ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

of the

Montgomery County Emergency Services District No. 8

For the Year Ended September 30, 2023



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For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Commissioners of the Montgomery County Emergency Services District No. 8:

Report on the Financial Statements

Opinions

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities and the general fund of Montgomery County ESD No. 8 (the "District") as of and for the year ended September 30, 2023, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities and the general fund of Montgomery County ESD No. 8, as of September 30, 2023, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAS). Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are required to be independent of Montgomery County ESD No. 8 and to meet our other ethical responsibilities, in accordance with the relevant ethical requirements relating to our audit. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

Responsibilities of Management for the Financial Statements

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

In preparing the financial statements, management is required to evaluate whether there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for one year after the date that the financial statements are issued.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

In performing an audit in accordance with GAAS, we:

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit
 procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of
 expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly,
 no such opinion is expressed.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluate the overall presentation of the financial statements.
- Conclude whether, in our judgment, there are conditions or events, considered in the aggregate, that raise substantial doubt about the District's ability to continue as a going concern for a reasonable period of time.

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

Other Matters

Required Supplementary Information

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

BrooksWatson & Co., PLLC

Brook Watson & Co.

Certified Public Accountants

Houston, Texas April 30, 2024

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

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MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

The purpose of the Management's Discussion and Analysis (the "MD&A") is to give the readers an objective and easily readable analysis of the financial activities of the Montgomery County Emergency Services District No. 8 (the "District") for the year ended September 30, 2023. The analysis is based on currently known facts, decisions, or economic conditions. It presents short and long-term analysis of the District's activities, compares current year results with those of the prior year, and discusses the positive and negative aspects of that comparison. Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 34 establishes the content of the minimum requirements for MD&A. Please read the MD&A in conjunction with the District's financial statements, which follow this section.

THE STRUCTURE OF OUR ANNUAL REPORT

The annual financial report is presented as compliant with the financial reporting model in effect pursuant to GASB Statement No. 34. The financial reporting model requires governments to present certain basic financial statements as well as a Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) and certain other Required Supplementary Information (RSI). The basic financial statements include (1) government-wide financial statements, (2) individual fund financial statements, and (3) notes to the financial statements.

Financial Highlights

- The assets and deferred outflows of the District exceeded its liabilities and deferred inflows (net position) at September 30, 2023 by \$43,296,914. Of this amount, \$17,218,300 (unrestricted net position) may be used to meet the government's ongoing obligations to citizens and creditors.
- The net pension liability as of September 30, 2023 was \$3,269,006, which represented a \$3,300,836 increase compared to prior year.
- The District's total net position increased by \$6,007,594.

Government-Wide Statements

The government-wide statements report information for the District as a whole. These statements include transactions and balances relating to all assets, including capital assets. These statements are designed to provide information about cost of services, operating results, and financial position of the District as an economic entity. The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities report information on the District's activities that enable the reader to understand the financial condition of the District. These statements are prepared using the accrual basis of accounting, which is similar to the accounting used by most private-sector

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

companies. All of the current year's revenues and expenses are taken into account even if cash has not yet changed hands.

The Statement of Net Position presents information on all of the District's assets and liabilities. The difference between the two is reported as *net position*. Over time, increases or decreases in net position may serve as a useful indicator of whether the financial position of the District is improving or deteriorating. Other non-financial factors, such as the District's operating performance need to be considered to assess the overall health of the District.

The Statement of Activities presents information showing how the District's net position changed during the most recent year. All changes in the net position are reported as soon as the underlying event giving rise to the change occurs, regardless of the timing of related cash flows – the accrual method rather than modified accrual that is used in the fund level statements.

The Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities present the District using one class of activity:

1. Governmental Activities – The District's emergency service operations are reported here.

The government-wide financial statements can be found after the MD&A within this report.

FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Funds may be considered as operating companies of the parent corporation, which is the District. They are usually segregated for specific activities or objectives. The District uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal reporting requirements. The District's operations are reported using governmental funds.

Governmental Funds

Governmental funds are used to account for essentially the same functions reported as governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements. However, unlike the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements focus on *near-term inflows and outflows of spendable resources*, as well as on *balances of spendable resources* available at the end of the year. Such information may be useful in evaluating the District's near-term financing requirements.

Because the focus of governmental funds is narrower than that of the government-wide financial statements, it is useful to compare the information presented for *governmental funds* with similar information presented for *governmental activities* in the government-wide financial

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

statements. By doing so, readers may better understand the long-term impact of the government's near-term financing decisions. Both the governmental fund balance sheet and the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances provide a reconciliation to facilitate this comparison between *governmental funds* and *governmental activities*.

The District maintains one governmental fund. Information is presented separately in the governmental fund balance sheet and in the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balance for the general fund, which is considered to be a major fund.

The general fund is used to report the District's activities. The District adopts an annual appropriated budget for its general fund. A budgetary comparison schedule has been provided to demonstrate compliance with this budget.

Notes to Financial Statements

The notes to the financial statements provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements. The notes can be found after the financial statements within this report.

Other Information

In addition to basic financial statements, this MD&A, and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain Required Supplementary Information ("RSI"). The RSI that GASB Statement No. 34 requires includes a budgetary comparison schedule for the general fund. The RSI also contains schedules on the District's net pension liability required by GASB 68. The RSI can be found after the notes to the financial statements within this report.

