

VERMILION PARISH ASSESSOR

FINANCIAL REPORT

DECEMBER 31, 2016

CONTENTS

	Exhibit/ Schedules	Page
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT	-	1 and 2
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS	-	3 - 6
GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS		
Statement of net position	A	8
Statement of activities	B	9
FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS		
Balance sheet - governmental funds	C	12
Reconciliation of the governmental funds balance sheet to the statement of net position	D	13
Statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances - governmental fund	E	14
Reconciliation of the statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances of the governmental funds to the statement of activities	F	15
Notes to financial statements	-	16 - 34
REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION		
Budgetary comparison schedule:		
General fund	G-1	36
Note to budgetary comparison schedule	G-2	37
Schedules of the proportionate share of the net pension liability	H	38
Schedules of pension contributions	I	39
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON INTERNAL CONTROL OVER FINANCIAL REPORTING AND ON COMPLIANCE AND OTHER MATTERS BASED ON AN AUDIT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH <i>GOVERNMENT AUDITING STANDARDS</i>	-	41 and 42
Schedule of findings and responses	J-1	43
Schedule of prior findings	J-2	44
Schedule of compensation, benefits and other payments to agency head	K	45

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

The Vermilion Parish Assessor
Abbeville, Louisiana

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying basic financial statements of the Vermilion Parish Assessor as of and for the year ended December 31, 2016, and the related notes to the 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 an opinion 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 of 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 risk 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 opinion.

Opinions

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the Vermilion Parish Assessor as of December 31, 2016, and the respective change in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Other-Matter

Required Supplementary Information

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the budgetary comparison information on pages 36 and 37, the schedules of proportionate share of the net pension liability on page 38 and the schedules of pension contributions on page 39 be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such 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. We have applied certain limited procedures to the budgetary comparison 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.

Other information

The schedule of compensation, benefits and other payments to agency head are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate 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 are fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*, we have also issued our report dated June 26, 2017, on our consideration of the Vermilion Parish Assessor's internal control over financial reporting and our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the 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 Vermilion Parish Assessor's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Bransford Poche, LLP

Lafayette, Louisiana
June 26, 2017

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Our discussion and analysis of Vermilion Parish Assessor's financial performance provides an overview of Vermilion Parish Assessor's financial activities for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016. Please read it in conjunction with the Assessor's financial statements, which begin on page 8.

I. FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Vermilion Parish Assessor's deficit net position decreased by \$24,587 or 4.1% as a result of 2016's operations. Vermilion Parish Assessor's total revenues were \$1,034,895 compared to \$974,620 in 2015, an increase of \$60,275 or 6.2%.

Total expenses for Vermilion Parish Assessor during the year ending December 31, 2016 were \$1,010,308 compared to \$1,075,482 last year, a decrease of \$65,174 or 6.1%.

II. USING THIS ANNUAL REPORT

This report consists of a series of financial statements. The statement of net position and the statement of activities (pages 8 and 9) provide information about Vermilion Parish Assessor's activities as a whole and present a longer-term view of Vermilion Parish Assessor's finances. Fund financial statements start on page 12. These statements tell how the services were financed in the short-term as well as what remains for future spending.

A. REPORTING VERMILION PARISH ASSESSOR AS A WHOLE

1. THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION AND THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Our analysis of Vermilion Parish Assessor as a whole begins on page 4. One of the most important questions asked about Vermilion Parish Assessor's finances is, "Is Vermilion Parish Assessor, as a whole, better off or worse off as a result of the year's activities?" The statement of net position and the statement of activities report information about Vermilion Parish Assessor as a whole and about its activities in a way that helps answer this question. These statements include all assets and liabilities using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting 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.

These two statements report Vermilion Parish Assessor's net position and the changes in them. The net position, the difference between the assets and the liabilities, is one way to measure Vermilion Parish Assessor's financial position or financial health. Over time, increases or decreases in Vermilion Parish Assessor's net position is one indicator of whether its financial health is improving or deteriorating.

We report the fund maintained by the Vermilion Parish Assessor as governmental activities in the statement of net position and the statement of activities.

B. REPORTING VERMILION PARISH ASSESSORS'S MOST SIGNIFICANT FUNDS

1. FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The fund financial statements provide detailed information about the Vermilion Parish Assessor's General Fund, not the Vermilion Parish Assessor as a whole.

All of Vermilion Parish Assessor's expenses are reported in a governmental fund, which focuses on how money flows into and out of that fund and the balances left at year-end that are available for spending. This fund is reported using the modified accrual method, which measures cash and all other financial assets that could be readily converted to cash. The governmental fund statements provide a detailed short-term view of Vermilion Parish Assessor's general operations and the expenses paid from this fund. The information in the governmental fund helps determine if there are more or less financial resources to finance future Vermilion Parish Assessor expenses. We describe the relationship (or differences) between governmental activities (reported in the statement of net position and the statement of activities) and the governmental fund in a reconciliation following the fund financial statements.

III. VERMILION PARISH ASSESSOR AS A WHOLE

The deficit in the Vermilion Parish Assessor's total net position decreased in the current year from \$593,818 to \$569,231. The following reflects the condensed statement of net position as of December 31, 2016, with comparative figures from 2015:

TABLE 1
CONDENSED STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015

	2016	2015
Assets:		
Current assets	\$ 1,496,528	\$ 1,545,875
Capital assets	<u>74,692</u>	<u>75,071</u>
Total assets	\$ 1,571,220	\$ 1,620,946
Deferred outflows of resources	<u>205,691</u>	<u>302,494</u>
Total assets and deferred outflows of resources	<u>\$ 1,776,911</u>	<u>\$ 1,923,440</u>
Liabilities:		
Current liabilities	\$ 15,501	\$ 19,816
Long-term liabilities	<u>1,448,680</u>	<u>1,499,609</u>
Total liabilities	<u>\$ 1,464,181</u>	<u>\$ 1,519,425</u>
Deferred inflows of resources	<u>\$ 881,961</u>	<u>\$ 997,833</u>
Net position:		
Net investment in capital assets	\$ 59,191	\$ 55,255
Unrestricted	<u>(628,422)</u>	<u>(649,073)</u>
Total net position	<u>\$ (569,231)</u>	<u>\$ (593,818)</u>
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and net position	<u>\$ 1,776,911</u>	<u>\$ 1,923,440</u>

Net position of Vermilion Parish Assessor's governmental activities increased by \$24,587 or 4.1%, from 2015. Unrestricted net position, that part of net position which can be used to finance Vermilion Parish Assessor's expenses without constraints or other legal requirements, increased \$40,088, or 6%, from 2015.

The following table provides a summary of the changes in net position for the year ended December 31, 2016, with comparative figures from 2015:

TABLE II
CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN NET POSITION
YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2016 AND 2015

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>
Revenues:		
Program revenues -		
Charges for services	\$ 3,225	\$ 6,205
Operating grants and contributions	15,000	15,000
General revenues -		
Ad valorem taxes	948,855	885,937
Other	<u>67,815</u>	<u>67,478</u>
Total revenues	<u>\$ 1,034,895</u>	<u>\$ 974,620</u>
Expenses:		
General government	<u>\$ 1,010,308</u>	<u>\$ 1,075,482</u>
Increase (decrease) in net position	<u>\$ 24,587</u>	<u>\$ (100,862)</u>

During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2016, property tax revenue increased \$62,918 or approximately 7.1%. Expenses decreased by \$65,174 or approximately 6.1%.

