

**LOUISIANA UNIFORM LOCAL SALES TAX BOARD**

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

June 30, 2023

# LOUISIANA UNIFORM LOCAL SALES TAX BOARD

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

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## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Board Members of the  
Louisiana Uniform Local Sales Tax Board  
Baton Rouge, 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 Louisiana Uniform Local Sales Tax Board (the Board), as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Board'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 Board, as of June 30, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

#### *Basis for Opinions*

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards*, issued by the Comptroller General of the United States. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of the Board 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.

#### *Emphasis of Matter*

As described in Note 9 to the financial statements, in 2023, the Board adopted new accounting guidance, GASB 96, *Subscription-based Information Technology Agreements*. 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 Board's ability to continue as a going concern for twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

### ***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements***

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

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

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Board'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 Board's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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

### ***Required Supplementary Information***

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis and budgetary comparison information be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information is the responsibility of management and, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical

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

### ***Supplementary Information***

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Board's basic financial statements. The supplementary information comprises the schedule of compensation, benefits and other payments to agency head, that is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements.

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

### ***Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards***

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated December 13, 2023, on our consideration of the Board's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the Board'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 Board's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

***Kolder, Slaven & Company, LLC***  
Certified Public Accountants

Abbeville, Louisiana  
December 13, 2023

# **LOUISIANA UNIFORM LOCAL SALES TAX BOARD**

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

## **MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**

As management of the Louisiana Uniform Local Sales Tax Board of the Parish of Baton Rouge, Louisiana (the Board) we are pleased to provide an overview of our financial activities for the year ended June 30, 2023. Please read it in conjunction with the Board's financial statements, which begin on page 10. The Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) is designed to focus on the current year's activities, resulting changes, and currently known facts.

The information contained within this MD&A should be considered only a part of a greater whole, as should all other sections in this financial report. The readers of this statement should take the time to read in conjunction with the financial statements, including the footnotes and the other Required Supplemental Information (RSI) provided as required components of this annual financial report.

### **FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

In 2023, the Board experienced an increase in net position and in fund balance.

The major financial highlights for 2023 are as follows:

- Assets of the Board's primary government's assets exceeded its liabilities at the close of the year by approximately \$3,417,000 (net position).
- The primary government's total net position increased by approximately \$1,111,000 during 2023.
- As of the end of the year, the primary government's governmental fund reported fund balances of approximately \$3.3 million.
- The General Fund's fund balance increased by approximately \$1,143,000 during 2023.

Significant aspects of the Board's financial well-being as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023 are detailed throughout this analysis.

## USING THIS ANNUAL REPORT

The Board's financial statements focus on the government as a whole and on major individual funds. Both perspectives allow the reader to address relevant questions, broaden a basis for comparison from year to year, and enhance the Board's accountability.

This annual report consists of a series of financial statements. The government-wide Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities (on pages 10 and 11, respectively) provide information about the activities of the Board as a whole and present a longer-term view of the Board's finances.

Fund financial statements start on page 12. For governmental activities, these statements illustrate how services were financed in the short term as well as what remains for future spending. Fund financial statements also report the Board's operations in more detail than the government-wide statements by providing additional information about the Board's General Fund.

### **Reporting on the Board as a Whole**

Our analysis of the Board as a whole begins on page 10. The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities report information about its activities in a way to determine if the Board is in better condition as a result of the year's financial results. These statements include all assets and liabilities using the full accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to accounting methods used by most private-sector companies. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are taken into account regardless of when cash is received or paid. Thus, revenues and expenses are reported in these statements for some items that will only result in cash flows in future fiscal periods.

These two statements report the Board's net position and related changes. One can think of the Board's net position - the difference between assets and liabilities - as one way to measure the Board's financial health or financial position. Over time, increases or decreases in the Board's net position are one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating. One will need to consider other non-financial factors, however, such as changes in the Board's agreements with local tax collectors to assess the overall health of the Board.

**Governmental activities** - All of the Board's services are reported here, which include the general funding and related administration of the Board. Sales tax revenues finance most of these activities.

At June 30, 2023, the Board's net position was \$3,417,000 for governmental activities, of which \$96,000 was invested in capital assets, \$21,000 was nonspendable, and the remainder was unrestricted. The Board does not have restricted net position, which is reported separately to show legal constraints from debt covenants and enabling legislation that limits the Board's ability to use that net position for day-to-day operations.



The analysis below of the primary government focuses on the net position and change in net position of the Board’s governmental activities and is as follows:

Louisiana Uniform Local Sales Tax Board  
 Statements of Net Position  
 June 30, 2023 and 2022  
 (in thousands)

	2023	2022
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,184	\$ 2,052
Due from other governments	133	135
Other assets	21	122
Capital assets, net	5	7
Subscription assets, net	147	-
Total assets	\$ 3,490	\$ 2,316
Current and other liabilities	\$ 73	\$ 10
Net position:		
Nonspendable	21	122
Net investment in capital assets	96	7
Unrestricted	3,300	2,177
Total liabilities and net position	\$ 3,490	\$ 2,316

Net position of the Board’s governmental activities increased by \$1,111,000 or 48% during 2023.