GOVERNMENT-WIDE FINANCIAL ANALYSIS

As noted earlier, net position may serve over time as a useful indicator of the District's financial position. For the District, assets and deferred outflows exceeded liabilities and deferred inflows by \$43,296,914 as of yearend. Unrestricted net position, \$17,218,300, may be used to meet the District's ongoing emergency service operations.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

Statement of Net Position:

The following table reflects the condensed Statement of Net Position:

	Governmental Activities		
	2023	2022	
Current and other assets	\$ 20,371,639	\$ 14,801,417	
Capital assets, net	37,612,993	37,910,805	
Net pension asset	-	31,830	
Total Assets	57,984,632	52,744,052	
Deferred outflows of resources - pension	3,765,414	2,451,107	
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	3,765,414	2,451,107	
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	1,184,118	350,297	
Unearned revenue	957,105	1,021,639	
Net pension liability	3,269,006	-	
Long-term liabilities (current & LT portion)	12,876,413	14,972,664	
Total Liabilities	18,286,642	16,344,600	
Deferred inflows of resources	166,490	1,561,239	
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources	166,490	1,561,239	
Net Position:			
Net investment in capital assets			
net of related debt	26,078,614	24,168,349	
Restricted - pension	-	31,830	
Unrestricted	17,218,300	13,089,141	
Total Net Position	\$ 43,296,914	\$ 37,289,320	

Current and other assets increased due to greater cash on hand, which is a result of operating surpluses during the year. Capital assets decreased due to depreciation expense exceeding capital investments in the current year. Accounts payable and accrued expenses increased due to timing of significant amounts owed at yearend in current year. Long-term liabilities decreased due to principal payments during the year. The net pension liability increased during the year primary to losses on pension assets during the year.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

Statement of Activities:

The following table provides a summary of the District's changes in net position:

	Governmental Activities			
	2023 20		022	
Revenues				
Program revenues:				
Operating grant income	\$	64,534	\$	64,534
General revenues:				
Property taxes		9,204,480	8,	674,511
Sales taxes		17,726,513	16,	626,836
Other		152,399		252,006
Investment income		732,649		91,194
Total Revenues		27,880,575	25,	709,081
-				_
Expenses				
Public safety		21,573,950	16,	823,389
Interest and fiscal charges		299,031	;	358,208
Total Expenses		21,872,981	17,	181,597
Change in Net Position		6,007,594	8,	527,484
Beginning Net Position		37,289,321	28,	761,837
Ending Net Position	\$	43,296,915	\$ 37,	289,321

The District reported an increase in net position of \$6,007,594. This is primarily due to increases in sales tax of \$1,099,677, and property tax of \$529,969, and expenses being significantly less than revenues. Revenue increased due to increased development and economic growth within the District.

The increase in public safety expenses was primarily due to greater personnel expenses due to increases to number of employees, raises, and an increase in pension expense.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE DISTRICT'S FUNDS

As noted earlier, fund accounting is used to demonstrate and ensure compliance with finance-related legal requirements.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

Governmental Funds – The focus of the District's governmental funds is to provide information on near-term inflows, outflows, and balances of spendable resources. Such information is useful in assessing the District's financing requirements. In particular, the unassigned fund balance may serve as a useful measure of the District's net resources available for spending at the end of the year.

The District's general fund reflects a fund balance of \$18,026,841. There was an increase in the fund balance of \$4,798,608 over the prior year. This increase is mostly attributed to greater than expected revenues.

CAPITAL ASSETS

As of the end of the year, the District's governmental activities funds had invested \$37,612,993 in a variety of capital assets and infrastructure, net of accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is included with the governmental capital assets as required by GASB Statement No. 34.

Major capital asset events during the current year include the following:

- Purchase of emergency vehicles totaling \$520,485.
- Acquisition of mobile radios of \$292,140.

More detailed information about the District's capital assets is presented in note IV. C to the financial statements.

LONG-TERM DEBT

At the end of the current year, the District had total notes payable outstanding of \$11,404,060. During the year, the District made principal payments on notes payable of \$2,328,396. More detailed information about the District's long-term liabilities is presented in note IV. D. to the financial statements.

GENERAL FUND BUDGETARY HIGHLIGHTS

Actual general fund revenues were more than final budgeted revenues by \$5,007,615 during the year. The positive revenue variance was primarily due to sales tax exceeding budget due to growth within the District. Actual general fund expenditures were over the final budget by \$1,142,556. Total expenditures were over budget primarily due to public safety and capital outlay being over budget. These variances were the reasons for a net positive overall variance of \$3,865,059.

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

ECONOMIC FACTORS AND NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET

The District is located in Montgomery County, Texas. The District expects growth in the coming year.

CONTACTING THE DISTRICT'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide a general overview of the District's finances. Questions concerning this report or requests for additional financial information should be directed to the Fire Chief at 27900 Robinson Road, Conroe, TX 77385; 281-363-3473.

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FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION (Page 1 of 2) September 30, 2023

		Governmental	
		Activities	
<u>Assets</u>			
Current Assets			
Cash		\$	15,211,818
Investments			1,920,000
Tax receivables			2,925,808
Leases receivable, current			27,213
Other receivables			27,487
Accrued interest receivable			11,894
Prepaids and other assets			86,485
	Total Current Assets		20,210,705
Non-Current Assets			
Capital assets:			
Capital assets - non-depreciable			3,376,001
Capital assets - net depreciable			34,236,992
Leases receivable, noncurrent			160,934
	Total Non-Current Assets		37,773,927
	Total Assets		57,984,632
Deferred Outflows of Resources			
Pension contributions			1,237,202
Pension experience			1,142,029
Pension assumption changes			811,550
Pension (gains) losses			574,633
	Total Deferred Outflows of Resources		3,765,414

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION (Page 2 of 2) September 30, 2023

	Governmental Activities	
<u>Liabilities</u>		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable & accrued expenses	\$	1,065,251
Accrued interest		118,867
Unearned revenue, current		63,857
Compensated absences, current		1,325,118
Long-term debt due within a year		2,148,911
Total Current Liabilities		4,722,004
Long-term liabilities		
Net pension liability		3,269,006
Long-term debt due in more than one year		9,255,149
Compensated absences, noncurrent		147,235
Unearned revenue, net of current portion		893,248
Total Liabilities		18,286,642
Deferred Inflows of Resources		
Leases		166,490
Total Deferred Inflows of Resources		166,490
Net Position		<u> </u>
Net investment in capital assets		26,078,614
Unrestricted		17,218,300
Total Net Position	\$	43,296,914

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STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

		Governmental Activities	
Program Revenue			
Capital grant revenue		\$	64,534
General Revenue			
Property taxes			9,204,480
Sales taxes			17,726,513
Other revenues			152,399
Investment income			732,649
	Total Revenues		27,880,575
Expenses			
Public safety			21,573,950
Interest and fiscal charges			299,031
Ç	Total Expenses		21,872,981
	Change in Net Position		6,007,594
	Beginning Net Position		37,289,320
	Ending Net Position	\$	43,296,914