IV. GENERAL FUND BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS

The Vermilion Parish Assessor's budget was revised during the 2016 fiscal year mainly to increase budgeted intergovernmental revenues and ad valorem taxes and increase budgeted operating expenditures. Actual revenues exceeded budgeted revenues by \$2,675 and actual expenditures were \$15,491 more than final budgeted expenditures. The net increase in fund balance for the year ended December 31, 2016 of \$57,685 was \$12,816 less than the anticipated (final budgeted) increase.

V. CAPITAL ASSETS

At the end of 2016, Vermilion Parish Assessor had \$74,692 in net investment in capital assets. This amount represents a net decrease of \$379 or 0.5% from 2015. This was due primarily to the recording of depreciation of \$27,895 in 2016, and investing in capital outlay additions of \$27,516.

VI. LONG-TERM LIABILITIES

Long-term obligations of the Vermilion Parish Assessor primarily consist of its proportionate share of the pension benefit obligation of the Louisiana Assessors Retirement Fund and other post-employment benefit obligations for retired employees. Detailed information about these obligation are presented in Note 7 and Note 11 to the financial statements.

VII. ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET

The primary factors considered when preparing the fiscal year 2017 budget were the ad valorem tax revenues and salaries and related expenditures. The ad valorem tax is expected to produce \$984,185 or approximately 93% of the total budgeted revenues. Salaries and related expenditures are expected to total \$820,293 or 83% of the total budgeted expenditures. The 2017 budget was prepared based on 2016 results with adjustments for expected increases or decreases in revenues and expenditures.

VIII. CONTACTING THE VERMILION PARISH ASSESSOR'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our citizens and taxpayers with a general overview of the funds maintained by Vermilion Parish Assessor and to show Vermilion Parish Assessor's accountability for the monies it receives. If you have any questions or need additional financial information, contact Gabe Marceaux, Assessor, at 100 N. State Street, Suite 110, Abbeville, Louisiana 70510.

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

VERMILION PARISH ASSESSOR

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

December 31, 2016

ASSETS AND DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES

ASSETS

Cash	\$ 192,388
Certificates of deposit	550,000
Ad valorem taxes receivable, net	76,999
Due from other governmental agencies	677,141
Capital assets:	
Depreciable, net	<u>74,692</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 1,571,220</u>

DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESOURCES

Defined benefit pension plan	<u>\$ 205,691</u>
Total assets and deferred outflows of resources	<u>\$ 1,776,911</u>

LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND NET POSITION

LIABILITIES

Note payable	\$ 15,501
Long-term liabilities:	
Due in more than one year -	
Net pension liability	406,329
Other post-employment benefit obligation	<u>1,042,351</u>
Total liabilities	<u>\$ 1,464,181</u>

DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES

Unearned revenue	\$ 881,468
Defined benefit pension plan	<u>493</u>
Total deferred inflows of resources	<u>\$ 881,961</u>

NET POSITION

Net investment in capital assets	\$ 59,191
Unrestricted, deficit	<u>(628,422)</u>
Total net position	<u>\$ (569,231)</u>
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources, and net position	<u>\$ 1,776,911</u>

See Notes to Financial Statements.

VERMILION PARISH ASSESSOR

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
Year Ended December 31, 2016

<u>Function/Program</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>Program Revenues</u>		<u>Net (Expense)</u>
		<u>Charges for</u>	<u>Operating</u>	<u>Revenue and</u>
		<u>Services</u>	<u>Grants and</u>	<u>Change in</u>
			<u>Contributions</u>	<u>Net Position</u>
				<u>Governmental</u>
				<u>Activities</u>
Governmental activities:				
General government	\$ 1,010,308	\$ 3,225	\$ 15,000	\$ (992,083)
General revenues:				
Ad valorem taxes				\$ 948,855
Grants and contributions				
not restricted to				
specific programs				57,615
Investment earnings				4,284
Miscellaneous				5,916
Total general revenues				\$ 1,016,670
Change in net position				\$ 24,587
Net position, beginning				(593,818)
Net position, ending				\$ (569,231)

See Notes to Financial Statements.

This page intentionally left blank.

FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

VERMILION PARISH ASSESSOR

BALANCE SHEET
GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
December 31, 2016

ASSETS	General Fund
Cash	\$ 192,388
Certificates of deposit	550,000
Ad valorem taxes receivable, net	76,999
Due from other governmental agencies	<u>677,141</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 1,496,528</u>
LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND FUND BALANCES	
LIABILITIES	
Note payable	\$ <u>15,501</u>
Total liabilities	<u>\$ 15,501</u>
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	
Unearned revenue	<u>\$ 881,468</u>
FUND BALANCES	
Unassigned	<u>\$ 599,559</u>
Total liabilities, deferred inflows of resources and fund balance	<u>\$ 1,496,528</u>

See Notes to Financial Statements.

VERMILION PARISH ASSESSOR

RECONCILIATION OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS BALANCE SHEET
TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
December 31, 2016

Total fund balance - governmental fund \$ 599,559

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 are therefore not reported in the
fund. Those assets consisted of -

Furniture, fixtures, and equipment	\$ 314,418	
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(239,726)</u>	74,692

Long-term liabilities, are not due and payable in the current
period and therefore are not reported in the fund -

Net pension liability	\$ (406,329)	
Net OPEB obligation payable	<u>(1,042,351)</u>	(1,448,680)

Deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to
pensions and applicable to future periods and, therefore,
are not reported in the funds -

Pension contributions subsequent to plan measurement	\$ 12,702	
Difference between actual and projected earnings of		
pension plan assts	128,970	
Change in assumptions	9,977	
Difference between expected and actual contributions		
to the pension plan	(493)	
Change in the proportionate share of the pension plan		
from the prior year	37,039	
Difference between expected and actual experience	<u>17,003</u>	<u>205,198</u>

Total net position of governmental activities		\$ <u>(569,231)</u>
---	--	---------------------

See Notes to Financial Statements.

VERMILION PARISH ASSESSOR

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCESGOVERNMENTAL FUND
Year Ended December 31, 2016

	<u>General Fund</u>
Revenues:	
Ad valorem taxes	\$ 948,855
Intergovernmental -	
State revenue sharing	57,615
Vermilion Parish Police Jury	15,000
Charges for services	3,225
Investment earnings	4,284
Miscellaneous	<u>5,916</u>
 Total revenues	 <u>\$ 1,034,895</u>
Expenditures:	
Current -	
General government	\$ 949,694
Capital outlay	<u>27,516</u>
 Total expenditures	 <u>\$ 977,210</u>
 Net change in fund balance	 <u>\$ 57,685</u>
 Fund balance, beginning	 <u>541,874</u>
 Fund balance, ending	 <u><u>\$ 599,559</u></u>

See Notes to Financial Statements.