The \$3,300,000 in unrestricted net position of governmental activities represents the accumulated results of operations, or the residual that would remain after the Board paid all of its obligations. The changes in net position are discussed later in this analysis.

(Continued)

The results of this year’s operations for the primary government as a whole as reported in the Statement of Activities are as follows:

Louisiana Uniform Local Sales Tax Board  
Statement of Activities  
For the year ended June 30, 2023 and 2022  
(in thousands)

	2023	2022
General Revenues:		
Sales and use tax	\$ 1,514	\$ 1,515
Investment	59	3
Total revenues	1,573	1,518
Functions/Programs Expenses:		
General government	462	343
Change in net position	1,111	1,175
Beginning net position, as restated	2,306	1,131
Ending net position	\$ 3,417	\$ 2,306

**Fund Financial Statements**

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that are used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. Traditional users of governmental financial statements will find the fund financial statements presentation more familiar. These statements focus on the major funds rather than generic fund types.

**Reporting on the Board as a Whole**

Our analysis of the Board’s General Fund begins on page 12 with the fund financial statements that provide detailed information about the General Fund. The General Fund is required to be established by state law. However, the Board may establish other funds to control and manage money for particular purposes or to meet legal responsibilities for using certain taxes, grants, and other money. The Board has not established any other funds other than the General Fund.

**Governmental funds** - Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources, as well as balances of spendable resources available at the end of the fiscal year. All of the Board’s services are reported in one governmental fund, the General Fund. This fund is reported using the modified accrual basis of accounting, which measures cash and all other financial assets that can readily be converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of the Board’s general government operations and the services it provides.

Governmental fund information helps you determine whether there are more or fewer financial resources that can be spent in the near future to finance the Board’s programs.

The relationship (or differences) between governmental activities, reported in the Statement of Net position and the Statement of Activities, and governmental funds are described in a reconciliation to the financial statements.

**Notes to the financial statements** - The notes provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes to the financial statements are a required part of the basic financial statements and begin on page 16.

**Other information** - In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain required supplementary information concerning original and final budgetary comparisons to actual results for the year for the Board’s major fund, the General Fund, which can be found on page 26.

**Financial Analysis of the Government's Funds**

The general government operations of the Board are accounted for in the General Fund. The focus of this fund, as noted earlier, is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the Board’s financing requirements. The following is a summary of the Board’s operations for 2023 for the General Fund:

	(in thousands)	
	2023	2022
Revenues	\$ 1,574	\$ 1,518
Expenditures	430	341
Net change in fund balance	1,144	1,177
Fund balance, beginning of year	2,177	1,000
Fund balance, ending of year	3,321	2,177

The Board’s General Fund experienced an increase in fund balance of \$1,144,000 or 52% during 2023.

(Continued)

Sources of governmental revenues are summarized below:

Source of Revenue	(in thousands) 2023		(in thousands) 2022	
	Revenue	%	Revenue	%
Sales tax	\$ 1,514	96	\$ 1,515	100
Other	59	4	3	<1
Total	\$ 1,573	100	\$ 1,518	100

Expenditures of the primary government were \$504,000. The largest expenditures were professional fees of \$210,000 for accounting, legal, and technology services and personnel fees of \$177,000.

### **CAPITAL ASSETS**

At the end of 2023, the Board had approximately \$5,000 invested in equipment.

More detailed information on the Board’s capital assets is presented in Note 5 to the financial statements.

### **SUBSCRIPTION ASSETS**

At the end of 2023, the Board had approximately \$147,000 invested in subscription-based information technology arrangements.

More detailed information on the Board’s subscription assets is presented in Note 6 to the financial statements.

### **ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR’S BUDGET**

The Board is reliant upon House Bill No. 601, which accounts for most of its revenues. The budgeted expenditures for 2024 are expected to be consistent to 2023 for the additional services the Board will provide.

#### **Contacting the Board’s Financial Management**

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the Board’s finances for all those with an interest in the Board’s finances. If you have questions about this report or need additional financial information, contact the Louisiana Uniform Local Sales Tax Board, at 7722 Office Park Blvd, Suite 300, Baton Rouge, LA 70809.

**LOUISIANA UNIFORM LOCAL SALES TAX BOARD**

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**

June 30, 2023

	<b>Governmental Activities</b>
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,184,215
Due from other governments	132,597
Prepaid and other assets	21,105
<b>CAPITAL ASSETS, net</b>	5,218
<b>SUBSCRIPTION ASSET, net</b>	<u>146,532</u>
 Total assets	 <u><u>\$ 3,489,667</u></u>
 <b>LIABILITIES AND NET POSITION</b>	
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 16,915
Long-term liabilities:	
Subscription liabilities due within one year	17,798
Subscription liabilities due in more than one year	<u>37,978</u>
 Total liabilities	 72,691
 <b>NET POSITION</b>	
Nonspendable	21,105
Net investment in capital assets	95,974
Unrestricted	<u>3,299,897</u>
 Total net position	 <u><u>3,416,976</u></u>
 Total liabilities and net position	 <u><u>\$ 3,489,667</u></u>

