

ST. CHARLES PARISH, LOUISIANA

FINANCIAL REPORT

For the Year Ended December 31, 2016



(A Professional Corporation) 164 West Main Street, Thibodaux, LA 70301 South end of Canal Boulevard (985) 447-8507 Fax (985) 447-4833 www.kearnscpa.com

St. Charles Parish, Louisiana

FINANCIAL REPORT For the year ended December 31, 2016

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Board of Directors Paradis Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. St. Charles Parish, Louisiana

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Paradis Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. (the department) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the department's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

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

Auditor's Responsibility

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

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

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

Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Paradis Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. as of December 31, 2016, 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.

TIMOTHY S. KEARNS MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT 3

T.S. Kearns & Co., CPA, PC (A Professional Corporation) 164 West Main Street, Thibodaux, LA 70301 South end of Canal Boulevard (985) 447-8507 Fax (985) 447-4833 www.kearnscpa.com BRANDY I. KEARNS CERTIFIED IN FINANCIAL FORENSICS CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

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

Other Information

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the department's basic financial statements. The Schedule of Compensation, Benefits, and Other Payments to Agency Head or Chief Executive Officers 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 or Chief Executive Officers 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. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the Schedule of Compensation, Benefits, and Other Payments to Agency Head or Chief Executive Officers 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 June 29, 2017, on our consideration of the department's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on 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 department's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Eason fle.

Thibodaux, Louisiana June 29, 2017

Basic Financial Statements

Government-Wide Financial Statements

PARADIS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT, INC. ST. CHARLES PARISH, LOUISIANA Statement of Net Position December 31, 2016

	Governmental Activites
ASSETS	
Current assets:	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 439,942
Prepaid insurance	22,574
Receivables: Ad valorem taxes, net of uncollectible assessments	203,248
Sales taxes	19,772
Total current assets	685,536
Noncurrent assets:	
Capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation	1,151,967
Total noncurrent assets	1,151,967
Total assets	1,837,503
LIABILITIES	
Current liabilities:	
Accounts payable - vendors	3,751
Accrued interest payable	750
Accrued payroll and related expenses	279
Current portion of long-term liabilities Total current liabilities	<u> </u>
	40,000
Long-term liabilities:	
Due in more than one year	420,763
Total long-term liabilities	420,763
Total liabilities	460,851
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	
Ad valorem taxes	194,158
Total deferred inflows of resources	194,158
NET POSITION	
Net investment in capital assets	695,896
Unrestricted	486,598
Total net position	\$ 1,182,494

Statement of Activities For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

				Prog	gram Revenue	əs		-	Net (Expense)
	E	xpenses	Charges for Services	-	ating Grants		Capital Grants & Contributions		Revenue and Changes in Net Position
Expenses:									
Governmental activities:									
Public safety - fire protection:									
Salaries and related benefits	\$	6,753	\$ -	\$	-	\$	-	\$	(6,753)
Repairs and maintenance		24,717	-		-		-		(24,717)
Professional services		8,460	-		-		-		(8,460)
Insurance		27,668	-		-		-		(27,668)
Fuel		2,959	-		-		-		(2,959)
Supplies and materials		15,425	-		-		-		(15,425)
Utilities and telephone		18,375	-		-		-		(18,375)
Training		4,624	-		-		-		(4,624)
Personnel insurance and medical		4,864	-		-		-		(4,864)
Fire prevention		243	-		-		-		(243)
Dues and subscriptions		1,194	-		-		-		(1,194)
Office expense		4,327	-		-		-		(4,327)
Installation of officers		1,996	-		-		-		(1,996)
Meals		3,882	-		-		-		(3,882)
Miscellaneous		3,952	-		-		-		(3,952)
Depreciation expense		131,757	-		-		-		(131,757)
Interest Expense		24,059	-		-		-		(24,059)
Total governmental activities	\$	285,255	\$ -	\$	-	\$	-	\$	(285,255)

General Revenues: Ad valorem tax Sales tax Fire insurance rebate Interest income Miscellaneous income	\$ 210,274 100,782 9,136 804 4,563
Total general revenues	\$ 325,559
Change in net position	40,304
Net position:	
Beginning of the year (Restated, see Note 2)	\$ 1,142,190
End of the year	\$ 1,182,494