VERMILION PARISH ASSESSOR

RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES,
AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES OF THE GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS
TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES
Year Ended December 31, 2016

Net change in fund balance - governmental fund		\$	57,685
The change in net position reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities is difference 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.			
Depreciation expense		\$	(27,895)
Capital outlay			<u>27,516</u>
			(379)
Net other postemployment obligations reported in the statement of activities do not require the use of current financial resources and therefore are not reported as expenditures in the governmental funds.			
			(136,124)
The effect of net pension liability, deferred outflow of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to changes in the net pension obligation -			
Employer contributions made after the valuation date of the net pension liability (September 30, 2016 to December 31, 2016)		\$	39,259
Cost of benefits earned net of employee contributions (pension expense)			<u>64,146</u>
			<u>103,405</u>
Change in net position of governmental activities		\$	<u>24,587</u>

See Notes to Financial Statements.

VERMILION PARISH ASSESSOR
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The financial statements of the Vermilion Parish Assessor (the "Assessor") have been prepared in conformity with 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). The more significant of the Assessor's accounting policies are described below.

Reporting entity:

As provided by Article VII, Section 24 of the Louisiana Constitution of 1974, the Assessor is elected by the voters of the parish and serves a term of four years beginning January 1 following the year in which elected. A vacancy occurring in the office in which the unexpired term is one year or more is filled by a special election to be held within 60 days of the occurrence of the vacancy; a vacancy in which the unexpired term is less than one year is filled by an appointment of the governor.

The Assessor assesses property, prepares tax rolls, and submits the rolls to the Louisiana Tax Commission and other governmental bodies as prescribed by law. The Assessor is authorized to appoint as many deputies as may be necessary for the efficient operation of the office and provides assistance to the taxpayers of the parish. The deputies are authorized to perform all functions of the office; however, the Assessor is officially responsible for the actions of the deputies.

The Assessor's office is located in the Vermilion Parish Courthouse in Abbeville, Louisiana. In accordance with Louisiana law, the Assessor bases real and movable property assessments on conditions existing on January 1 of the tax year. The Assessor completes an assessment listing by May 1 of the tax year and submits the list to the parish governing authority and the Louisiana Tax Commission as prescribed by law. Once the assessment listing is approved, the Assessor submits the assessment roll to the parish tax collector who is responsible for collecting and distributing taxes to the various taxing bodies.

Basis of presentation:

The Assessor's basic financial statements consist of the government-wide and the fund financial statements. The statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America as applied to governmental units.

Governmental-wide financial statements –

The government-wide financial statements include the statement of net position and the statement of activities of the Assessor. These statements include the financial activities of the overall government. Governmental activities generally are financed through taxes, intergovernmental revenues, and other nonexchange transactions.

In the government-wide statement of net position, 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 Assessor's net position are reported in two parts – net investment in capital assets and unrestricted.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The government-wide statement of activities reports both the gross and net cost of each of the Assessor's functions. The functions are also supported by general government revenues (property taxes, certain intergovernmental revenues, etc.). The statement of activities reduces gross expenses (including depreciation) by related program revenues, operating and capital grants. Program revenues must be directly associated with the function. Operating grants include operating-specific and discretionary (either operating or capital) grants while the capital grants column reflects capital-specific grants.

The net cost (by function) is normally covered by general revenues (property taxes, intergovernmental revenues, interest income, etc.).

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

Fund financial statements –

The fund financial statements provide information about the Assessor's funds. The emphasis of fund financial statements is on major governmental funds. The Assessor has only one fund, its General Fund. The General Fund is the Assessor's general operating fund. It is used to account for all of the financial resources of the Assessor.

Basis of accounting:

Government-wide financial statements –

The government-wide financial statements are reported using the economic resources measurement focus and the accrual basis of accounting. Revenues are recorded when earned and expenses are recorded at the time liabilities are incurred, regardless of when the related cash flows take place. Nonexchange transactions, in which the Assessor gives (or receives) value without directly receiving (or giving) equal value in exchange, include property taxes, grants and donations. On an accrual basis, revenue from property taxes is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied. Revenue from grants, entitlement, and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied.

Fund financial statements –

Governmental funds are reported using the current financial resources measurement focus and the modified accrual basis of accounting. Under this method, revenues are recognized when measurable and available. "Measurable" means the amount of the transaction can be determined and "available" means collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to be used to pay liabilities of the current period. The Assessor considers property taxes as "available" in the year following the assessment, when the majority of the taxes are collected. Revenue from grants, entitlement, and donations is recognized in the fiscal year in which all eligibility requirements have been satisfied. All other receivables collected within 60 days after year-end are considered available and recognized as revenue of the current year.

Expenditures are recorded when the related fund liability is incurred. General capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Cash and investments:

Under state law, the Assessor may deposit funds in demand deposits, interest-bearing demand deposits, money market accounts, or time deposits with state banks organized under Louisiana law and national banks having their principal offices in Louisiana.

Cash includes amounts in demand deposit accounts while investments include certificates of deposits. These certificates are not subject to GASB No. 31 requirements; thus, they are stated at cost.

Custodial credit risk:

Deposits (demand and certificates) –

The Assessor is exposed to custodial credit risk as it relates to its deposits with financial institutions. Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the Assessor's deposits may not be returned to it. The Assessor's policy to ensure there is no exposure to this risk is to require each financial institution to pledge securities to cover amounts in excess of Federal Depository Insurance Coverage. Securities pledged by these financial institutions to secure deposits must be held in the Assessor's name. Accordingly, the Assessor had no custodial credit risk related to its deposits at December 31, 2016.

Fixed assets:

The accounting treatment over property, plant and equipment (fixed assets) depends on whether the assets are reported in the government-wide or fund financial statements.

Government-wide financial statements –

In the government-wide financial statements, fixed assets are accounted for as capital assets. All fixed assets are valued at cost or estimated historical cost. Donated fixed assets are recorded at their fair value at the date of donation. The Assessor maintains a threshold level of \$500 or more for capitalizing capital assets.

The cost of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend asset lives are not capitalized. Depreciation is calculated on the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

	<u>Years</u>
Furniture and fixtures	5
Equipment	5 - 10

Fund financial statements –

In the fund financial statements, fixed assets used in governmental fund operations are accounted for as capital outlay expenditures of the governmental fund upon acquisition.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Compensated absences:

The Assessor has the following policy relating to vacation and sick leave -

Vacations are mandatory and vary in length based on years of service. Leave can be taken between January 1 and November 1 of each year. In addition to vacation, annual leave consists of 12 working days absence due to illness or business matters. Any unused portion of annual leave does not accumulate and carry forward. If any employee exceeds the 12 days, their salary is reduced accordingly. Should maternity, surgery, or prolonged illness require extended absence, paid leave not to exceed six weeks (including the 12 day annual leave) will be allowed.

Unearned revenues:

This separate financial statement element included in deferred inflows of resources, represents an acquisition of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an inflow of resources (revenue) until that time. The Assessor has unearned income which arises under both the modified accrual basis of accounting and the accrual basis of accounting, that qualifies for reporting in this manner. Unearned revenues are reported on both the government-wide statement of net position and governmental funds balance sheet. This amount is deferred and recognized as an inflow of resources in the period that the amount becomes available.