BALANCE SHEET September 30, 2023

			General Fund
<u>Assets</u>			
Cash		\$	15,211,818
Investments			1,920,000
Receivables:			
Property taxes			155,952
Sales taxes			2,769,856
Other receivables			27,487
Accrued interest			11,894
Leases receivable			188,147
Prepaid expenses			86,485
	Total Assets	\$	20,371,639
Liabilities			_
Accounts payable		\$	865,013
Accrued expenses			200,238
Unearned revenue			957,105
	Total Liabilities		2,022,356
Deferred Inflows of Resources			
Unavailable revenue - property taxes			155,952
Leases			166,490
	Total Deferred Inflows of Resources		322,442
Fund balance			
Nonspendable			86,485
Unassigned			17,940,356
Onassigned	Total Fund Balance	\$	
	Total Fully Dalalice	Ф	18,026,841

RECONCILIATION OF THE BALANCE SHEET TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION September 30, 2023

Total fund balance	\$	18,026,841
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the Statement of Net Position:		
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and, therefore, are not reported in the funds.		
Capital assets, non-depreciable		3,376,001
Capital assets, net depreciable		34,236,992
Other long-term assets are not available to pay for current-period expenditures		
and, therefore, are deferred in the governmental funds.		
Property taxes receivable		155,952
Deferred outflows (inflows) of resources, represent a consumption of net position that	ıt	
applies to a future period(s) and is not recognized as an outflow of resources		
(expenditure) until then.		
Pension contributions		1,237,202
Pension experience		1,142,029
Pension (gains) losses		574,633
Pension assumption changes		811,550
Long-term liabilities are not due in payable in the current period (i.e. note payable capital leases, and compensated balances) and, therefore, are not reported as	es,	
liabilities in the government funds Accrued interest		(118,867)
Compensated absences		(1,472,353)
Net pension liability		(3,269,006)
Non-current liabilities due in one year		(2,148,911)
Non-current liabilities due in more than one year		(9,255,149)
Net Position of Governmental Activities	\$	43,296,914
rect rosition of Governmental Activities	Ψ	10,270,714

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

		General Fund
Program Revenue		_
Capital grant revenue		\$ 64,534
General Revenue		
Property taxes		9,185,982
Sales taxes		17,726,513
Licenses and permits		48,375
Other revenues		104,024
Investment income		 732,649
	Total Revenues	27,862,077
Expenditures Public safety		18,918,373
Capital outlay		1,494,836
Debt service:		1,424,000
Principal		2,328,396
Interest		321,864
	Total Expenditures	23,063,469
	Net Change in Fund Balance	4,798,608
	Beginning Fund Balance	 13,228,233
	Ending Fund Balance	\$ 18,026,841

RECONCILIATION OF THE STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE TO THE STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:

Net change in fund balance	\$	4,798,608
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities, the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense.		
Capital outlay		1,240,316
Depreciation		(1,538,128)
Revenue in the statement of activities that does not provide current financial		
resources are not reported as revenue in the funds.		18,498
Some expenses reported in the statement of activities do not require the use o current financial resources and, therefore, are not reported as expenditures in governmental funds.		
Accrued interest		22,833
Compensated absences		(232,145)
Pension (expense)/income		(630,784)
The issuance of long-term debt provide current financial resources to		
governmental funds, while the repayment of the principal of long-term		
debt consumes the current financial resources of governmental funds.		
Neither transaction, however, has any effect on net position. This		
amount is the net effect of these differences in the treatment of		
long-term debt and related items.		
Principal payments		2,328,396
Net Change in Net Position	on \$	6,007,594

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NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS September 30, 2023

I. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

A. Description of Government-Wide Financial Statements and Reporting Entity

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the statement of net position and the statement of activities) report information on all of the non-fiduciary activities of the primary government.

Montgomery County Emergency Services District No. 8 (the "District") operates under Chapter 775, "Emergency Services Districts" of V.T.C.A, Health and Safety Code. The District was converted from a Rural Fire Prevention District in 1997. The District is a duly organized emergency services district, created to protect life and property from fire and to conserve natural and human resources.

As required by generally accepted accounting principles, these basic financial statements have been prepared based on considerations regarding the potential for inclusion of other entities, organizations, or functions as part of the District's financial reporting entity. The District has adopted Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement No. 61, *The Financial Reporting Entity*. No other entities have been included in the District's reporting entity. Additionally, as the District is considered a primary government for financial reporting purposes, its activities are not considered a part of any other governmental or other type of reporting entity.

Considerations regarding the potential for inclusion of other entities, organizations or functions in the District's financial reporting entity are based on criteria prescribed by generally accepted accounting principles. These same criteria are evaluated in considering whether the District is a part of any other governmental or other type of reporting entity. The overriding elements associated with prescribed criteria considered in determining that the District's financial reporting entity status is that of a primary government are that it has a separately elected governing body; it is legally separate; and is fiscally independent of other state and local governments. Additionally prescribed criteria under generally accepted accounting principles include considerations pertaining to organizations for which the primary government is financially accountable, and considerations pertaining to organizations for which the nature and significance of their relationship with the primary government are such that exclusion would cause the reporting entity's financial statements to be misleading or incomplete.

B. Basis of Presentation Government-Wide and Fund Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements (i.e., the Statement of Net Position and the Statement of Activities) report information about the District as a whole. These statements include all activities of the primary government. Governmental activities are normally supported by property and sales taxes and intergovernmental revenues.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued September 30, 2023

The Statement of Activities presents a comparison between general government expenses and general revenues of the District's governmental activities. Expenses, such as those used to fund the principal operations of District, are presented as general government expenses. Revenues, such as taxes and investment earnings, are presented as general revenues.

The fund financial statements provide information about the government's funds. Separate statements for each fund category are presented.

The government reports the following governmental funds:

Governmental Funds

Governmental funds are those funds through which most governmental functions are typically financed.

General Fund

The general fund is used to account for the operations of the District's emergency service operations and all other financial transactions not properly includable in other funds. The principal sources of revenue are related to property taxes and sales taxes. Expenditures include all costs associated with the daily operations and contractual obligations of the District.