Basic Financial Statements

Fund Financial Statements

Balance Sheet - Governmental Funds December 31, 2016

	 eneral Fund	Con	Private tributions Fund	 Totals
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents Prepaid Insurance Receivables:	\$ 429,385 22,574	\$	10,557 -	\$ 439,942 22,574
Ad valorem taxes, net of uncollectible assessments Sales taxes	 203,248 19,772		-	 203,248 19,772
Total assets	 674,979		10,557	 685,536
LIABILITIES Accounts payable - vendors Accrued payroll and related expenses	 3,751 279		-	 3,751 279
Total liabilities	 4,030			 4,030
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES				-
Ad valorem taxes	 194,158			 194,158
Total deferred inflows of resources	 194,158			 194,158
FUND BALANCES Fund balances:				
Nonspendable - Prepaid Insurance Unreserved - unassigned	 22,574 454,217		- 10,557	 22,574 464,774
Total fund balances	 476,791		10,557	 487,348
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and fund balances	\$ 674,979	\$	10,557	\$ 685,536

Statement Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes in Fund Balances Governmental Funds For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

		General Fund	Cont	rivate ributions Fund		Totals
Revenues Ad valorem tax	\$	210.274	\$	-	\$	210.274
Sales tax	÷	100,782	÷	-	Ŷ	100,782
Fire insurance rebate		9,136		-		9,136
Interest		788		16		804
Other revenue		1,327		3,236		4,563
Total revenues	\$	322,307	\$	3,252	\$	325,559
Expenditures						
Current: Salaries and related benefits	\$	6,753	\$	_	\$	6.753
Repairs and maintenance	φ	24,717	φ	-	φ	24,717
Professional services		24,717 8,460		-		8,460
Insurance		27,668		_		27,668
Fuel		2,959		_		2,959
Supplies and materials		15,425		_		15,425
Utilities and telephone		18,375		-		18,375
Training		4,624		-		4,624
Personnel insurance and medical		4,864		-		4,864
Fire prevention		243		-		243
Dues and subscriptions		1,194		-		1,194
Office expense		4,327		-		4,327
Installation of officers		1,996		-		1,996
Meals		3,638		243		3,881
Miscellaneous		1,637		2,318		3,955
Capital Outlay:				-		
Equipment purchase		23,184		-		23,184
Retirement of Long-Term Debt:				-		
Debt service		33,500		-		33,500
Interest		24,114		-		24,114
Total expenditures	\$	207,678	\$	2,561	\$	210,239
Excess of revenues over/(under) expenditures	\$	114,629	\$	691	\$	115,320
Fund Balance:						
Beginning of year (restated, see note 2)		362,162		9,866		372,028
End of year	\$	476,791	\$	10,557	\$	487,348

Reconciliation of the Governmental Fund Balance Sheet to the Government-Wide Statement of Net Position December 31, 2016

Total Fund Balances - Governmental Funds	\$	487,348
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position are different because:		
Capital assets used in governmental activites are not current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet		1,151,967
Some liabilities reported in the statement of net position do not require use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.	e the	
Accrued interest payable		(750)
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the Governmental Funds Balance Sheet. All liabilities both current and long-term are reported in the Statement of Net Position		
Notes payable		(456,071)
Total Net Position - Governmental activities	\$	1,182,494

The accompanying notes are an integral part of this statement.

Reconciliation of the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances of Governmental Funds to the Statement of Activities For the year ended December 31, 2016

Net Change in Fund Balances - Governmental Funds	\$	115,320
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Activities are different because:		
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense.		
Capital assets purchased\$ 23,184Depreciation expense(131,757)	_	(108,573)
Governmental funds report debt service payments as expenditures. However, repayment of principle indebtedness reduces long-term reduces long-term liabilities in the statement of net assets instead of being an expense. This is the amount of principal repayments in the current year.		33,500
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.		
Change in accrued interest payable		57
Change in Net Position - Governmental activities	\$	40,304

Notes to the Financial Statements

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended December 31, 2016

INTRODUCTION

The Paradis Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. (the department) was organized as a nonprofit corporation as defined by Revised Statutes of Louisiana Title 12, Section 101 (8). The department is exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code. Its objective is to provide fire protection to the Parish of St. Charles.

NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Basis of Presentation

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

B. Reporting entity

The department receives funding from local and state government sources and must comply with the same requirements of these funding source entities. However, the department is a "primary government" and is not included as a component unit of any other St. Charles Parish governmental "reporting entity" as defined in GASB pronouncements, since the entity is a non-profit corporation, and the board members have decision making authority, the power to designate management, the ability to significantly influence operations an primary accountability for fiscal matters. The department includes all activities that are controlled by it as a quasi-public non-profit corporation organized to provide fire protection to the Parish of St. Charles. The department has no component units.

The accounting and reporting policies of the department conform to generally accepted accounting principles as applicable to governmental units.

C. Basic Financial Statements - Government-wide Statements

The department's basic financial statements include both government-wide (reporting the department as a whole) and fund financial statements (reporting the department's major fund). Both the government-wide and fund financial statements categorize primary activities as either governmental or business type. The department's general fund and private contributions fund are its only funds and are classified as a governmental funds. The department has no business-type activities.

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended December 31, 2016

In the government-wide Statement of Net Position (Statement A), the governmental activities are 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 department's net position is reported in two parts—invested in capital assets, net of related debt and unrestricted net position.

The government-wide Statement of Activities (Statement B) reports both the gross and net cost of the department's function. General government revenues (1/8 cent sales tax and ad valorem tax) support the function. The department does not receive related program revenues, which would reduce gross expenses in the Statement of Activities.

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

D. Basic Financial Statements - Fund Financial Statements

The department uses funds to report on its financial position and the result of its operations. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions relating to certain government functions or activities.

A fund is a separate entity with a self-balancing set of accounts. Funds of the department are classified as governmental. An additional emphasis is placed on major funds within the governmental fund types. A fund is considered major if it is the primary operating fund of the department or if its total assets, liabilities, revenues, or expenditures are at least 10% of the corresponding total for all funds of that category or type. The non-major funds are summarized by category or fund type into a single column in the fund financial statements. This category, in turn, is divided into separate fund types. The fund classifications and descriptions of the existing funds follow:

Governmental Funds

Governmental funds account for the department's entire general activities, including the collection and disbursement of specific or legally restricted monies, the acquisition or construction of general fixed assets, and the servicing of general long-term obligations.

The governmental funds of the department include the general fund and private contributions fund. A description of these follows.

General Fund

The general fund is the operating fund of the department and accounts for all financial resources, except those required to be accounted for in other funds.

Private Contributions Fund

The private contributions fund accounts for private contributions made to the department, along with related revenues. This fund does not account for taxpayer funds. The fund also accounts for expenditures made from those financial resources.

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended December 31, 2016

E. Basis of Accounting / Measurement Focus

Basis of accounting refers to the point at which 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:

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

Modified Accrual:

The governmental fund financial statements are presented on the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under the modified accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recorded when susceptible to accrual; i.e., both measurable and available. "Available" means collectible within the current period or within 60 days after year end. Expenditures are generally recognized under the modified accrual basis of accounting when the related liability is incurred.

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

<u>Revenues</u>

Sales taxes are recorded in the month the taxes are collected by the St. Charles Parish School Board. Sales taxes become payable to the St. Charles Parish School Board on the first day of the month and become delinquent on the 20th day of the month following incurrence of the taxes by businesses.

An ad valorem issue is dedicated to the operations of the nine volunteer fire departments in St. Charles Parish. The tax millage expires in 2019. Each department is to receive one ninth of annual collections. Taxes levied in November each year are available for expenditures in the subsequent year.

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

All other revenues are recorded when received.

The majority of the department's revenues are derived from the one-eighth of one percent sales tax and the ad valorem tax for operations.

Expenditures

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

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended December 31, 2016

F. Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

The department was not required to prepare a budget for the year ended December 31, 2016.

G. Cash and Interest-bearing Deposits

Under state law, the department may deposit funds in demand deposits, interest bearing demand deposits, money market accounts, or time deposits with state banks organized under Louisiana law or any other state of the United States, or under the laws of the United States.

For purposes of the statement of net position, cash and interest-bearing deposits include all demand accounts, savings accounts and certificates of deposit with an original maturity of less than 90 days, and are stated at cost, which approximates fair market value.

H. Investments

Louisiana state law allows all political subdivisions to invest excess funds in obligations of the United States, certificates of deposit of state or national banks having their principal office in Louisiana or any other federally insured investment.