Pensions:

For purposes of measuring the Net Pension Liability, deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions, and pension expense, information about the fiduciary net position of the retirement plan the Assessor's Office employees participate, the Louisiana Assessors; Retirement Fund, and additions to/deductions from the plans' fiduciary net position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by the systems. For this purpose, benefit payments (including refunds of employee contributions) are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value. The net pension liability, the deferred outflows of resources and the deferred inflows of the Assessor's proportionate share of this multi-employer plan are reported in the government-wide statement of net position.

Net position flow assumption:

Sometime the government will fund outlays for a particular purpose from both restricted and unrestricted resources. In order to calculate the amounts to report as restricted - net position and unrestricted - net position in the government-wide financial statements, a flow assumptions must be made about the order in which the resources are considered to be applied. It is the government's policy to consider restricted - net position to have been depleted before unrestricted - net position is applied.

Fund balance flow assumption:

Sometime the government will fund outlays for a particular purpose from both restricted and unrestricted resources (the total of committed, assigned, and unassigned fund balance). In order to calculate the amounts to report as restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned fund balance in the governmental fund financial statements, a flow assumptions must be made about the order in which the resources are considered to be applied. It is the government's policy to consider restricted fund balance to have been depleted before using any of the components of unrestricted fund balance. Further, when the components of unrestricted fund balance can be used for the same purpose, committed fund balance is depleted first, followed by assigned fund balance. Unassigned fund balance is applied last.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Equity classifications:

Government-wide statements –

Equity is classified as net position and displayed in two components:

- a. Net investment in capital assets – Consists of capital assets net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the balance of debt used to acquire capital assets.
- b. Unrestricted net position - All other net position that do not meet the definition of “net investment in capital assets”.

The Assessor has no restricted net position as of December 31, 2016.

Fund financial statements –

Beginning with fiscal year 2011, the Assessor implemented GASB Statement 54, “Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions.” This Statement provides more clearly defined fund balance categories to make the nature and extent of the constraints placed on a government’s fund balance more transparent. The following classifications describe the relative strength of the spending constraints placed on the purposes for which resources can be used:

- Nonspendable fund balance - amounts that are not in a spendable form (such as inventory) or are required to be maintained intact;
- Restricted fund balance - amounts constrained to specific purposes by their providers (such as grantors, bondholders, and higher levels of government), through constitutional provisions, or by enabling legislation;
- Committed fund balance - amounts constrained to specific purposes by a government itself, using its highest level of decision-making authority; to be reported as committed, amounts cannot be used for any other purpose unless the government takes the same highest level action to remove or change the constraint;
- Assigned fund balance - amounts a government intends to use for a specific purpose; intent can be expressed by the governing body or by an official or body to which the governing body delegates the authority;
- Unassigned fund balance - amounts that are available for any purpose; positive amounts are reported only in the general fund.

The Assessor establishes (and modifies or rescinds) fund balance commitments by passage of an ordinance or resolution. This is typically done through adoption and amendment of the budget. A fund balance commitment is further indicated in the budget document as a designation or commitment of the fund (such as for special incentives). Assigned fund balance is established by the Assessor through adoption or amendment of the budget as intended for specific purpose (such as the purchase of fixed assets, construction, debt service, or for other purposes).

Governmental fund equity is classified as fund balance. Fund balance is further classified as nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned and unassigned.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Taxes receivable:

Taxes receivable consists of amounts due from taxpayers. Taxes receivable are reported net of an allowance for uncollectible accounts based on prior experience. The allowance amount at December 31, 2016 is \$17,629.

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.

Recent accounting pronouncements:

In March 2016, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) issued Statement No. 82 "*Pension Issues*." This Statement is effective for financial statements for years beginning after June 15, 2016. The primary objective of this Statement is to address practice issues that have been raised with respect to Statements 67, 68, as well as 73. Specifically, the Statement addresses issues regarding; the presentation of payroll-related measures in requires supplementary information, the selection of assumptions and the treatment of deviations from the guidance in Actuarial Standards of Practice for financial reporting purposes; and, the classification of payments made by employers to satisfy employee (plan member) contribution requirements.

Note 2. Ad Valorem Taxes

Government-wide financial statements –

Property taxes are recognized in the year for which they are levied net of uncollectible amounts, as applicable.

Fund financial statements –

Ad valorem taxes are based on assessed values determined by the Assessor on a calendar year basis, become due on November 15 of each year, and become delinquent on December 31.

Taxes are budgeted and the revenue recognized in the year following the assessment when the majority of the taxes are actually collected and the Assessor considers them "available."

For the year ended December 31, 2016, taxes were levied on property with assessed valuations totaling \$430,651,312 and the millage was 2.62.

Total taxes levied, exclusive of homestead exemptions, was \$881,468 for 2016. Taxes receivable at December 31, 2016 totaled \$76,999, which is net of an allowance for uncollectible amounts of \$17,629.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 3. Due From Other Governmental Agencies

Due from other governmental agencies at December 31, 2016 consists of the following:

Government-wide and fund financial statements:

Vermilion Parish Sheriff -

Ad valorem taxes

\$ 677,141

Note 4. Capital Assets

Capital assets activity for the year ended December 31, 2016 is as follows:

	<u>Beginning Balance</u>	<u>Increases</u>	<u>Decreases</u>	<u>Ending Balance</u>
Governmental activities:				
Capital assets being depreciated -				
Furniture and fixtures	\$ 11,813	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,813
Equipment	<u>275,089</u>	<u>27,516</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>302,605</u>
Total capital assets being depreciated	<u>\$ 286,902</u>	<u>\$ 27,516</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 314,418</u>
Less accumulated depreciation for -				
Furniture and fixtures	\$ (11,813)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (11,813)
Equipment	<u>(200,018)</u>	<u>(27,895)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(227,913)</u>
Total accumulated depreciation	<u>\$ (211,831)</u>	<u>\$ (27,895)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ (239,726)</u>
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	<u>\$ 75,071</u>	<u>\$ (379)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 74,692</u>
Governmental activities capital assets, net	<u>\$ 75,071</u>	<u>\$ (379)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 74,692</u>

Depreciation expense was charged to functions as follows:

General government

\$ 27,895

Note 5. Operating Leases

The Assessor has entered into a number of operating leases which contain cancellation provisions and are subject to annual appropriations. These leases are for vehicles and support governmental activities. Operating lease expenditures for the year ended December 31, 2016 totaled \$180.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 6. Notes Payable

In order to purchase an automobile the Assessor's Office borrow against one of their certificates of deposit. The maturity of the note is the same as the certificate of deposit. The note is due January 24, 2018 at rate of 2.75%. It is anticipated the indebtedness will be renewed under similar terms with the certificate maturity and anticipated renewal. The original amount borrowed is \$22,629 and the Assessor has been paying \$400 monthly, including interest, on the loan. At the present payment amount and interest rate, the obligation should be paid out in approximately 30 months.

Note 7. Pension Plan

Substantially, all employees of the Assessor's office are members of the Louisiana Assessor's Retirement Fund ("System"), a cost sharing multiple-employer, public employee retirement system, controlled and administered by a separate board of trustees.