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

**LOUISIANA UNIFORM LOCAL SALES TAX BOARD**

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES**

For the year ended June 30, 2023

	Program Revenues			Net (Expenses)	
	Expenses	Charges for Services	Operating Grants and Contributions	Capital Grants and Contributions	Revenue and Changes in Net Position
<b>Governmental activities:</b>					
General government	\$ 462,223	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (462,223)
General revenues:					
Sales and use tax					1,514,428
Investment earnings					59,054
Total general revenues					<u>1,573,482</u>
Change in net position					1,111,259
Net position - beginning of year, as restated					<u>2,305,717</u>
Net position - end of year					<u>\$ 3,416,976</u>

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

**LOUISIANA UNIFORM LOCAL SALES TAX BOARD**

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**BALANCE SHEET  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**

June 30, 2023

	<u>General Fund</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,184,215
Due from other governments	132,597
Prepaid and other assets	<u>21,105</u>
Total assets	<u><u>3,337,917</u></u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Accounts payable and other accrued expenses	\$ 16,915
<b>FUND BALANCE</b>	
Unassigned	<u>3,321,002</u>
Total liabilities and fund balance	<u><u>\$ 3,337,917</u></u>

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

**LOUISIANA UNIFORM LOCAL SALES TAX BOARD**

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS  
BALANCE SHEET TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION**

June 30, 2023

Total fund balances - governmental funds (Exhibit A-2)	\$ 3,321,002
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 governmental funds	5,218
Subscription assets used in governmental activities that are not financial resources and, therefore, and not reported in the governmental funds, net of accumulated amortization	146,532
Subscription liabilities not due with current resources and therefore not reported in governmental funds	<u>(55,776)</u>
Net position of governmental activities (Exhibit A)	<u>\$ 3,416,976</u>

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



**LOUISIANA UNIFORM LOCAL SALES TAX BOARD**

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE  
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS**

For the year ended June 30, 2023

	<u>General Fund</u>
<b>REVENUES</b>	
Sales and use tax	\$ 1,514,428
Interest	<u>59,054</u>
Total revenues	<u>1,573,482</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	
Current function:	
General government:	
Professional fees	209,821
Personnel	176,823
Office and other	23,188
Debt service:	
Principal	18,100
Interest	2,150
Capital outlay	<u>73,876</u>
Total expenditures	<u>503,958</u>
Excess of revenues over expenditures	1,069,524
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</b>	
Subscription liabilities issued	<u>73,876</u>
Net change in fund balance	1,143,400
<b>FUND BALANCE</b>	
Beginning of year	<u>2,177,602</u>
End of year	<u>\$ 3,321,002</u>

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

**LOUISIANA UNIFORM LOCAL SALES TAX BOARD**

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

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

For the year ended June 30, 2023

Net change in fund balance - total governmental fund (Exhibit A-4) \$ 1,143,400

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

Governmental funds report capital outlay as expenditures. However in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets are allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. This is the amount by which depreciation expense exceeded capital outlay.

Subscription asset	73,876	
Depreciation/amortization expense	<u>(50,241)</u>	23,635

The issuance of long-term debt (e.g. bonds, leases) provides current financial resources to governmental funds. In the statement of net position, however, issuing debt increases long-term liabilities and does not affect the statement of activities. Similarly, repayment of principal is an expenditure in the governmental funds but reduces the liability in the statement of activities.

Proceeds from issuance of subscription liabilities	(73,876)	
Payments on principal on financed purchases/subscription assets	<u>18,100</u>	<u>(55,776)</u>

Change in net position of governmental activities (Exhibit A-1) \$ 1,111,259

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

**LOUISIANA UNIFORM LOCAL SALES TAX BOARD**  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Organization and Operations**

The Louisiana Uniform Local Sales Tax Board (the Board) is an entity designated by the State of Louisiana with House Bill 601, which took effect on June 16, 2017, to simplify state and local sales and use taxes. Members include the executive directors of the Louisiana Municipal Association, School Boards Association, Policy Jury Association, and the Sheriffs Association. The duties of the Board include: supporting and advising local tax collectors; promulgating rules, including rules to establish a uniform voluntary disclosure program for taxpayers seeking relief from penalties; entering into agreements with local tax collectors; prescribing uniform forms and model procedures; procuring the development of computer software and equipment for the collection and administration of local taxes; issuing policy advice and private letter ruling; and developing a coordinating multi-parish audit process.

In addition, the Board establishes uniform standards and forms for the purpose of refund requests for all local sales and use taxes. The Board shall serve as the central filing agency for all refund claims involving two or more Louisiana parishes having transactions similar in fact. The filing of a refund claim with the Board shall suspend the running of prescription. The board shall notify the respective tax collector within fifteen days of receipt of a refund request.

**Financial Statement Presentation**

The financial statements of the Board have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP). The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is responsible for establishing U.S. GAAP for state and local governments through its pronouncements (Statements and Interpretations). The more significant accounting policies established by U.S. GAAP and used by the Board are described on the following pages.

## NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

### Financial statement presentation (Continued)

The financial statements comply with GASB approved Statement No. 34, *Basic Financial Statements – and Management’s Discussion and Analysis – for State and Local Governments* and include the following:

- A Management Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) section providing an analysis of the Board’s overall financial position and results of operations.
- Financial statements prepared using full accrual accounting for all of the Board’s activities.
- A change in the fund financial statements to focus on the major funds.