The department's only investments are certificates of deposit, with an original maturity of greater than 90 days, which are stated at cost, which approximates market. Investments in certificates of deposit are reported at cost because they are "nonparticipating" interest-earning investment contracts as discussed in GASB 31. The term "nonparticipating" means that the investment value does not vary with market interest rate changes. Investments which include securities traded on a national or international exchange are valued based on their last reported sales price (fair value). Investments that do not have an established market are reported at estimated fair value.

I. Prepaid Expenditures

Payments made for goods and services that will benefit periods beyond December 31, 2016 have been recorded as prepaid expenditures.

J. Receivables

Ad Valorem receivables are recorded based on the amount of the current year assessment. Because management is aware that not all amounts will be collected, an allowance for uncollectible assessments is record, net of the receivable, based on current year actual uncollected amounts.

Sales tax receivables are recorded based on current year actual amounts collected within 60 days after year end.

K. Inventories

Physical inventories consist of expendable supplies held for consumption. Because inventories

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended December 31, 2016

are expended within one operating cycle they are recorded as expenditures when paid for and are not recorded as an inventory asset.

L. Deferred Outflows of Resources and Deferred Inflows of Resources

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

M. Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect certain reported amounts and disclosures. Accordingly, actual results could differ from those estimates.

N. Capital Assets

Capital assets purchased or acquired with an original cost of \$1,000 or more are reported at historical cost or estimated historical cost. Donated assets are reported at fair market value as of the date received. Additions, improvements, and other capital outlays that significantly extend the useful life of an asset are capitalized. Other costs incurred for repairs and maintenance are expensed as incurred. Depreciation is recorded using the straight-line method over the useful lives of the assets as follows:

Description	Estimated Lives
Buildings	40 years
Building improvements	10-40 years
Equipment	5-15 years
Vehicles	5-15 years

In the fund financial statements, capital assets used in the department's operations are accounted for as capital outlay expenditures of the governmental fund that provided the resources to acquire the assets. Depreciation is not computed or recorded on capital assets for purposes of the fund financial statements.

O. Long-Term Obligations

In the government-wide financial statements, debt and principal payments of both government and business-type activities are reported as decreases in the balance of the liability on the Statement of Net Position. In the fund financial statements, however, debt and principal payments of governmental funds are recognized as expenditures when paid.

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended December 31, 2016

P. Equity Classifications

In the Government Wide Financial Statements, equity is classified as net position and displayed in three components:

1. <u>Net Investment in Capital Assets</u>

This category records capital assets net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by any outstanding balances of bonds, mortgages, notes or other borrowing attributable to the acquisition, construction or improvement of capital assets.

2. <u>Restricted Net Position</u>

Net position that is restricted by external sources such as creditors, grantors, contributors, or by law through either enabling legislation or constitutional provisions is reported separately as restricted net position. When assets are required to be retained in perpetuity, this non-expendable net position is recorded separately from expendable net position. This is components of restricted net position.

3. <u>Unrestricted Net Position</u>

All other net positions that do not meet the definition of "restricted" or "invested in capital assets, net of related debt."

In the fund financial statements, governmental fund equity is classified as fund balance. As such, fund balance of the governmental fund is classified as follows:

1. <u>Nonspendable</u>

Amounts that cannot be spent either because they are in nonspendable form or because they are legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. The department has prepaid insurance which is considered *nonspendable* fund balance on the fund financial statements.

2. <u>Restricted</u>

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

3. <u>Committed</u>

Amounts that can be used only for specific purposes determined by a formal decision of the Board.

4. Assigned

Amounts that do not meet the criteria to be classified as restricted or committed but that are intended to be used for specific purposes.

5. <u>Unassigned</u>

All other spendable amounts.

When an expenditure is incurred for the purposed for which both restricted and unrestricted fund balance is available, the Board considers restricted funds to have been spent first. When an

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended December 31, 2016

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

Q. New Accounting Pronouncements

The GASB has issued Statement No. 76, "The Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles for State and Local Governments." The objective of this Statement is to identify—in the context of the current governmental financial reporting environment—^the sources of accounting principles used to prepare financial statements of state and local governmental entities in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) and the framework for selecting those principles. The requirements of this Statement are effective for reporting periods beginning after June 15, 2015. The department plans to adopt this Statement as applicable by the effective date.