C. Measurement Focus and Basis of Accounting

The accounting and financial reporting treatment is determined by the applicable measurement focus and basis of accounting. Measurement focus indicates the type of resources being measured such as *current financial resources* or *economic resources*. The basis of accounting indicates the timing of transactions or events for recognition in the 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 when a liability is incurred, regardless of the timing of related cash flows. Property taxes are recognized as revenues in the year for which they are levied. Grants and similar items are recognized as revenue as soon as all eligibility requirements imposed by the provider have been met.

The governmental fund financial statements are reported using the *current financial resources measurement focus* and the *modified accrual basis of accounting*. Revenues are recognized as soon as they are both measurable and available. Revenues are considered to be available when they are collectible within the current period or soon enough thereafter to pay liabilities of the current period. For this purpose, the government considers revenues to be available if

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued September 30, 2023

they are collected within 60 days of the end of the current fiscal period. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, debt service expenditures, as well as expenditures related to compensated absences, and claims and judgments, are recorded only when payment is due. General capital asset acquisitions are reported as expenditures in governmental funds. Issuance of long-term debt and acquisitions under capital leases are reported as other financing sources.

Property taxes, sales taxes, licenses, and interest associated with the current fiscal period are all considered to be susceptible to accrual and so have been recognized as revenues of the current fiscal period. Entitlements are recorded as revenues when all eligibility requirements are met, including any time requirements, and the amount is received during the period or within the availability period for this revenue source (within 60 days of year end). Expenditure-driven grants are recognized as revenue when the qualifying expenditures have been incurred and all other eligibility requirements have been met, and the amount is received during the period or within the availability period for this revenue source (within 60 days of year end). All other revenue items are considered to be measurable and available only when cash is received by the government.

D. Assets, Liabilities, Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources and Net Position/Fund Balance

1. Cash and Investments

The District's cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, demand deposits and short term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

In accordance with GASB Statement No. 31, Accounting and Reporting for Certain Investments and External Investment Pools, the District reports all investments at fair value, except for "money market investments" and "2a7-like pools." Money market investments, which are short-term highly liquid debt instruments that may include U.S. Treasury and agency obligations, are reported at amortized costs. Investment positions in external investment pools that are operated in a manner consistent with the SEC's Rule 2a7 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 are reported using the pools' share price.

The District has adopted a written investment policy regarding the investment of its funds as defined in the Public Funds Investment Act, Chapter 2256, of the Texas Governmental Code. In summary, the District is authorized to invest in the following:

Direct obligations of the U.S. Government Fully collateralized certificates of deposit and money market accounts Statewide investment pools

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued September 30, 2023

2. Property Taxes

Property taxes are levied by October 1 on the assessed value listed as of the prior January 1 for all real and business personal property in conformity with Subtitle E, Texas Property Tax Code. Taxes are due on receipt of the tax bill and are delinquent if not paid before February 1 of the year following the year in which imposed. Penalties are calculated after February 1 up to the date collected by the government at the rate of 6% for the first month and increased 1% per month up to a total of 12%. Interest is calculated after February 1 at the rate of 1% per month up to the date collected by the government. Under state law, property taxes levied on real property constitute a lien on the real property which cannot be forgiven without specific approval of the State Legislature. The lien expires at the end of twenty years. Taxes levied on personal property can be deemed uncollectible by the District.

3. Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property, plant, equipment, and vehicle assets (e.g., fire trucks, building, fire apparatus, and similar items) are reported in the applicable governmental activities columns in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are defined by the government, as assets with an initial individual cost of more than \$5,000 and an estimated useful life in excess of two years. Such assets are recorded at historical cost or estimated historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated capital assets are recorded at estimated fair market value at the date of donation. Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed.

Interest costs incurred in connection with construction of enterprise fund capital assets are capitalized when the effects of capitalization materially impact the financial statements.

The costs of normal maintenance and repairs that do not add to the value of the asset or materially extend assets' lives are not capitalized.

Property, plant, and equipment of the primary government are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful years.

	Estimated
Asset Description	Useful Life
Vehicles and equipment	5 to 15 years
Furniture	5 years
Buildings and improvements	5 to 45 years

4. Deferred Outflows/Inflows of Resources

In addition to assets, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred outflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *deferred*

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued September 30, 2023

outflows of resources, represents a consumption of net position that applies to a future period(s) and so will not be recognized as an outflow of resources (expense/ expenditure) until then. An example is a deferred charge on refunding reported in the government-wide statement of net position. A deferred charge on refunding results from the difference in the carrying value of refunded debt and its reacquisition price. This amount is deferred and amortized over the shorter of the life of the refunded or refunding debt.

In addition to liabilities, the statement of financial position will sometimes report a separate section for deferred inflows of resources. This separate financial statement element, *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 government has only one type of item, which arises only under a modified accrual basis of accounting that qualifies for reporting in this category. The governmental funds report unavailable revenues from one source: property taxes. This amount is deferred and recognized as an inflow of resources in the period that the amounts become available.

5. Net Position Flow Assumption

Sometimes the government will fund outlays for a particular purpose from both restricted (e.g., restricted bond or grant proceeds) 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 assumption 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.

6. Fund Balance Flow Assumptions

Sometimes 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 assumption 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.

7. Fund Balance

Fund balance of governmental funds is reported in various categories based on the nature of any limitations requiring the use of resources for specific purposes. The government itself can establish limitations on the use of resources through either a commitment (committed fund balance) or an assignment (assigned fund balance).

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued September 30, 2023

The committed fund balance classification includes amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes determined by a formal action of the government's highest level of decision-making authority. The governing board is the highest level of decision-making authority for the government that can, by adoption of an ordinance prior to the end of the fiscal year, commit fund balance. Once adopted, the limitation imposed by the ordinance remains in place until a similar action is taken (the adoption of another ordinance) to remove or revise the limitation.

Amounts in the assigned fund balance classification are intended to be used by the government for specific purposes but do not meet the criteria to be classified as committed. The governing body (board of commissioners) has by resolution authorized the treasurer to assign fund balance. The board may also assign fund balance as it does when appropriating fund balance to cover a gap between estimated revenue and appropriations in the subsequent year's appropriated budget. Unlike commitments, assignments generally only exist temporarily. In other words, an additional action does not normally have to be taken for the removal of an assignment. Conversely, as discussed above, an additional action is essential to either remove or revise a commitment.