The Board’s basic financial statements consist of the government-wide statements of the primary government (the Board) and the fund financial statements (the General Fund). The Board’s financial statements are prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP and applied to governmental units. Private sector standards of accounting and financial reporting issued prior to December 1, 1989, generally are followed in both the government-wide financial statements to the extent that those standards do not conflict with or contradict guidance of the GASB.

### Government-wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements include the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities for all non-fiduciary activities of the Board. The government-wide presentation focuses primarily on the sustainability of the government as an entity and the change in aggregate financial position resulting from the activities of the fiscal period.

Governmental activities generally are financed through sales taxes.

The government-wide statement of activities demonstrates the degree to which the direct expenses of a given function or segment is offset by program revenues. Direct expenses are those that are clearly identifiable with a specific function or segment. Program revenues include: (1) charges to customers or applicants who purchase, use, or directly benefit from goods, services, or privileges provided by a given function or business-type activity, and (2) grants and contributions that are restricted to meeting the operational or capital requirements of a particular function. Taxes and other items not properly included among program revenues are reported instead as general revenues.

## NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

### **Fund Financial Statements**

The fund financial statements are very similar to the traditional government fund statements as prepared by governments prior to the issuance of GASB No. 34. Emphasis is now on the major funds in either the governmental or business-type categories. The Board consists of one governmental fund, the General Fund.

### ***Governmental Fund Types***

Governmental funds are those through which governmental functions of the Board are financed. The acquisition, use, and balances of expendable financial resources and related liabilities of the Board are accounted for through governmental funds. Measurement is focused upon determining changes in financial position rather than net income. The following are the governmental fund types of the Board:

**General Fund** - The general fund is the general operating fund of the Board. It is used to account for all financial resources except those required to be accounted for in another fund. The general fund is always a major fund.

### **Basis of Accounting and Measurement Focus**

#### ***Government-wide Financial Statements***

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the full accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows.

#### ***Fund Financial Statements***

All governmental funds are accounted for using a current financial resources measurement focus. With this measurement focus, only current assets and current liabilities are generally included in the balance sheet. Operating statements of these funds present increases (revenues and other financing sources) and decreases (expenditures and other uses) in net current assets. Governmental funds are maintained on the modified accrual basis of accounting.

Governmental fund revenues resulting from exchange transactions are recognized in the fiscal year in which the exchange takes place and meets the government's availability criteria (susceptible to accrual). "Available" means collectible within the current period or within 60 days after year-end. Sales taxes and other governmental revenues are recorded as earned since they are measurable and available.

**NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

***Fund Financial Statements (Continued)***

Expenditures are recognized in the accounting period in which the related fund liability is incurred, if measurable, except (1) unmatured interest on general long-term debt, which is recognized when due, and (2) claims and judgments and compensated absences, which are recorded as expenditures in the governmental fund when paid with expendable financial resources. Allocations of costs such as depreciation are not recognized in the governmental funds.

**Cash and Cash Equivalents**

The Board considers all highly liquid debt instruments, including money markets and certificates of deposits available for current use, with an initial maturity of three months or less, to be cash equivalents. There were no cash equivalents as of June 30, 2023.

**Capital Assets**

***Government-wide Statements***

The accounting treatment of property, plant, equipment, and infrastructure assets (capital assets) are reported in the government-wide financial statements. All capital assets are valued at historical cost or estimated historical cost if actual is unavailable, except for donated capital assets, which are recorded at their estimated fair value at the date of donation. Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized at completion of the construction projects.

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

Depreciation of all exhaustible capital assets, other than land, 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:

Computer equipment	3 - 5 years
Furniture and fixtures	7 years

## NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

### Capital Assets (Continued)

#### *Fund Financial Statements*

In the fund financial statements, capital assets used in governmental fund operations are not capitalized. Instead, capital acquisition and construction are reflected as capital outlay expenditures in the governmental funds.

#### Subscription Assets

Subscription assets are a result of subscription-based information technology agreements (SBITAs) in which the Board has entered into a contract with a vendor that conveys control of the right to use to the vendor's nonfinancial asset (the underlying asset) as specified by the subscription for a period of time in an exchange or exchange-like transaction. Such assets are reported on the government-wide financials statements, net of amortization. Subscription assets are amortized at the lesser of the useful life or contract term.

#### Government-wide Net Position

Government-wide net position is divided into three components:

- Net investment in capital assets - consist of the historical cost of capital assets less accumulated depreciation and less any debt that remains outstanding that was used to finance those assets.
- Restricted net position - consist of net position that is restricted by the Board's creditors (for example, through debt covenants), by the state enabling legislation (through restrictions on shared revenues), by grantors (both federal and state), and by other contributors. The Board has no restricted net position as of June 30, 2023.
- Unrestricted - all other net position is reported in this category.

In the government-wide fund statements, restricted resources available for use will be depleted prior to use of unrestricted resources.