Plan description:

The Louisiana Assessors' Retirement Fund was created by Act 91 Section 1 of the 1950 regular Legislature Session. The Fund is a cost sharing, multiple-employer, qualified governmental defined benefit pension plan covering assessors and their deputies employed by any parish of the State of Louisiana, under the provisions of Louisiana Revised Statutes 11:1401 through 1494. The plan is a qualified plan as defined by the Internal Revenue Code Section 401(a), effective January 1, 1998. Membership in the Louisiana Assessors' Retirement Fund is a condition of employment for Assessors and their full time employees.

The Fund is administered by a board of trustees made up of seventeen members, the president, vice president, and secretary-treasurer of the Louisiana Assessors' Association and eight regular member representatives who are elected for a term of two years from the Association districts. Two of the members are retiree representatives nominated by the board and elected by the retirees, two members are assessor employee representatives nominated by the board and elected by the employees, and two members are legislative representatives of which one is from the House and one is from the Senate.

Retirement benefits:

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

Employees who became members prior to October 1, 2006, are entitled to annual pension benefits equal to three and one-third percent of their average final compensation based on the 36 consecutive months of highest pay, multiplied by their total years of service, not to exceed 100% of final compensation. Employees who become members on or after October 1, 2006 will have their benefit based on the highest 60 months of consecutive service. Employees may elect to receive their pension benefits in the form of a joint and survivor annuity.

If employees terminate before rendering 12 years of service, they forfeit the right to receive the portion of their accumulated plan benefits attributable to the employer's contributions. Benefits are payable over the

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

employees' lives in the form of a monthly annuity. Employees may elect a reduced benefit or any of four options at retirement:

1. At death, the beneficiary will receive a lump sum payment based on the present value of the employee's annuity account balance.
2. At death, the beneficiary will receive a life annuity based on their reduced retirement allowance.
3. At death, the beneficiary will receive a life annuity equal to one-half of their reduced retirement allowance.
4. Any other benefit certified by the actuary and approved by the Board of Trustees that will be equivalent in value to their retirement allowance.

Death benefits:

As set forth in R.S. 11:1441, benefits for members who die in service are as follows:

1. If a member of the Fund dies in service with less than 12 years of creditable service and leaves a surviving spouse, their accumulated contributions shall be paid to the surviving spouse.
2. If a member dies and has 12 or more years of creditable service and is not eligible for retirement, the surviving spouse shall receive an automatic optional benefit which is equal to the joint and survivorship amounts provided in Option 2 as provided for in R.S. 11:1423, which shall cease upon a subsequent remarriage, or a refund of the member's accumulated contributions, whichever the spouse elects to receive.
3. If a member dies and is eligible for retirement, the surviving spouse shall receive an automatic optional benefit which is equal to the Option 2 benefits provided for in R.S. 11:1423, which shall not terminate upon a subsequent remarriage.
4. Benefits set forth in item number 2 above, shall cease upon remarriage and shall resume upon a subsequent divorce or death of a new spouse. The spouse shall be entitled to receive a monthly benefit equal to the amount being received prior to remarriage.

Disability benefits:

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

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

Upon approval for disability benefits, the member shall exercise an optional retirement allowance as provided in R.S. 11:1423 and no change in the option selected shall be permitted after it has been filed with the board.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The retirement option factors shall be the same as those utilized for regular retirement based on the age of the retiree and that of the spouse, had the retiree continued in active service until the earliest normal retirement date.

Back-deferred retirement option plan (Back-DROP)

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

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

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

At the time of retirement, a member who elects to receive a Back-DROP benefit shall select a Back-DROP period to be specified in whole months. The duration of the Back-DROP period shall not exceed the lesser of thirty-six months or the number of months of creditable service accrued after the member first attained eligibility for normal retirement. The Back-DROP period shall be comprised of the most recent calendar days corresponding to the member's employment for which service credit in the Fund accrued.

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

1. Creditable service shall not include service credit reciprocally recognized pursuant to R.S. 11:142.
2. Accrued service at retirement shall be reduced by the Back-DROP.
3. Final average compensation shall be calculated by excluding all earnings during the Back-DROP period.
4. Contributions received by the Fund during the Back-DROP period and any interest that has accrued on employer and employee contributions received during the period shall remain with the Fund and shall not be refunded to the employee or to the employer.
5. The member's Back-DROP monthly benefit shall be calculated based upon the member's age and service and the Fund provisions in effect on the last day of creditable service before the Back-DROP period.
6. At retirement, the member's maximum monthly retirement benefit payable as a life annuity shall be equal to the Back-DROP monthly benefit.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

7. The member may elect to receive a reduced monthly benefit in accordance with the options provided in R.S. 11:1423 based upon the member's age and the age of the member's beneficiary as of the actual effective date of retirement. No change in the option selected or beneficiary shall be permitted after the option is filed with the Board of Trustees.

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

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

Excess Benefit Plan:

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

Contributions:

Contributions for all members are established by statute at 8.0% of earned compensation. The contributions are deducted from the member's salary and remitted by the participating agency.

Administrative costs of the Fund are financed through employer contributions. According to state statute, contributions for all employers are actuarially determined each year. Employer contributions were 13.5% of members' earnings for the years ended September 30, 2016 and 2015.

The Fund also receives one-fourth of one percent of the property taxes assessed in each parish of the state as well as a state revenue sharing appropriation. According to state statute, in the event that contributions for ad valorem taxes and revenue sharing funds are insufficient to provide for the gross employer actuarially required contribution, the employer is required to make direct contributions as determined by the Public Retirement System's Actuarial Committee. Although the direct employer actuarially required contribution for fiscal year 2016 is 4.75%, the actual employer contribution rate for fiscal year 2016 is 13.5%, since state statutes require that employer rates be set one year in advance. The minimum direct employer actuarially required contribution will be 4.75% for fiscal year 2017.

Pension liabilities, pension expense, and deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions:

At December 31, 2016, the Employer reported a liability of \$406,329 for its proportionate share of the Net Pension Liability. The Net Pension Liability was measured as of September 30, 2016 and the total pension liability used to calculate the Net Pension Obligation was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date. The Agency's proportion of the Net Pension Liability was based on a projection of the Agency's long-term share of contributions to the pension plan relative to the projected contributions of all participating employers,

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

actuarially determined. At September 30, 2016, the Assessor's Office proportion was 1.151500% of Plan B, which was an increase of .017626% from its proportion measured as of September 30, 2015.

For the year ended December 31, 2016, the Agency recognized a pension benefit of \$103,405 including less employer's amortization of the change in proportionate share and differences between employer contributions and proportionate share of contributions, \$11,533.

