lapse at the end of the fiscal year. The budget is prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting. The District did not adopt a budget for the year ended December 31, 2017.

G. Estimates-

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

3. Cash and Cash Equivalents:

The cash and cash equivalents of the Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District No. 1 are subject to the following risk:

Custodial Credit Risk: Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that, in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution, the District will not be able to recover its deposits. Under state law, these deposits (or the resulting bank balances) must be secured by federal deposit insurance or the pledge of securities owned by the fiscal agent bank. The market value of the pledged securities plus the federal deposit insurance must at all times equal or exceed the amount on deposit with the fiscal agent. These securities are held in the name of the pledging fiscal agent bank in a holding or custodial bank that is mutually acceptable to both parties. Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1229 imposes a statutory requirement on the custodial bank to advertise and sell the pledged securities within 10 days of being notified by the District that the fiscal agent bank has failed to pay deposited funds upon demand. Further, Louisiana Revised Statute 39:1224 states that securities held by a third party shall be deemed to be held in the District's name.

Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District No. 1
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2017

Bank account balances at December 31, 2017, totaled \$520,487. Of this amount \$408,854 was secured by FDIC Insurance and pledged securities. The remaining amount of \$111,902 was unsecured.

4. Capital Assets:

Capital asset balances and activity for the year ended December 31, 2017, is as follows:

Governmental Activities	Balance 01-01-17	Additions	Deletions	Balance 12-31-17
Capital Assets Not Depreciated:				
Land	\$ <u>5,155</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>0</u>	\$ <u>5,155</u>
Capital Assets Depreciated:				
Equipment	\$ 237,092	\$ 3,643	\$ 0	\$ 240,735
Radios	92,853	0	0	92,853
Fire trucks	767,080	0	0	767,080
Buildings	<u>370,389</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>370,389</u>
Total Capital Assets Depreciated	<u>\$1,467,414</u>	<u>\$ 3,643</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$1,471,057</u>
Total Assets	<u>\$1,472,569</u>	<u>\$ 3,643</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$1,476,212</u>
Less: Accumulated Depreciation:				
Equipment	\$ 144,379	\$ 15,280	\$ 0	\$ 159,659
Radios	74,778	7,230	0	82,008
Fire trucks	405,206	35,180	0	440,386
Buildings	<u>205,679</u>	<u>11,211</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>216,890</u>
Total Depreciation	<u>\$ 830,042</u>	<u>\$ 68,901</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 898,943</u>
Net Capital Assets	<u>\$ 642,527</u>	<u>\$(65,258)</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 577,269</u>

Depreciation expense of \$68,901 was charged to the public safety function.

5. Ad Valorem Taxes:

The District levies taxes on real and business personal property located within the boundaries of Natchitoches Parish Fire District No. 1. Property taxes are levied by the District on property values assessed by the Natchitoches Parish Tax Assessor and approved by the State of Louisiana Tax Commission.

The Natchitoches Parish Sheriff's office bills and collects property taxes for the District. Collections are remitted to the District monthly. The District recognizes property tax revenues when levied.

Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District No. 1
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2017

Property Tax Calendar

Assessment date	January 1
Levy date	June 30
Tax bills mailed	October 15
Total taxes are due	December 31
Penalties and interest added	March 3
Lien date	March 3
Tax Sale	May 15

The District is permitted to levy taxes up to 10% of the assessed property valuation for each specified purpose or in the aggregate for all purposes 25% of the assessed valuation for the payment of principal and interest on long-term debt after the approval by the voters of the District. Property taxes are recorded as receivables and revenues in the year assessed.

Assessed values are established by the Natchitoches Parish Tax Assessor each year on a uniform basis at the following ratios to fair market value:

10% land	15% machinery
10% residential improvements	15% commercial improvements
15% industrial improvements	25% public service properties, excluding land

A revaluation of all property is required to be completed no less than every four years. The last revaluation was completed for the roll of January 1, 2017. Total assessed value was \$44,744,759 in 2017. Louisiana state law exempts the first \$7,500 of assessed value of a taxpayer's primary residence from parish property taxes. This homestead exemption was a total of \$4,148,958 of the assessed value in 2017. For the year ended December 31, 2017, taxes of 6.8 mils were levied on the property and were dedicated to fire protection.

In addition to property taxes, the residents of Fire District No. 1, of Natchitoches Parish voted on and approved a proposition to levy and collect an annual parcel fee of \$25 on each lot on which a structure is located. The purpose of this assessment is to provide funds for acquiring, constructing, and maintaining fire protection facilities and equipment. The parcel fees attach as an enforceable lien and are levied in the same manner as property taxes described above.

For the year ended December 31, 2017, the District did not process required paperwork in a timely manner; therefore, there were no ad valorem taxes levied.

6. Pending Litigation:

There were no civil suits seeking damages against the District outstanding at December 31, 2017.

7. Related Party Transactions:

The District had no identified related party transactions for the year ended December 31, 2017.

8. Compensation Paid to Board Members:

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

Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District No. 1
Notes to Financial Statements
December 31, 2017

9. Receivables:

The following is a summary of receivables at December 31, 2017:

<u>Class of Receivable</u>	<u>General Fund</u>
Taxes-	
Parcel Fee	<u>\$36,475</u>

Substantially all receivables are considered to be fully collectible, and no allowance for uncollectibles is used.

10. Subsequent Events:

Management has evaluated events through April 25, 2019 the date which the financial statements were available for issue. The District has recently, after the Legislative Auditor found a number of problems in the District, had new board members appointed.

OTHER REQUIRED
SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District No. 1
Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to
Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer
For the Year Ended December 31, 2017

Agency Head Name: Harry Hawthorne, Chairman

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Salary	\$0
Benefits-Insurance	0
Benefits-Retirement	0
Deferred Compensation	0
Benefits-Other	0
Car allowance	0
Vehicle provided by government	0
Cell phone	0
Dues	0
Vehicle rental	0
Per diem	0
Reimbursements	0
Travel	0
Registration fees	0
Conference travel	0
Housing	0
Unvouchered expenses	0
Special meals	0
Other	<u>0</u>
Total	<u>\$0</u>

See independent auditor's report and notes to financial statements.

Natchitoches Parish Fire Protection District No. 1
Schedule of Findings
Year Ended December 31, 2017

I. For the year ended December 31, 2017, the District has the following compliance findings:

2017-001 Late Submission of Report

Condition – LA Revised Statutes require that financial reports be submitted to the Legislative auditor within six months after the end of their fiscal year. For the year ended December 31, 2017, the District did not submit the annual audit within six months after the close of their fiscal year. Repeat finding.

2017-002 Late Submission of Report

Condition – LA Revised Statutes require that each political subdivision prepare a budget each fiscal year for the General Fund. For the year ended December 31, 2017, the District did not prepare a budget for the General Fund. Repeat Finding.

2017-003 Cash Balance Unsecured

Condition – LA Revised Statutes require that all funds held by banks for an entity must be secured by federal deposit insurance or the pledge of securities owned by the bank. The market value of the pledged securities plus the FDIC insurance must at all times equal or exceed the amount on deposit with the bank. For the year ended December 31, 2017, the District had an unsecured cash balance of 111,902.

II. For the year ended December 31, 2016, the District had the following compliance findings:

2016-001 Late Submission of Report

Condition – For the year ended December 31, 2016, the District did not submit the annual audit within six months after the close of their fiscal year.

Status – This finding was not cleared.

2016-002 Local Government Budget Act

Condition – Actual expenditures were more than budgeted expenditures by more than the 5% allowed.

Status – No budget was prepared for current year. See 2017-001.