NOTE 2. RESTATED BEGINNING NET POSITION/FUND BALANCE

Prior period adjustments were made to restate Net Position, Fund Balance, Deferred Inflows of Resources and Prepaid Insurance. In order to comply with GASB 65, an adjustment was made to decrease Net Position/Fund Balance by \$201,184 and increase Deferred Inflows of Resources by \$201,184. In order to record prior period Prepaid Insurance, an additional adjustment was made to increase Net Position/Fund Balance by \$22,679 and to increase Prepaid Insurance by \$22,679. The net effect of these adjustment is a decrease to Net Position/Fund Balance of \$178,505.

NOTE 3. CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

At December 31, 2016, the department has demand deposits and certificates of deposit (book balances) totaling \$439,942, as follows:

Demand Deposits	\$ 339,942
Time and Savings Deposits	100,000
Total	<u>\$ 439,942</u>

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

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended December 31, 2016

NOTE 4. CUSTODIAL CREDIT RISK

Custodial credit risk for deposits is the risk that in the event of the failure of a depository financial institution the Department's deposits may not be recovered or will not be able to recover collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. These deposits are stated at cost, which approximates market. Under state law, these deposits, (or the resulting bank balances) must be secured by federal deposit insurance or similar federal security or the pledge of securities owned by the fiscal agent bank. The market value of the pledged securities plus the federal deposit insurance must at all times equal the amount on deposit with the fiscal agent bank. These securities are held in the name of the Department or the pledging fiscal agent bank by a holding or custodial bank that is mutually acceptable to both parties.

Deposit balances (bank balances) at December 31, 2016 in the amount of \$440,002 were secured with federal deposit insurance. The department also holds pledged securities of \$120,000 at First National Bank in the event the balance exceeds the federal deposit insurance coverage. Deposits secured by pledged securities are exposed to custodial credit risk. These deposits are uninsured and collateralized with securities held by the pledging institution's trust department or agent, by not in the Department's name (category 3 deposits). 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 Department that the fiscal agent has failed to pay deposited funds on demand. The Department does not have a policy for custodial credit risk.

NOTE 5. RECEIVABLES

Receivables at December 31, 2016 consisted of ad valorem taxes in the amount of \$226,554, net a \$23,306 allowance for uncollectible assessment, and sales taxes in the amount of \$19,772, with no amounts recorded as uncollectible.

NOTE 6. CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for the year ended December 31, 2016, was as follows:

	Balance 12/31/2015	Additions	Dispositions	Balance 12/31/2016
Capital assets being depreciated:				
Equipment	\$ 421,548	23,184	(14,719)	\$ 430,013
Buildings	972,674			972,674
Vehicles	1,296,006			1,296,006
Totals	2,690,228	23,184	(14,719)	2,698,693

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended December 31, 2016

Less: accumulated depreciation	(1,429,688)	(131,757)	14,719	(1,546,727)
Net capital assets	\$1,260,540	(108,573)	-	\$ 1,151,967

Depreciation expense for the year of \$131,757 was charged to the general governmental function.

NOTE 7. LONG-TERM DEBT

A summary of the changes in general long-term debt obligations of the department is as follows:

Long-term obligations payable				
at December 31, 2015	\$	489,571		
Additions		-0-		
Reductions	\$	33,500		
Long-term obligations payable at December 31, 2016		456,071		

On June 19, 2003, the department entered into a loan for renovations and additions to the central fire station in the amount of \$815,280. The department has pledged as collateral its excess of annual revenues above statutory, necessary and usual charges in each of the fiscal years during which the debt is outstanding. Interest on the loan is calculated at 5%. The note will mature in February 2027. During the year, the department paid \$33,500 of principal which left the balance of the loan at \$456,071 at year-end. Interest expense on the loan for the year was \$24,114.

The department has total required principal payments due in less than 1 year of \$35,308 in more than 1 year of \$420,763.

The schedule of payments for the duration of the remaining note is shown below:

Year ending December 31,	Р	rincipal	Interes		al Debt Service Requirement	;
2017		35,308	22,306	6	57,614	_
2018		37,140	20,474	1	57,614	
2019		39,067	18,546	5	57,614	
2020		41,046	16,568	3	57,614	
2021		43,224	14,389	9	57,614	
2022-2026	2	252,160	35,909	9	288,069	
2027		8,126	49	9	8,175	
	\$ 4	456,071	\$ 128,242	2	\$ 584,313	

The department had no short-term debt in 2016.