8. Compensated Absences

The liability for compensated absences reported in the government-wide fund statements consist of unpaid, accumulated sick time balances. The liability has been calculated using the vesting method, in which leave amounts for both employees who currently are eligible to receive termination payments and other employees who are expected to become eligible in the future to receive such payments upon termination are included. Vested or accumulated sick leave of government-wide and proprietary funds are recognized as an expense and liability of those funds as the benefits accrue to employees.

It is the District's policy to liquidate compensated absences with currently available expendable resources. Accordingly, the District's governmental funds recognize accrued compensated absences when it is paid.

9. Long-Term Obligations

Long-term debt for governmental funds is not reported as liabilities in the fund financial statements until due. The debt proceeds are reported as other financing sources, net of the applicable premium or discount and payments of principal and interest reported as expenditures. In the governmental fund types, issuance costs, even if withheld from the actual net proceeds received, are reported as debt service expenditures. However, claims and judgments paid from governmental funds are reported as a liability in the fund financial statements only for the portion expected to be financed from expendable available financial resources.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued September 30, 2023

Assets acquired under the terms of capital leases are recorded as liabilities and capitalized in the government-wide financial statements at the present value of net minimum lease payments at inception of the lease. In the year of acquisition, capital lease transactions are recorded as other financing sources and as capital outlay expenditures in the general fund. Lease payments representing both principal and interest are recorded as expenditures in the general fund upon payment with an appropriate reduction of principal recorded in the government-wide financial statements.

10. Estimates

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

11. 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 Texas County & District Retirement System (TCDRS) and additions to/deductions from TCDRS's Fiduciary Net Position have been determined on the same basis as they are reported by TCDRS. For this purpose, plan contributions are recognized in the period that compensation is reported for the employee, which is when contributions are legally due. Benefit payments and refunds are recognized when due and payable in accordance with the benefit terms. Investments are reported at fair value.

12. Fair Value

The District has applied Governmental Accounting Standards Board ("GASB") Statement No. 72, Fair Value Measurement and Application. GASB Statement No. 72 provides guidance for determining a fair value measurement for reporting purposes and applying fair value to certain investments and disclosures related to all fair value measurements.

13. Leases

Lessor: The District is a lessor for a noncancellable lease of a cell tower and also a lease for a part of a building. The District recognizes a lease receivable and a deferred inflow of resources in the government-wide and governmental fund financial statements.

At the commencement of a lease, the District initially measures the lease receivable at the present value of payments expected to be received during the lease term. Subsequently, the lease receivable is reduced by the principal portion of lease payments received. The deferred

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued September 30, 2023

inflow of resources is initially measured as the initial amount of the lease receivable, adjusted for lease payments received at or before the lease commencement date. Subsequently, the deferred inflow of resources is recognized as revenue over the life of the lease term.

Key estimates and judgments include how the District determines (1) the discount rate it uses to discount the expected lease receipts to present value, (2) lease term, and (3) lease receipts.

- The District uses its estimated incremental borrowing rate as the discount rate for leases.
- The lease term includes the noncancellable period of the lease. Lease receipts included in the measurement of the lease receivable is composed of fixed payments from the lessee.

The District monitors changes in circumstances that would require a remeasurement of its lease, and will remeasure the lease receivable and deferred inflows of resources if certain changes occur that are expected to significantly affect the amount of the lease receivable.

II. RECONCILIATION OF GOVERNMENT-WIDE AND FUND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

A. Explanation of certain differences between the governmental fund balance sheet and the government-wide statement of net position.

The governmental fund balance sheet includes reconciliation between *fund balance-total* governmental funds and net position-governmental activities as reported in the government-wide statement of net position. One element of that reconciliation explains that long-term assets,

such as property tax receivable, are not available to pay for current-period expenditures and, therefore, are deferred in the governmental funds.

B. Explanation of certain differences between the governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances and the government-wide statement of activities.

The governmental fund statement of revenues, expenditures, and changes in fund balances includes a reconciliation between net changes in fund balances – total governmental funds and changes in net position of governmental states that, "Revenue in the Statement of Activities that does not provide current financial resources are not reported as revenue in the funds."

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued September 30, 2023

III. STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE, AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Annual budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles for the general fund. The budget is prepared using the same method of accounting as for financial reporting and serves as a planning tool. Encumbrance accounting is not utilized.

A budget is prepared by fund and function. Appropriations lapse at the end of the year. During the year, the District's actual expenditures exceeded budget for the following expenditure functions:

General Fund Total expenditures

\$ 1,142,556

The District is required to collateralize deposit accounts that are in excess of FDIC insurance, \$250,000. As of September 30, 2023, the District had \$30,807 of deposits that exceeded FDIC insurance and collateral.

IV. DETAILED NOTES ON ALL FUNDS

A. Deposits and Investments

As of September 30, 2023, the District had the following investments:

		Weighted
		Average Maturity
Investments Type	Value	(Years)
Certificates of deposit	\$ 1,920,000	0.50
External investment pools	14,898,558	0.10
Total value	\$ 16,818,558	
Portfolio weighted average maturity		0.14

Applicable state laws and regulations allow the District to invest its funds in direct or indirect obligations of the United States, the State, or any county, city, school district, or other political subdivision of the State. Funds may also be placed in certificates of deposit of state or national banks or savings and loan associations (depository institutions) domiciled within the State. Related state statutes and provisions included in the District's bond resolutions require that all funds invested in depository institutions be guaranteed by federal depository insurance and/or be secured in the manner provided by law for the security of public funds.

Custodial Credit Risk – deposits. In the case of deposits, this is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the District's deposits may not be returned to it. The District requires funds on deposit

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued September 30, 2023

at the depository bank to be collateralized by securities when in excess of FDIC coverage. As of September 30, 2023, checking deposits exceed collateralization and insurance coverage by \$30,807.