At December 31, 2016, the Agency reported deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

	<u>Deferred Outflows of Resources</u>	<u>Deferred Inflows of Resources</u>
Differences between expected and actual experience	\$ 17,003	\$ -
Net difference between projected and actual earnings on pension plan investments	128,970	-
Change in proportionate share from prior year	37,039	-
Change in assumptions	9,977	-
Differences between actual employer contributions and expected contributions	-	493
Employer contributions subsequent to the measurement date	<u>12,702</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>\$ 205,691</u>	<u>\$ 493</u>

\$12,702 reported as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from Agency contributions subsequent to the measurement date will be recognized as a reduction of the Net Pension Liability in the year ended December 31, 2017. Other amounts reported as deferred outflows of resources and deferred inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized as an increase of pension expense as follows:

Year Ended:	
2017	\$ 65,108
2018	\$ 65,107
2019	\$ 65,203
2020	\$ (2,922)

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Actuarial assumptions:

The current year actuarial assumptions utilized for this report are based on the assumptions used in the September 30, 2015 actuarial funding valuation, which (with the exception of mortality) were based on results of an actuarial experience study for the period October 1, 2006 - September 30, 2010, unless otherwise specified in this report. In cases where benefit structures were changed after the study period, assumptions were based on estimates of future experience. All assumptions selected were determined to be reasonable and represent our expectations of future experience for the Fund. Additional information on the actuarial methods and assumptions used as of September 30 actuarial valuation follows:

Valuation date:	September 30, 2015
Actuarial cost method:	Entry Age Normal
Investment rate of return:	7.00%, net of pension plan investment expense, including inflation
Inflation rate:	2.50%
Salary increases:	5.75%
Annuitant and beneficiary mortality:	RP-2000 Healty Annuitant Table set forward one year and projected to 2030 for males and females
Active member mortality:	RP-2000 Healty Annuitant Table set back four years for males and three years for females
Retiree Cost of Living increases:	The present value of future retirement benefits is based on benefits currently being paid by the Fund and includes previously granted cost of living increases. The present values do not include provisions for future increases not yet authorized.

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which best-estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expenses and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation and an adjustment for the effect of rebalancing/diversification. Best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class included in the pension plan's target asset allocation as of September 30, 2016, are summarized in the following table.

<u>Asset Class</u>	<u>Long-Term Expected Portfolio Real Rate of Return</u>
Domestic equity	7.50%
International equity	8.50%
Domestic bonds	2.50%
International bonds	3.50%
Real estate	4.50%
Alternative assets	6.03%

Discount rate:

The discount rate used to measure the total pension liability was 7.00%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that contributions from plan members will be made at the current contribution rates and that contributions from participating employers and non-employee contributing entities will be made at the actuarially determined rates which are calculated in accordance with relevant statutes and approved by the Board of Trustees and the Public Retirement Systems' Actuarial Committee. Based on these assumptions and the other assumptions and methods, the System's fiduciary net position was

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current plan members. Therefore, the long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the total pension liability.

Sensitivity of the employer's proportionate share of the net pension liability to changes in the discount rate

The following presents the employer's proportionate share of the Net Pension Liability using the discount rate of 7.00%, as well as what the employer's proportionate share of the Net Pension Obligation would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is one percentage-point lower (6.00%) or one percentage-point higher (8.00%) than the current rate:

	1.0% Decrease (6.00%)	Current Discount Rate (7.00%)	1.0% Increase (8.00%)
Employer's proportionate share of the net pension liability	\$ 858,854	\$ 406,329	\$ 18,304

Pension plan fiduciary net position

The System issues a publicly available financial report that includes financial statements and required supplementary information. That report may be obtained by writing to Louisiana Assessors' Retirement Fund, www.louisianaassessors.org.

Note 8. Compensation Paid to Elected Officials

The salary paid to the elected official was as follows for the year ended December 31, 2016:

Gabe Marceaux, Assessor	<u>\$ 144,314</u>
-------------------------	-------------------

In addition to his salary, an amount equal to 5% of his base salary or \$7,252 was contributed to the deferred compensation plan described in Note 10 on the behalf of the Assessor, \$20,042 was contributed on his behalf to the pension plan described in Note 7, and insurance premiums for health and life insurance in the amount of \$9,430 were paid to the Assessor's Insurance Fund on his behalf.

Note 9. Expenses of the Assessor Not Included in the Financial Statements

Certain operating expenses of the Assessor's office are paid by the Vermilion Parish Police Jury (the "Jury"). They are:

1. Office space, equivalent to rent, is furnished by the Jury.
2. Utility bills are paid by the Jury.
3. The Assessor's office has the use of miscellaneous office furniture owned by the Jury.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Note 10. Deferred Compensation Plan

The Assessor offers its employees participation in the State of Louisiana Public Employees Deferred Compensation Plan adopted by the Louisiana Deferred Compensation Commission and established in accordance with the Internal Revenue Code Section 457. The plan is reported as an agency fund in the State of Louisiana's financial statements. The plan, available to all Assessors' employees, permits the employees to defer a portion of their salary until future years. The deferred compensation is not available to employees until termination, retirement, death, or proof of hardship.

All amounts of compensation deferred under the plan, all property and rights purchased with those amounts, and all income attributable to those amounts, property or rights are (until paid or made available to the employee or other beneficiary) solely the property and rights of the State of Louisiana (without being restricted to the provisions of benefits under the plan) subject only to the claims of the general creditors of the State of Louisiana. Participants' rights under the plan are equal to those of general creditors of the State of Louisiana in an amount equal to the fair market value of the deferred account for each participant.

It is the opinion of management, after consulting with legal counsel, that the Assessor has no liability for losses under the plan.

The Assessor makes matching contributions equal to the amount deferred by each employee, but not in excess of 5% of an employee's salary to the plan. For the year ended December 31, 2016, the Assessor contributed \$24,398 on behalf of its employees to the plan.

Note 11. Post Employment Benefits Other Than Pensions

Plan description:

The Assessor sponsors a Retiree Healthcare Plan (multi-employer defined benefit Other Post Employment Benefit [OPEB] plan) through which it extends medical, dental, and life benefits to qualifying employees upon actual retirement.

A covered employee becomes eligible for participation on his date of hire.

A covered employee may retire at or after age 55 with at least 12 years of credited service or at any age with at least 30 years of credited service.

Coverage is also provided to spouses of retirees who are receiving benefits at the time of retirement. If the retiree predeceases the spouse, coverage for the surviving spouse continues.

Contribution rates:

Employees do not contribute to their post-employment benefit costs until they become retirees and begin receiving those benefits. The plan provisions and contribution rates are contained in the official plan documents.

Fund policy:

Effective with the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2009, the Assessor implemented Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 45, *Accounting and Financial Reporting by Employers for Post*

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Employment Benefits Other Than Pensions (GASB 45). The requirements of GASB 45 are being implemented prospectively. Accordingly, for financial reporting purposes, no liability is reported for the post-employment benefits liability at the date of transition. The funding policy is not to fund the ARC except to the extent of the current year's retiree funding costs. In fiscal year 2016, the Assessor's portion of health care funding cost for retired employees totaled \$89,266. This amount was applied toward the net OPEB Benefit Obligation as shown in the table on the next page.