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended December 31, 2016

NOTE 8. AD VALOREM TAX

Effective July 21, 1990, the voters of St. Charles Parish approved a property tax millage in the amount of 1.6 mills. This tax is collected by the St. Charles Parish Sheriff to be used for the fire protection of the Parish of St. Charles. The funds are distributed to the nine individual fire departments of the St. Charles Parish Firemen's Association, Inc. by the parish's Department of Finance. The department's share of the total property tax for the year ended December 31, 2016 was \$210,274 paid at a millage rate of 1.55.

The St. Charles Parish Assessor levies the ad valorem tax each year on November 15 based upon the assessed value, less homestead exemptions. The 1st day of January preceding the annual levy date (Nov. 15th) is used as the date to value the property subject to tax. The tax becomes due on November 15 and is considered delinquent if not paid by December 31. Most of the property tax revenues are collected during the months of December, January, and February.

NOTE 9. FIRE PROTECTION CONTRACT

Effective March 1, 1980, sales tax in the amount of one-eighth of one percent is collected by the St. Charles Parish School Board and administered by the Parish President. The sales tax is to be used for the fire protection of the Parish of St. Charles. The funds are distributed monthly by the Parish President to the individual fire departments of the St. Charles Parish Firemen's Association, Inc. Effective April 4, 2011 (Ord#11-4-4), the sales tax is distributed on the following basis:

Department	Basis	Funds
Bayou Gauche Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc.	\$2,500	3.78%
Des Allemands Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc.	\$2,500	4.10%
East Side St. Charles Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc.	\$2,500	22.72%
Hahnville Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc.	\$2,500	7.00%
Killona Volunteer Fire Dept. Inc.	\$2,500	1.47%
Luling Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc.	\$2,500	30.85%
Norco Area Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc.	\$2,500	9.81%
Paradis Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc.	\$2,500	4.93%
St. Rose Volunteer Fire Dept., Inc.	\$2,500	15.34%

The department receives a monthly base amount of \$2,500 plus 4.93% of the remaining funds. The total revenue under this agreement for the year ended December 31, 2016 was \$100,782. Sales tax receivable at December 31, 2016 consists of the department's share of the 1/8th cent sales tax for the months of October, November and December 2016, collected on or before December 20, 2016 by the St. Charles Parish School Board and remitted by St. Charles Parish in January and February 2017.

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended December 31, 2016

NOTE 10. LEASES

The department has two leases for the two pieces of land that its stations are on. The first lease is for the piece of land where Station #1 is located. This lease is with Ms. Margaret Dewitt and states that the department may use the land exclusively at no cost as long as it is providing fire protection. The second lease is for the piece of land where Station #2 is located. This lease is with Texaco and states that the department may use the land exclusively at no cost as long as it is providing as it is providing fire protection.

NOTE 11. RISK MANAGEMENT

The department is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; illnesses or injuries to its volunteers; and natural disasters. The department has purchased commercial insurance to cover or reduce the risk of loss. No settlements were made during the current or prior three fiscal years that exceeded the department's insurance coverage.

NOTE 12. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management evaluates events occurring subsequent to the date of financial statements in determining the accounting for and disclosure of transactions and events that effect the financial statements. Subsequent events have been evaluated through June 29, 2017 which is the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

NOTE 13. LITIGATION AND CLAIMS

At December 31, 2016, the department had no litigation or claims pending.

Supplemental Information

For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

Schedule of Compensation, Benefits and Other Payments to Agency Head or Chief Executive Officer

Agency Head Name: Oliver Dufrene, Jr. Chief

Purpose	Amount
Salary	0
Benefits-insurance	0
Benefits-retirement	0
Benefits-other	0
Car allowance	0
Vehicle provided by government	0
Per diem	0
Reimbursements	0
Travel	0
Registration fees	0
Conference travel	0
Continuing professional education	0
fees	
Housing	0
Unvouchered expenses*	0
Special meals	0
Dues	\$354

Summary Schedule of Prior Audit Findings For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

Section I - Internal Control and Compliance material to the financial statements

Ref. No.