The District invests in TexPool and Texas CLASS. At year end, the value of TexPool and Texas CLASS investments was \$9,458,136 and \$5,440,422, respectively.

TexPool

TexPool was established as a trust company with the Treasurer of the State of Texas as trustee, segregated from all other trustees, investments, and activities of the trust company. The State Comptroller of Public Accounts exercises oversight responsibility over TexPool. Oversight includes the ability to significantly influence operations, designation of management, and accountability for fiscal matters. Additionally, the State Comptroller has established an advisory board composed of both participants in TexPool and other persons who do not have a business relationship with TexPool. The advisory board members review the investment policy and management fee structure. Finally, Standard & Poor's rate TexPool AAAm. As a requirement to maintain the rating, weekly portfolio information must be submitted to Standard & Poor's, as well as to the office of the Comptroller of Public Accounts, for review. This investment is considered to be a cash equivalent for reporting purposes.

TexPool operates in a manner consistent with the SEC's rule 2a7 of the Investment Company Act of 1940. TexPool uses amortized cost rather than market value to report net position to compute share prices. Accordingly, the fair value of the position in TexPool is the same as the value of their shares. There were no restrictions or limitations on withdrawals.

Texas CLASS

Texas CLASS (Texas Cooperative Liquid Assets Securities System Trust) was established in 1996, and was created as an investment pool for its Participants pursuant to Section 2256.016 of the Public Funds Investment Act, Texas Government Code. According to State Code, entities may pool any of their funds, or funds under their control, in order to preserve principal, to maintain the liquidity of the funds, and to maximize yield. The Texas CLASS Trust Agreement is an agreement of indefinite term regarding the investment, reinvestment and withdrawal of local government funds. The parties to the Trust Agreement are Texas local government entities that choose to participate in the Trust (the "Participants"), Public Trust Advisors LLC (PTA) as Program Administrator, and Wells Fargo Bank Texas, N.A. as Custodian. Texas CLASS invests only in securities allowed by the Texas Public Funds Investment Act. The pool is governed by a board of trustees, elected annually by its participants. Texas CLASS is rated 'AAAm' by Standard and Poor's Ratings Services. The District's fair value position is stated at the value of the position upon withdrawal. There were no restrictions or limitations on withdrawals.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued September 30, 2023

B. Receivables

The following comprise receivable balances of the primary government at year end:

		General			
			Fund		
Property taxes		\$	155,952		
Sales taxes			2,769,856		
Accrued interest			11,894		
Leases receivable			188,147		
Other receivables			27,487		
	Total	\$	3,153,336		

The District is the lessor of a contract in which they receive lease payments from Verizon Wireless for the use of an existing cell tower. The lease commenced on April 1, 2014, with a term of 60 months, and was renewed for an additional 60 months on April 1, 2019. The lease can be extended upon mutual agreement by both parties up to 5 times with a 10% increase in rate at each extension. Monthly lease payments of \$2,200 will be paid through March 1, 2024. As of September 30, 2023, the lease receivable and offsetting deferred inflows amounted to \$13,085 and \$12,273, respectively.

The District is the lessor of a contract in which they receive lease payments from Montgomery County Health District for the use of part of one of their fire stations. The lease commenced on June 1, 2014, with a term of 240 months. Monthly lease payments of \$1,600 will be paid through May 1, 2034. As of September 30, 2023, the lease receivable and offsetting deferred inflows amounted to \$175,062 and \$154,217, respectively.

The annual principal and interest payments to be received are as follows:

Year ending	 Governmental Activities							
September 30,	Principal	Inte	erest (3%)					
2024	\$ 27,213	\$	5,187					
2025	14,572		4,628					
2026	15,015		4,185					
2027	15,472		3,728					
2028	15,933		3,267					
Thereafter	 99,942		8,859					
	\$ 188,147	\$	29,854					

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued September 30, 2023

C. Capital Assets

The following is a summary of changes in capital assets for the year ended September 30, 2023:

	Beginning		Decr	eases/	Ending
	Balances	 Increases	Reclassi	fications	Balances
Capital assets, not being depreciated:					_
Land	\$ 3,262,480	\$ -	\$	-	\$ 3,262,480
Construction in progress	 <u>-</u>	 113,521			 113,521
Total capital assets not being depreciated	3,262,480	 113,521		-	3,376,001
Capital assets, being depreciated:					
Buildings	34,894,750	106,624		-	35,001,374
Vehicles and equipment	 15,128,134	 1,020,171		-	 16,148,305
Total capital assets being depreciated	 50,022,884	1,126,795		_	 51,149,679
Less accumulated depreciation					
Buildings	(5,398,663)	(649,065)		-	(6,047,728)
Vehicles and equipment	(9,975,896)	(889,063)		-	(10,864,959)
Total accumulated depreciation	(15,374,559)	(1,538,128)		-	 (16,912,687)
Net capital assets being depreciated	 34,648,325	(411,333)		<u>-</u>	34,236,992
Total capital assets	\$ 37,910,805	\$ (297,812)	\$	-	\$ 37,612,993

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued September 30, 2023

D. Long-Term Obligations

The following is a summary of long-term obligations for the year ended September 30, 2023:

	Balance at		Balance at	Due within
_	9/30/2022	Decreases	9/30/2023	a year
Governmental Activities:				
Notes Payable:				
2011 Birnham Woods, due in annual installments				
through 2021, interest at 2.65%	\$ 186,807	\$ (186,807)	\$ -	\$ -
2014 Station 3 (Robinson Road), due in semi-annual				
installments through 2024, interest at 2.28%	2,049,872	(1,034,580)	1,015,292	1,015,292
2016 Station 6 (Discovery Creek Road), due in				
annual installments through 2026, interest at 2.10%	6 1,151,703	(396,138)	755,565	404,456
2019 Station 11-1 Volunteer Lane, due in semi-annua	al			
installments through 2034, interest at 2.71%	6,231,832	(445,979)	5,785,853	458,138
2021 Station 11-5, due in semi-annual installments				
through 2035, interest at 2.19%	4,112,242	(264,892)	3,847,350	270,725
3	\$ 13,732,456	\$ (2,328,396)	\$ 11,404,060	\$ 2,148,611
	Due in mor	e than one year	\$ 9,255,449	

Long-term liabilities applicable to the District's governmental activities are not due and payable in the current period and accordingly, are not reported as fund liabilities in the governmental funds. Interest on long-term debt is not accrued in governmental funds, but rather is recognized as an expenditure when due.