#### Governmental Fund Balances

In the governmental fund financial statements, fund balances are classified as follows:

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

## NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

### Governmental Fund Balances (continued)

- Restricted - Amounts that can be spent only for specific purposes because of the state or federal laws, or externally imposed conditions by grantors or creditors.
- Committed - Amounts that can be used only for specific purposes determined by a formal action by Board ordinance. This includes the budget reserves.
- Assigned - Amounts that are designated by the Executive Director for a particular purpose but are not spendable until a budget ordinance is passed or there is a majority vote approval (for capital projects or debt service) by the Board.
- Unassigned - All amounts not included in other spendable classifications.

### Use of Restricted Resources

When an expense is incurred that can be paid using either restricted or unrestricted resources, the Board's policy is to apply the expenditure in the following priority:

1. Restricted fund balance,
2. Committed fund balance,
3. Assigned fund balance, and
4. Unassigned fund balance.

Fund balance represents the difference between assets and deferred outflows of resources and liabilities and deferred inflows of resources. The General Fund is the only fund that reports a positive unassigned fund balance, although other governmental funds may report a negative unassigned fund balance if expenditures incurred for specific purposes exceed the amounts that are restricted, committed or assigned.

### Budget Policy and Budgetary Accounting

#### *Policy and Practice*

The Executive Director submits an annual budget for the General Fund to the Board in accordance with Louisiana Local Government Budget Act. The budget is presented to the Board for review, and public hearings are held to address the proposed appropriations. Once approved and adopted by the Board, they may amend the legally adopted budget when unexpected modifications are required in estimated revenues and appropriations.



## NOTE 1 - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

### **Budget Policy and Budgetary Accounting (continued)**

#### *Basis of Budgeting*

The General Fund's appropriated budget is prepared on a detailed line item basis. Revenues are budgeted by source and expenditures are budgeted by function. Budget revisions at this level are subject to final review by the Board. The legal level of control is by function within the General Fund. Expenditures may not exceed appropriations at this level. No amendments to the budget were made throughout the year.

The General Fund budget is prepared on the modified accrual basis. The budget and actual financial statement is reported on this basis. Unencumbered appropriations for annual budgeted funds lapse at fiscal year-end.

#### **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 and liabilities and disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements. They may also affect the reported amounts of revenues and expenses of the government-wide financial statements during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates. Estimates are used primarily when accounting for depreciation and accrued liabilities.

#### **Current Accounting Standards Implemented**

During the year, the Board implemented policies established under GASB Statement No. 96, *Subscription-based Information Technology Arrangements* (SBITAs) which is based on the standards established in GASB Statement No. 87, *Leases*. The objective of this statement is to better meet the information needs of the financial statement users by improving accounting and financial reporting for SBITAs by governments. The Statement requires all SBITAs (contracts that conveys control of the right-to-use another entity's information technology software) as specified in the contract for a period of time in an exchange-like transaction to be reported under a single accounting model for both the SBITA vendor and the government end user. Under this Statement, a government is required to recognize a subscription asset (intangible asset) and a corresponding liability. The impact of this standard is reflected in the Board's financial statements.

#### **Subsequent Events**

In preparing these financial statements, the Board has evaluated events and transactions for potential recognition or disclosure through December 13, 2023, which was the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

**NOTE 2 - DEPOSITS**

At June 30, 2023, the carrying amount of the primary government's deposits was \$3,184,215, which was also the bank balance. The bank balance is secured by federal depository insurance and collateral held by the Board's agent in the Board's name.

Custodial credit risk is the risk that, in the event of a bank failure, the Board's deposits may not be returned to it. The Board's cash policy, as well as state law, require that deposits be fully secured. At year end, the Board's deposits were not exposed to any custodial risk.

The above stated bank balance for the primary government is collateralized as follows:

Federal deposit insurance (FDIC)	\$ 250,000
Pledged securities in the Board's name	<u>2,934,215</u>
Total bank balance	<u>\$ 3,184,215</u>

**NOTE 3 - DUE FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTS**

As of June 30, 2023, \$132,597 was due from the Department of Public Safety related to sales tax revenues.

**NOTE 4 - ECONOMIC DEPENDENCY**

The Louisiana Legislature passed in House Bill No. 601 (HB 601) of the 2017 Louisiana Legislative Session to establish the Board as a political subdivision of the State. HB 601 provides the Board to be funded by statewide collections of local sales and use tax on motor vehicles within the State of Louisiana. This funding is 96.2% of the Board's revenue for the year ended June 30, 2023. As of January 2022, such collections were limited to contractual agreements between the Board and fifty-eight parishes under the terms of a Memoranda of Understanding between the Board and each parish.

(continued)

**NOTE 5 - CAPITAL ASSETS**

A summary of changes in capital assets for the year ended June 30, 2023 is as follows:

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Increases</u>	<u>Decreases</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
<b>Governmental Activities :</b>				
Computers and technology	\$ 13,312	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 13,312
Furniture and fixture	<u>5,638</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,638</u>
<b>Capital assets being depreciated:</b>	18,950	-	-	18,950
Less: accumulated depreciation	<u>(12,335)</u>	<u>(1,397)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(13,732)</u>
<b>Total capital assets, net</b>	<u>\$ 6,615</u>	<u>\$ (1,397)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 5,218</u>

Depreciation expense was \$1,397 for 2023.