1215-01

Description of Finding Inadequate Segregation of Duties

The size of the Paradis Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.'s operations and its limited staff preclude an adequate segregation of duties and other features of an adequate system of internal control, although to employ such controls may not be cost beneficial.

Corrective Action Plan

This deficiency cannot be remedied in a cost effective manner.

Ref. No.

1215-02

Description of Finding

Inadequate Controls over Financial Statement Preparation

A material weakness exists in financial reporting because the Department does not have a staff person who has the qualifications and training to apply generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) in recording the entity's financial transactions or preparing its financial statements, including the related notes.

Corrective Action Plan

Management has evaluated the cost versus benefit of hiring a person who has the qualifications and training to apply generally accepted accounting principles in the preparation of financial statements. Management has determined that it is in the best interest of the Department at this time, to outsource this task to its independent auditors, and to carefully review the draft financial statements and notes prior to approving them. Management understands that it accepts final responsibility for the financial statements content and presentation.

<u>Name of Contact Person</u> Hannah Dufrene, Treasurer

Section II - Management Letter

No management letter was issued in the prior year.

Corrective Action Plan for Current Year Audit Findings For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

Section I - Internal Control and Compliance material to the financial statements

Ref. No.

1216-01

Description of Finding

Inadequate Segregation of Duties – Internal Control Material Weakness

The size of the Paradis Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.'s operations and its limited staff preclude an adequate segregation of duties and other features of an adequate system of internal control, although to employ such controls may not be cost beneficial.

Corrective Action Plan

This is a common deficiency noted in audits of small entities. The department's office does not employ enough people in its accounting department to adequately segregate duties such as approving purchase orders, approving invoices for payment, printing checks, recording checks, signing checks, mailing checks, and reconciling bank statements. This is one example of the circumstances that resulted in the finding.

Therefore, this deficiency cannot be remedied in a cost effective manner.

Name of Contact Person

Hannah Dufrene, Treasurer

Anticipated Completion Date

None

Corrective Action Plan for Current Year Audit Findings For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

Section I - Internal Control and Compliance material to the financial statements (continued)

<u>Ref. No.</u>

1216-02

Description of Finding

Inadequate Controls over Financial Statement Preparation – Internal Control Material Weakness

A material weakness exists in financial reporting because the department does not have a staff person who has the qualifications and training to apply generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) in recording the entity's financial transactions or preparing its financial statements, including the related notes.

Corrective Action Plan

Management has evaluated the cost versus benefit of hiring a person who has the qualifications and training to apply generally accepted accounting principles in the preparation of financial statements. Management has determined that it is in the best interest of the department at this time, to outsource this task to its independent auditors, and to carefully review the draft financial statements and notes prior to approving them. Management understands that it accepts final responsibility for the financial statements content and presentation.

Name of Contact Person

Hannah Dufrene, Treasurer

Anticipated Completion Date

None

Section II - Management Letter

No management letter was issued in the current year.

OTHER REPORT REQUIRED BY GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS



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

Board of Directors Paradis Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. St. Charles Parish, 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 government activities, each major fund, and the aggregate remaining fund information of the Paradis Volunteer Fire Department, Inc. (the department) as of and for the year ended December 31, 2016, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the department's basic financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated June 29, 2017.

Internal Control over Financial Reporting

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

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

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the first paragraph of this section and was not designed to identify all deficiencies in internal control that might be material weaknesses or significant deficiencies and therefore, material weaknesses or significant deficiencies may exist that were not identified. We did identify certain deficiencies in internal control, described in the accompanying schedule of corrective action plan for current year audit findings that we consider to be material weaknesses, see findings (1216-01 and 1216-02).

TIMOTHY S. KEARNS MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

T.S. Kearns & Co., CPA, PC (A Professional Corporation) 164 West Main Street, Thibodaux, LA 70301 South end of Canal Boulevard (985) 447-8507 Fax (985) 447-4833 www.kearnscpa.com BRANDY I. KEARNS CERTIFIED IN FINANCIAL FORENSICS CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

Compliance and Other Matters

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

Purpose of this Report

The purpose of this report is solely to describe the scope of our testing of internal control and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the entity's internal control and compliance. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose.

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Thibodaux, Louisiana June 29, 2017