All loans are collateralized with the respective property acquired with the loans.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued September 30, 2023

As of September 30, 2023, the debt service requirements are as follows:

Year ending		Notes Payable				
September 30,	Principal			Interest		
2024	\$	2,148,911	\$	269,456		
2025		887,824		225,305		
2026		976,867		203,431		
2027		785,646		179,600		
2028		805,550		159,696		
2029		825,963		139,283		
2030		846,898		118,348		
2031		868,369		96,876		
2032		890,391		74,855		
2033		912,641		52,269		
2034		936,116		29,106		
2035		344,018		9,490		
2036		174,866		1,915		
Total	\$	11,404,060	\$	1,559,629		

On June 23, 2016, the District entered into a term loan agreement with Trustmark National Bank to finance the construction of a new fire station. The total amount funded by the bank as of September 30, 2023 was \$3,596,646 as the agreement entails drawdown of funds as pay applications are submitted. The stated interest rate on the loan is 2.10%. The loan requires annual payments of \$420,324 (includes principal and interest) be paid on June 24 through June 2026.

On March 28, 2014, the District entered into a term loan agreement with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. to finance the construction of a new fire station. The total amount funded by the bank as of September 30, 2023 was \$9,137,434. The stated interest rate on the loan is 2.28%. The loan requires semi-annual payments of \$537,605 be paid on April 10 and October 10 through April 2024.

On April 24, 2019, the District entered into a note payable agreement with Chase Bank to finance the construction of a fire station. The total amount funded by the bank as of September 30, 2023 was \$7,500,000. The stated interest rate on the loan is 2.71%. The loan requires semi-annual payments of \$305,869 (includes principal and interest to be paid on April 24 and October 24 through April 2034.

In November 2020, the District borrowed \$4,500,000 for construction of a new fire station (Station 11-5). The stated interest rate is 2.19%. The loan requires semi-annual payments of \$353,509 (includes principal and interest to be paid on May 1 and November 1 through 2035.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued September 30, 2023

In accordance with the loan terms with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., the District must maintain a debt coverage ratio not less than 1.1 to 1.0. As of September 30, 2023, the District was in compliance with this financial covenant.

E. Other Long-term Liabilities

The following is a summary of changes in the District's other long-term liabilities for the year ended. The District uses the general fund to liquidate compensated absences.

				Amounts		
Beginning			Ending	Due Within		
Balance	Additions	Reductions	Balance	One Year		
\$ 1,240,208	\$ 851,283	\$ (619,138)	\$ 1,472,353	\$ 1,325,118		
\$ 1,240,208	\$ 851,283	\$ (619,138)	\$ 1,472,353	\$ 1,325,118		
Long-term Liabilities Due in More than One Year						
	\$ 1,240,208 \$ 1,240,208	Balance Additions \$ 1,240,208 \$ 851,283 \$ 1,240,208 \$ 851,283	Balance Additions Reductions \$ 1,240,208 \$ 851,283 \$ (619,138) \$ 1,240,208 \$ 851,283 \$ (619,138)	Balance Additions Reductions Balance \$ 1,240,208 \$ 851,283 \$ (619,138) \$ 1,472,353 \$ 1,240,208 \$ 851,283 \$ (619,138) \$ 1,472,353		

F. Unearned Revenue

Unearned revenue relates to the unamortized portion of capital contribution payments received by the District from the Montgomery County Hospital District ("MCHD"). As a part of the lease agreements between the District (lessor) and MCHD (lessee), MCHD paid three one-time contribution payments of \$460,021 in 2015, \$408,563 in 2020, and \$408,563 in 2021 for purposes of alleviating a portion of the construction costs of the District's facilities for fire station additions. The term of the leases are twenty years. In the event either lease is terminated prior to completion of the terms, the pro rata amount of the one-time contribution payments will be owed back to MCHD. The following is a summary of unearned revenue for the year ended September 30, 2023:

	E	Salance at				Balance at
		9/30/2022	I	ncreases	 Decreases	 9/30/2023
Unearned revenue		1,021,639		-	 (64,534)	 957,105
	\$	1,021,639	\$	-	\$ (64,534)	\$ 957,105

V. OTHER INFORMATION

A. Risk Management

The District is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; and natural disasters for which the District

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued September 30, 2023

carries commercial insurance. The District has not significantly reduced insurance coverage or had settlements that exceeded coverage amounts for the past three fiscal years.

B. Contingent Liabilities

The District was involved in a lawsuit brought against them by a former employee styled *Clinton Cooke v. Montgomery County Emergency Services District Eight and Robert Hudson, cause number 21-08-11874 filed int eh 248th District Court of Montgomery County, Texas.* The plaintiff claims wrongful termination inconsistent with the due process requirements under state law. The District denies the claim and has since filed a motion for dismissal at the time of this report. In August of 2023 the court dismissed this case. The plaintiff appealed that decision and is set to be heard by the 9th Court of Appeals in Beaumont, Texas. While the ultimate result of this litigation cannot be predicted with certainty, the District does not expect it to have a materially adverse effect on the basic financial statements.

Amounts received or receivable from granting agencies are subject to audit and adjustment by grantor agencies, principally the federal government. Any disallowed claims, including amounts already collected, may constitute a liability of the applicable funds. The amounts of expenditures which may be disallowed by the grantor cannot be determined at this time although the District expects such amounts, if any, to be immaterial.

Liabilities are reported when it is probable that a loss has occurred and the amount of the loss can be reasonably estimated. Liabilities include an amount for claims that have been incurred but not reported. Claim liabilities are calculated considering the effects of inflation, recent claim settlement trends, including frequency and amount of payouts, and other economic and social factors.