**NOTE 6 - SUBSCRIPTION ASSETS**

A summary of changes in subscription assets and subscription liabilities for the year ended June 30, 2023 is as follows:

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Increases</u>	<u>Decreases</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
<b>Governmental Activities :</b>				
Subscription asset	\$ 121,500	\$ 73,876	\$ -	\$ 195,376
Less: accumulated amortization	<u>-</u>	<u>(48,844)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(48,844)</u>
<b>Total subscription assets, net</b>	<u>\$ 121,500</u>	<u>\$ (48,844)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 146,532</u>
	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Increases</u>	<u>Decreases</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
<b>Total subscription liabilities</b>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 73,876</u>	<u>\$ (18,100)</u>	<u>\$ 55,776</u>

Amortization and interest expense for 2023 was \$48,844 and \$2,955, respectively.

**NOTE 6 - SUBSCRIPTION ASSETS (CONTINUED)**

The following is a summary of future amortization payments related to the subscription liability:

Year Ending	Principal	Interest	Total
June 30, 2024	\$ 17,798	\$ 2,452	\$ 20,250
June 30, 2025	18,580	1,670	20,250
June 30, 2026	19,397	853	20,250
Total Future Payments	\$ 55,776	\$ 4,974	\$ 60,750

**NOTE 7 - GOVERNING BODY COMPENSATION**

The governing board received no compensation for the year ended June 30, 2023.

**NOTE 8 - RISK MANAGEMENT**

The Board is exposed to risks of loss in the areas of general liability and property hazards. All these risks are handled by purchasing commercial insurance coverage. There have been no significant reductions in the insurance coverage during the year. Insurance settlements do not exceed insurance coverage.

**NOTE 9 - RESTATEMENT OF NET POSITION**

During the current year, the Board implemented GASB Statement No. 96, *Subscription-based Information Technology Arrangements*. This statement needed to be retroactively implemented. As a result, net position had to be restated.

The restatement of net position as of June 30, 2022 is as follows:

Net position as of June 30, 2022	\$ 2,184,217
Prepaid subscription asset	121,500
Net position as of June 30, 2022, restated	\$ 2,305,717

## LOUISIANA UNIFORM LOCAL SALES TAX BOARD

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

## GENERAL FUND

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN  
FUND BALANCE - BUDGET AND ACTUAL

For the year ended June 30, 2023

	<u>Original Budget</u>	<u>Final Budget</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Variance positive (negative)</u>
<b>REVENUES</b>				
Sales and use tax	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,514,428	\$ 14,428
Interest and other	450	450	59,054	58,604
Total revenues	<u>1,500,450</u>	<u>1,500,450</u>	<u>1,573,482</u>	<u>73,032</u>
<b>EXPENDITURES</b>				
Current function:				
General government:				
Professional fees	279,103	279,103	209,821	69,282
Personnel	454,648	454,648	176,823	277,825
Office and other	51,249	51,249	23,188	28,061
Debt service:				
Principal	-	-	18,100	(18,100)
Interest	-	-	2,150	(2,150)
Capital outlay	-	-	73,876	(73,876)
Total expenditures	<u>785,000</u>	<u>785,000</u>	<u>503,958</u>	<u>281,042</u>
Excess of revenues over expenditures	<u>715,450</u>	<u>715,450</u>	<u>1,069,524</u>	<u>354,074</u>
<b>OTHER FINANCING SOURCES</b>				
Subscription liabilities issued	-	-	73,876	73,876
Net change in fund balance	<u>\$ 715,450</u>	<u>\$ 715,450</u>	1,143,400	<u>\$ 427,950</u>
<b>FUND BALANCE</b>				
Beginning of year			<u>2,177,602</u>	
End of year			<u>\$ 3,321,002</u>	

The accompanying notes to financial statements  
are an integral part of this statement

## **LOUISIANA UNIFORM SALES TAX BOARD**

### **NOTES TO REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

For the year ended June 30, 2023

#### **NOTE 1 - BUDGETS**

##### **Budget Policy and Budgetary Accounting**

A proposed budget is prepared and submitted by the Executive Director of the governing board prior to the beginning of each fiscal year. A budget summary and notice of a public hearing is published with the public hearing being conducted prior to the commencement of the budget year.

The annual operating budget, prepared on the modified accrual basis, covers the General Fund. At the end of the fiscal year unexpended appropriations automatically lapse. Budget amendments are approved by the governing board and are included in the financial statements.

In connection with budget preparation, a portion of the unassigned fund balance of an individual fund may be designated for expenditures of the subsequent year. Such designation represents the extent to which the fund balance is used to balance the subsequent year's operating budget of that fund as reflected in the legally adopted budget.

##### **Basis of Accounting**

The Board's budget is prepared on the modified accrual basis of accounting as described in Note 1 to the Board's financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2023.