Annual required contribution:

The Assessor's Annual Required Contribution (ARC) is an amount actuarially determined in accordance with GASB 45. The ARC is the sum of the normal cost plus the amortization of the unfunded actuarial accrued liability. A level dollar, closed amortization period of 30 years (the maximum amortization period allowed by GASB 45) has been used for the post employment benefits. The total ARC for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2016 is \$248,578 as set forth below:

Normal cost at fiscal year end	\$ 99,084
Amortization of unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (UAAL)	<u>149,494</u>
Annual required contribution (ARC)	<u>\$ 248,578</u>

Net post-employment benefit obligation:

The table below shows the Assessor's net OPEB obligation for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2016:

Beginning net OPEB obligation at January 1, 2016	\$ <u>906,227</u>
Annual required contribution (ARC)	\$ 248,578
Interest on prior year net OPEB obligation	36,249
ARC adjustment	<u>(59,437)</u>
Annual OPEB cost	\$ 225,390
Contributions (current year retiree premiums)	<u>(89,266)</u>
Increase in net OPEB obligation	<u>\$ 136,124</u>
Ending net OPEB obligation at December 31, 2016	<u>\$ 1,042,351</u>

The Assessor's annual OPEB cost is \$225,390, \$229,110 and \$176,600 for the years ended December 31, 2016, 2015, and 2014, respectively. The percentage of annual cost contributed and the net unfunded OPEB obligation is 21.62% and \$136,124 for the year ended December 31, 2016, 25.282% and \$906,227 for the year ended December 31, 2015 and 34.72% and \$760,857 for the year ended December 31, 2014.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Funding status and funding progress:

The Assessor made no contributions to its post-employment benefits plan during the year ended December 31, 2016. The plan was not funded, has no assets, and hence has a funded ratio of zero. As of January 1, 2016, the most recent actuarial valuation, the Actuarial Accrued Liability (AAL) was \$ 2,279,333 (medical - \$2,012,555, life - \$172,675, and dental - \$94,103), which is defined as that portion, as determined by a particular actuarial cost method (the Assessor uses the Unit Credit Actuarial Cost Method), of the actuarial present value of post-employment plan benefits and expenses which is not provided by normal cost. The plan was not funded in fiscal years 2013, 2014, and 2015, therefore, the entire AAL of \$1,892,507, \$1,892,507 and 2,279,333, respectively, was unfunded. The covered payroll (annual payroll of active employees covered by the plan) was \$508,086 and the ratio of the unfunded AAL to the covered payroll was 429.82%.

Actuarial methods and assumptions:

Actuarial valuations involve estimates of the value of reported amounts and assumptions about the probability of events far into the future. The actuarial valuation for the post-employment benefits includes estimates and assumptions regarding (1) withdrawal rate; (2) retirement rate; (3) healthcare and dental cost trend rates; (4) mortality rate; (5) discount rate (investment return assumption); (6) disability rate; (7) coverage rate; and (8) the period to which the costs apply (past, current, or future years of service by employees). Actuarially determined amounts are subject to continual revision as actual results are compared to past expectations and new estimates are made about the future.

The actuarial calculations are based on the types of benefits provided under the terms of the substantive plan (the plan as understood by the Assessor and its employee plan members) at the time of the valuation and on the pattern of sharing costs between the Assessor and its plan members to that point. The projection of benefits for the financial reporting purposes does not explicitly incorporate the potential effects of legal or contractual funding limitations on the pattern of cost sharing between the Assessor and plan members in the future. Consistent with the long-term perspective of actuarial calculations, the actuarial methods and assumptions used include techniques that are designed to reduce short-term volatility in actuarial liabilities and the actuarial value of assets.

Actuarial cost method:

The ARC is determined using the Unit Credit Actuarial Cost Method. The employer portion of the cost for retiree benefits in each future year is determined by projecting the current cost levels using the healthcare cost trend rate and discounting this projected amount to the valuation date using the other described pertinent actuarial assumptions including the investment rate of return assumption (discount rate), mortality, retirement, disability, coverage, and withdrawal rates.

Actuarial value of plan assets:

Since the funding policy is not to fund the ARC except to the extent of the current year's retiree funding costs, there are not any assets.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Withdrawal rate:

The following annual rates of withdrawal were used:

<u>Years of Service</u>	<u>Rate</u>
1 or less	12.0%
2 - 6	5.0%
7 - 8	4.0%
9 - 12	3.0%
13 - 14	2.0%
15 or more	1.0%

Investment return assumption (discount rate):

GASB Statement 45 states that the investment return assumption should be the estimated long-term investment yield on the investments that are expected to be used to finance the payment of benefits (that is, for a plan that is funded). Based on the assumption that the ARC will not be funded, a 4% annual investment return has been used in this valuation, which represents a reasonable estimate of short-term pooled funds.

Health care and dental cost trend rates:

The expected rates in benefit costs for medical and pharmacy were assumed to begin at 5.70% for pre-age 65 to 4.10% for post-age 65 for 2016, trending down from 6.10% and 6.80%, respectively, in 2015. The expected rates in dental benefit cost remained at 4.74% in both 2016 and 2015.

Retirement rate:

The expected rate of retirement was assumed as follows:

<u>Age</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
18-34	0.006%
35	0.007%
36-37	0.008%
38	0.010%
39	0.011%

Mortality rate:

The mortality tables applicable for the year of the measurement date are based on the Sex Distinct RP2000 Combined Healthy Mortality Table projected to 2017 using Scale AA.

Disability rate:

The disability rate for males and females used in the calculations range from 0.006% to 0.195% for ages 18 to 60 and older.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Coverage rate:

One hundred percent of employees electing coverage, while inactive employees and those who are eligible for retiree medical benefits, are assumed to elect continued medical coverage in retirement. Twenty percent of members electing coverage are assumed to also elect coverage for a spouse.

Method of determining value of benefits:

The "value of benefits" has been assumed to be the portion of the premium after retirement date expected to be paid by the employer for each retiree and has been used as the basis for calculating the actuarial present value of OPEB benefits to be paid.

Note 12. Risk Management

The Assessor is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to, and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; injuries to employees; and natural disasters. The Assessor purchases commercial insurance to cover any claims related to these risks.

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

VERMILION PARISH ASSESSOR
BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE
GENERAL FUND
For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget Positive (Negative)
Revenues:				
Ad valorem taxes	\$ 984,185	\$ 947,211	\$ 948,855	\$ 1,644
Intergovernmental -				
State revenue sharing	50,000	57,615	57,615	-
Vermilion Parish Police Jury	15,000	15,000	15,000	-
Charges for services	2,999	2,224	3,225	1,001
Investment earnings	5,000	4,254	4,284	30
Miscellaneous	-	5,916	5,916	-
Total revenues	\$ 1,057,184	\$ 1,032,220	\$ 1,034,895	\$ 2,675
Expenditures:				
Current -				
General government:				
Salaries and related expenditures	\$ 822,293	\$ 833,284	\$ 814,076	\$ 19,208
Professional services	10,000	10,699	10,700	(1)
Automobile insurance	3,600	534	2,231	(1,697)
Telephone	7,300	6,890	6,897	(7)
Advertising	3,500	3,300	3,096	204
Computer	71,360	70,981	73,609	(2,628)
Office expenses	3,000	6,456	6,268	188
Travel and meals	3,000	1,168	7,158	(5,990)
Vehicle expenses	15,000	7,791	1,693	6,098
Materials and supplies	10,000	5,000	5,381	(381)
Lease expense	7,200	180	180	-
Schools and seminars	11,000	4,502	4,366	136
Repairs and maintenance	2,800	2,064	2,084	(20)
Dues and subscriptions	8,200	6,757	8,217	(1,460)
Interest expense	500	499	490	9
Other	4,530	1,614	3,248	(1,634)
Capital outlay	-	-	27,516	(27,516)
Total expenditures	\$ 983,283	\$ 961,719	\$ 977,210	\$ (15,491)
Net change in fund balance	\$ 73,901	\$ 70,501	\$ 57,685	\$ (12,816)
Fund balance, beginning	541,874	541,874	541,874	-
Fund balance, ending	\$ 615,775	\$ 612,375	\$ 599,559	\$ (12,816)

See Note to Budgetary Comparison Schedule.