**LOUISIANA UNIFORM LOCAL SALES TAX BOARD**  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

**SCHEDULE OF COMPENSATION, BENEFITS AND  
OTHER PAYMENTS TO AGENCY HEADS**

For the year ended June 30, 2023

**Agency Head:** Clarence Lymon, Executive Director - August 2022 through June 30, 2023

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Salary	\$ 127,384
Retirement contributions	10,961
Seminar expense	300
Travel - mileage	3,845
Travel - food	30
Reimbursements	199
	<hr/>
Total	\$ 142,719

**Agency Head:** Roger Bergeron, Executive Director - July 2022 through August 2022

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Salary	\$ 13,223
Travel - mileage	155
	<hr/>
Total	\$ 13,378

The accompanying notes to financial statements  
are an integral part of this statement

# KOLDER, SLAVEN & COMPANY, LLC

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Gerald A. Thibodeaux, Jr., CPA\*  
Robert S. Carter, CPA\*  
Arthur R. Mixon, CPA\*  
Stephen J. Anderson, CPA\*  
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Deidre L. Stock, CPA

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C. Burton Kolder, CPA\*  
Of Counsel

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Victor R. Slaven, CPA\* - retired 2020  
Christine C. Doucet, CPA – retired 2022

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

To the Board Members of the  
Louisiana Uniform Local Sales Tax Board  
Baton Rouge, 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 LA Uniform Sales Tax Board (the Board) as of and for the year ended June 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Board's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated December 13, 2023.

### Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the Board'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 Board's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the Board's internal control.

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



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

### **Report on Compliance and Other Matters**

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Board'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*.

### **Purpose of this Report**

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

***Kolder, Slaven & Company, LLC***  
Certified Public Accountants

Abbeville, Louisiana  
December 13, 2023

Louisiana Uniform Local Sales Tax Board  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Schedule of Current and Prior Year Audit Findings  
And Management's Corrective Action Plan  
Year Ended June 30, 2023

Part I: Current Year Findings and Management's Corrective Action Plan

A. Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

None reported.

B. Compliance

None reported.

Part II: Prior Year Findings:

A. Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

None reported.

B. Compliance

None reported.

**LOUISIANA UNIFORM LOCAL SALES TAX BOARD**

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Statewide Agreed-Upon Procedures

Fiscal period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023

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## INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES

To the Board Members of the  
Louisiana Uniform Local Sales Tax Board  
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) of the Louisiana Uniform Sales Tax Board (the Board) for the fiscal period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. The Board's management is responsible for those C/C areas identified in the SAUPs.

The Board 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 the LLA's SAUPs for the fiscal period July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. Additionally, the 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:

### Written Policies and Procedures

1. 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):
  - a) **Budgeting**, including preparing, adopting, monitoring, and amending the budget.
  - b) **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.
  - c) **Disbursements**, including processing, reviewing, and approving.
  - d) **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).

- e) **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.
- f) **Contracting**, including (1) types of services requiring written contracts, (2) standard terms and conditions, (3) legal review, (4) approval process, and (5) monitoring process.
- g) **Credit Cards (and debit cards, fuel cards, P-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).
- h) **Travel and expense reimbursement**, including (1) allowable expenses, (2) dollar thresholds by category of expense, (3) documentation requirements, and (4) required approvers.
- i) **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.
- j) **Debt Service**, including (1) debt issuance approval, (2) continuing disclosure/EMMA reporting requirements, (3) debt reserve requirements, and (4) debt service requirements.
- k) **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.
- l) **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.

### ***Board or Finance Committee***

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2. 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:
  - a) 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.
  - b) For those entities reporting on the governmental accounting model, observe that the minutes referenced or included monthly budget-to-actual comparisons on the general fund, quarterly budget-to-actual, at a minimum, on proprietary funds, and semi-annual budget-to-actual, at a minimum on all special revenue funds. *Alternatively, for those entities reporting on the non-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.*
  - c) 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.
  - d) 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.

### ***Bank Reconciliations***

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

### ***Collections (excluding EFTs)***

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4. 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).
5. For each deposit site selected, obtain a listing of collection locations and management's representation that the listing is complete. Randomly select one collection location for each deposit site (e.g., 5 collection locations for 5 deposit sites), obtain and inspect written policies and procedures relating to employee job duties (if there are no written policies or procedures, then inquire of employees about their job duties) at each collection location, and observe that job duties are properly segregated at each collection location such that:
  - a) Employees responsible for cash collections do not share cash drawers/registers.
  - b) 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.
  - c) 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
  - d) The employee(s) responsible for reconciling cash collections to the general ledger and/or subsidiary ledgers, by revenue source and/or agency fund additions, is (are) not also responsible for collecting cash, unless another employee/official verifies the reconciliation.
6. 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.
7. 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:
  - a) Observe that receipts are sequentially pre-numbered.
  - b) Trace sequentially pre-numbered receipts, system reports, and other related collection documentation to the deposit slip.

- c) Trace the deposit slip total to the actual deposit per the bank statement.
- d) 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).
- e) Trace the actual deposit per the bank statement to the general ledger.

***Non-Payroll Disbursements (excluding card purchases/payments, travel reimbursements, and petty cash purchases)***

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- 8. 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).
- 9. For each location selected under procedure #4 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:
  - a) At least two employees are involved in initiating a purchase request, approving a purchase, and placing an order or making the purchase;
  - c) At least two employees are involved in processing and approving payments to vendors;
  - d) 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;
  - e) 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
  - f) 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.