VERMILION PARISH ASSESSOR

NOTE TO BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE

Note 1. Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

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

1. The Assessor prepares a proposed budget for the fiscal year commencing the following January 1. The budget includes proposed expenditures and the means of financing them.
2. The proposed budget is published in the official journal prior to a public hearing.
3. A public hearing is held at the Assessor's office to obtain taxpayer comments.
4. The budget is then legally adopted by the Assessor.
5. The budget is adopted on a basis consisted with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

All budgeted appropriations lapse at year-end. The budgets presented are the originally adopted budget and the final budget.

VERMILION PARISH ASSESSOR

SCHEDULES OF THE PROPORTIONATE SHARE
OF THE NET PENSION LIABILITY
For the Three Years Ended December 30, 2016

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Assessor Office's proportion of the net pension liability	1.151500%	1.133874%	0.992476%
Assessor Office's proportion share of the net pension liability	\$ 406,329	\$ 593,382	\$ 349,966
Assessor Office's covered employee payroll	\$ 508,086	\$ 481,069	\$ 462,570
Assessor Office's proportionate share of the net pension liability as a percentage of its covered-employee payroll	79.97%	123.35%	75.66%
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage on the total pension liability	90.68%	85.57%	89.98%

VERMILION PARISH ASSESSOR

SCHEDULES OF PENSION CONTRIBUTIONS
For the Three Years Ended December 31, 2016

	<u>2016</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
Contractually required contribution	\$ 64,146	\$ 64,944	\$ 62,447
Contributions in relation to the contractually required contribution	<u>64,146</u>	<u>64,944</u>	<u>62,447</u>
Contribution deficiency (excess)	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
Assessor Office's covered-employee payroll	\$ 508,086	\$ 481,069	\$ 462,570
Contributions as a percentage of covered- employee payroll	12.625% *	13.50%	13.50%

* Employer contributions were 13.50% through September 2016, then decreased to 10% for the remainder of the year.

This page intentionally left blank.

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

The Vermilion Parish Assessor
Abbeville, 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 basic financial statements of the Vermilion Parish Assessor as of and for the year ended December 31, 2016, and the related notes to financial statements and have issued our report thereon dated June 26, 2017.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

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

A *deficiency in internal control* exists when the design or operation of a control does not allow management or employees, in the normal course of performing their assigned functions, to prevent, or detect and correct misstatements on a timely basis. A *material weakness* is a deficiency, or combination of deficiencies in internal control such that there is a reasonable possibility that a material misstatement of the Assessor'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. We consider the deficiency described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses at #2016-1 to be a material weakness.

Our consideration of internal control was for the limited purpose described in the preceding paragraph 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. However, as described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses, we identified a deficiency in internal control that we consider to be a material weakness.

Compliance and Other Matters

As part of obtaining reasonable assurance about whether the Assessor's financial statements are free of material misstatement, we performed tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements, noncompliance with which could have a direct and material effect on the 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 did not disclose any instances of noncompliance or other matters that are required to be reported under *Government Auditing Standards*.

The Vermilion Parish Assessor's Responses to the Findings

The Assessor's response to the finding identified in our audit is described in the accompanying schedule of findings and responses. The Assessor's response was not subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the financial statements and, accordingly, we express no opinion on it.

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 Assessor's internal control or on compliance. This report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Governmental Auditing Standards* in considering the Assessor's internal control and compliance. This report is intended for the information and use of the Vermilion Parish Assessor, management, others within the entity, federal awarding agencies and pass-through entities, and the Legislative Auditor and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. Accordingly, this communication is not suitable for any other purpose, however, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

Broussard Parhe, LLP

Lafayette, Louisiana
June 26, 2017

VERMILION PARISH ASSESSOR
SCHEDULE OF FINDINGS AND RESPONSES
Year Ended December 31, 2016

We have audited the basic financial statements of the Vermilion Parish Assessor as of and for the year ended December 31, 2016, and have issued our report thereon dated June 26, 2017. 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 audit of the financial statements as of December 31, 2016 resulted in an unmodified opinion.

Section I. Summary of Auditors' Results

A. Report on Internal Control and Compliance Material to the Financial Statements

Internal Control

Material weaknesses	<u>X</u> Yes	<u> </u> No
Control deficiencies identified that are not considered to be material weaknesses	<u> </u> Yes	<u>X</u> None reported

Compliance

Compliance material to financial statements	<u> </u> Yes	<u>X</u> No
---	---------------	-------------

Section II. Financial Statement Findings

#2016-1 Segregation of Duties

Condition: The Assessor does not have an adequate segregation of duties. A system of internal control procedures contemplates a segregation of duties so that no one individual handles a transaction from its inception to its completion. While we recognize that the Assessor may not be large enough to permit adequate segregation of duties for an effective system of internal control procedures, it is important that you be aware of this condition.

Criteria: An effective system of internal control requires proper segregation of employee responsibilities within the accounting function.

Cause: The Assessor's Office has a limited number of employees within the accounting function

Effect: There are inherent weaknesses in internal control when effective segregation of duties does not exist.

Recommendation: Keeping in mind the limited number of personnel to which duties can be assigned, the Assessor should monitor assignment of duties to assure as much segregation of duties and responsibility as possible.

Response: Management has provided as much segregation as possible with the resources available.

VERMILION PARISH ASSESSOR

SCHEDULE OF PRIOR FINDINGS

Year Ended December 31, 2016

Section I. Internal Control and Compliance Material to the Financial Statements

#2015-1 Segregation of Duties

Recommendation: Keeping in mind the limited number of personnel to which duties can be assigned, the Assessor should monitor assignment of duties to assure as much segregation of duties and responsibility as possible.

Current Status: This finding is in the current year's schedule of findings and responses at #2016-1. The Assessor has provided as much segregation of duties as possible with the resources available.

Section II. Internal Control and Compliance Material to Federal Awards

Not applicable.

Section III. Management Letter

The prior year's report did not include a management letter.

VERMILION PARISH ASSESSOR

SCHEDULE OF COMPENSATION, BENEFITS AND OTHER
PAYMENTS TO AGENCY HEAD
For the Year Ended December 31, 2016

Agency Head: Gabe Marceaux

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Salary	\$ 144,314
Benefits – insurance	9,430
Benefits – retirement	20,042
Benefits – other	7,216
Car allowance	-
Vehicle provided by government	-
Per diem	670
Reimbursements	14,431
Travel	2,048
Registration fees	445
Conference travel	1,422
Continuing professional education fees	455
Housing	-
Unvouchered expenses	-
Special meals	-
	<u>\$ 200,473</u>