[Note: Findings related to controls that constrain the legal authority of certain public officials (e.g., mayor of a Lawrason Act municipality) should not be reported.]]

- 10. For each location selected under procedure #5 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:
  - a. 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.
  - b. Observe whether the disbursement documentation included evidence (e.g., initial/date, electronic logging) of segregation of duties tested under procedure #9 above, as applicable.
- 11. 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.]

### ***Credit Cards/Debit Cards/Fuel Cards/P-Cards***

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12. 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.
13. Using the listing prepared by management, randomly select 5 cards (or all cards if less than 5) that were used during the fiscal period. Randomly select one monthly statement or combined statement for each card (for a debit card, randomly select one monthly bank statement). Obtain supporting documentation, and:
  - a) Observe whether there is evidence that the monthly statement or combined statement and supporting documentation (e.g., original receipts for credit/debit card purchases, exception reports for excessive fuel card usage) were reviewed and approved, in writing (or electronically approved) by someone other than the authorized card holder (those instances requiring such approval that may constrain the legal authority of certain public officials, such as the mayor of a Lawrason Act municipality, should not be reported); and
  - b) Observe that finance charges and late fees were not assessed on the selected statements.
14. Using the monthly statements or combined statements selected under procedure #13 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.

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

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15. 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:
  - a) If reimbursed using a per diem, observe that the approved reimbursement rate is no more than those rates established either by the State of Louisiana or the U.S. General Services Administration ([www.gsa.gov](http://www.gsa.gov)).
  - b) If reimbursed using actual costs, observe that the reimbursement is supported by an original itemized receipt that identifies precisely what was purchased.
  - c) 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
  - d) Observe that each reimbursement was reviewed and approved, in writing, by someone other than the person receiving reimbursement.

### ***Contracts***

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16. 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. *Alternately, 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:



- a) Observe that the contract was bid in accordance with the Louisiana Public Bid Law (e.g., solicited quotes or bids, advertised), if required by law;
- b) Observe that the contract was approved by the governing body/board, if required by policy or law (e.g. Lawrason Act, Home Rule Charter);
- c) 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
- d) 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.

### ***Payroll and Personnel***

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17. 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.
18. Randomly select one pay period during the fiscal period. For the 5 employees or officials selected under #17 above, obtain attendance records and leave documentation for the pay period, and:
  - a) Observe that all selected employees or officials documented their daily attendance and leave (e.g., vacation, sick, compensatory).
  - b) Observe that supervisors approved the attendance and leave of the selected employees/officials.
  - c) Observe that any leave accrued or taken during the pay period is reflected in the entity's cumulative leave records.
  - d) Observe that the rate paid to the employees or officials agrees to the authorized salary/pay rate found within the personnel file.
19. 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, obtain related documentation of the hours and pay rates used in management's termination payment calculations and the entity policy on termination payments. Agree the hours to the employee or officials' cumulative leave records, agree the pay rates to the employee or officials' authorized pay rates in the employee or officials' personnel files, and agree the termination payment to entity policy.
20. Obtain management's representation that employer and employee portions of third-party payroll related amounts (e.g. payroll taxes, retirement contributions, health insurance premiums, garnishments, workers' compensation premiums, etc.) have been paid, and any associated forms have been filed, by required deadlines.

### ***Ethics***

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21. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from procedure #17 under "Payroll and Personnel" above, obtain ethics documentation from management, and:
  - a. 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
  - b. 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.
22. Inquire and/or observe whether the agency has appointed an ethics designee as required by R.S. 42:1170.

### ***Debt Service***

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23. 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.
24. 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).

### ***Fraud Notice***

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25. 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.
26. 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.

### ***Information Technology Disaster Recovery/Business Continuity***

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27. 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.
28. Randomly select 5 terminated employees (or all terminated employees if less than 5) using the list of terminated employees obtained in procedure #19.

### ***Sexual Harassment***

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29. Using the 5 randomly selected employees/officials from Payroll and Personnel procedure #16, 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.
30. 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).

31. 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:
- a. Number and percentage of public servants in the agency who have completed the training requirements;
  - b. Number of sexual harassment complaints received by the agency;
  - c. Number of complaints which resulted in a finding that sexual harassment occurred;
  - d. Number of complaints in which the finding of sexual harassment resulted in discipline or corrective action; and
  - e. Amount of time it took to resolve each complaint.

***Findings:***

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No exceptions were found as a result of procedures list above with the exception of:

**Policies and Procedures:**

*The Board does not have written policies and procedures addressing Budgeting, Payroll/Personnel, and Debt Service.*

**Ethics:**

*One of the two employees selected for testing did not complete their required ethics training.*

**Sexual Harassment:**

*The selected employees did not complete their required sexual harassment training.*

***Management's Response:***

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Management of the Board concurs with the exceptions and are working to address the deficiencies identified.

We were engaged by the Louisiana Uniform Sales Tax Board 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 (AICPA) 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 Board 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 for the information and use of the Louisiana Uniform Sales Tax Board and the LLA and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than those specified parties. Under Louisiana Revised Statute 24:513, this report is distributed by the LLA as a public document.

***Kolder, Slaven & Company, LLC***  
Certified Public Accountants

Abbeville, Louisiana  
December 13, 2023