C. Defined Benefit Pension Plan

1. Plan Description

The District provides retirement, disability, and death benefits for all its eligible employees through a nontraditional defined benefit pension plan in the statewide Texas County & District Retirement System ("TCDRS"). The Board of Trustees of TCDRS is responsible for the administration of the statewide agent multiple-employer public employee retirement system consisting of 782 nontraditional defined contribution benefit plans. TCDRS, in the aggregate, issues an annual comprehensive financial report ("ACFR") on a calendar year basis. The ACFR is available upon written request from the TCDRS Board of Trustees at P.O. Box 2034, Austin, Texas 78768-2034.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued September 30, 2023

2. Benefits Provided

The plan provisions are adopted by the District within the options available in Texas state statutes governing TCDRS (TCDRS Act). Members can retire at ages 60 and above with 8 or more years of service, with 30 years of service regardless of age, or when the sum of their age and years of service equals 75 or more. Members are vested after 8 years of service, but must leave their accumulated contributions in the plan to receive any employer-financed benefit. Members who withdraw their personal contributions in a lump sum are not entitled to any amounts contributed by their employer.

Benefit amounts are determined by the sum of the employee's contribution to the plan, with interest, and employer-financed monetary credits. The level of these monetary credits is adopted by the District within the actuarial constraints imposed by the TCDRS Act so that the resulting benefits can be expected to be adequately financed by the employer's commitment to contribute.

At retirement, death, or disability, the benefit is calculated by converting the sum of the employee's accumulated contributions and the employer-financed monetary credits to a monthly annuity using annuity purchase rates prescribed by the TCDRS Act.

3. Funding Policy

The District has elected the annually determined contribution rate (ADCR) plan provisions of the TCDRS Act. The plan is funded by monthly contributions from both employee members and the employer based on the covered payroll of employee members. Under the TCDRS Act, the contribution rate of the employer is actuarially determined annually.

The District contributed using the ADCR of 13.44% for calendar year 2023 and 10.78% for calendar year 2022.

The District adopted the rate of 7% as the contribution rate payable by the employee members for calendar years 2023 & 2022. The District may change the employee contribution rate and the employer contribution rate within the options available in the TCDRS Act.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued September 30, 2023

Plan provisions for the District were as follows:

	Plan Year 2023	Plan Year 2022
Employee deposit rate	7%	7%
Matching ratio (District to employee)	2.5 to 1	2 to 1
Years required for vesting	8	8
Sevice retirement eligibility		
(expressed as age / years of service)	60/8 0/30	60/8 0/30
Updated service credit	0%	0%
Annuity increase (to retirees)	0%	0%

4. Contributions

Years ended:

	 9/30/2023	9/30/2022	9/30/2021
Annual Determined Contribution Cost (ADCC)	\$ 1,531,115	\$ 1,032,609	\$ 679,103
Actual Contributions Made	\$ (1,531,115)	\$ (1,032,609)	\$ (679,103)
Percentage of ADCC Made	100%	100%	100%
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$ 	\$ -	\$ -

The required contribution rates for fiscal year 2023 were determined as part of the December 31, 2022 actuarial valuation.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued September 30, 2023

Additional information as of the three latest actuarial valuations also follows:

Valuation Date	<u>12/31/2020</u>	<u>12/31/2021</u>	<u>12/31/2022</u>
Actuarial Cost Method	Entry Age	Entry Age	Entry Age
Amortization Method	Level Percent of	Level Percent of	Level Percent of
	payroll, closed	payroll, closed	payroll, closed
Amortization Period	20.0 years	19.2 years	17.6 years
in years			
Asset Valuation Method	5-year Smoothed	5-year Smoothed	5-year Smoothed
	Fund	Fund	Fund
Actuarial Assumptions:			
Investment Rate of	7.6%	7.6%	7.6%
Return *			
Projected Salary	4.60%	4.70%	4.70%
Increases *			
* Includes Inflation at	2.50%	2.50%	2.50%
stated-rate			
Cost-of Living			
Adjustments	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

Employees covered by benefit terms

At the December 31, 2022 valuation and measurement date, the following employees were covered by the benefit terms:

Inactive employees or beneficiaries currently receiving benefits	3
Inactive employees entitled to but not yet receiving benefits	62
Active employees	<u>134</u>
Total	<u>199</u>

5. Net Pension Liability

The District's Net Pension Liability (NPL) was measured as of December 31, 2022, and the Total Pension Liability (TPL) used to calculate the Net Pension Liability was determined by an actuarial valuation as of that date.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued September 30, 2023

Actuarial assumptions:

The Total Pension Liability in the December 31, 2022 actuarial valuation was determined using the following actuarial assumptions:

Inflation 2.50% per year

Overall payroll growth 4.7% average per year depending on experience

Investment Rate of Return 7.5%, net of pension plan investment expense, including

inflation

The annual salary increase rates assumed for individual members vary by length of service and by entry-age group. The annual rates consist of a general wage inflation component of 3.00% (made up of 2.50% inflation and 0.5% productivity increase assumptions) and a merit, promotion and longevity component that on average approximates 1.7% per year for a career employee.

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments is 7.6% gross of administrative expenses. The pension plan's policy in regard to the allocation of invested assets is established and may be amended by the TCDRS Board of Trustees. Plan assets are managed on a total return basis with an emphasis on both capital appreciation as well as the production of income, in order to satisfy the short-term and long-term funding needs of TCDRS.

The long-term expected rate of return on pension plan investments was determined using a building-block method in which best estimate ranges of expected future real rates of return (expected returns, net of pension plan investment expense and inflation) are developed for each major asset class. These ranges are combined to produce the long-term expected rate of return by weighting the expected future real rates of return by the target asset allocation percentage and by adding expected inflation.

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued September 30, 2023

The target allocation and best estimates of arithmetic real rates of return for each major asset class are summarized in the following table:

Asset Class	Benchmark	Target Allocation	Geometric Real Rate of Return (Expected minus inflation) (2)
US Equities	Dow Jones U.S. Total Stock Market Index	11.50%	4.95%
Private Equity	Cambridge Associates Global Private Equity & Venture Capital Index (3)	25.00%	7.95%
Global Equities	MSCI World (net) Index	2.50%	4.95%
International Equities – Developed	MSCI World Ex USA (net)	5.00%	4.95%
International Equities – Emerging	MSCI Emerging Markets (net)	6.00%	4.95%
Investment-Grade Bonds	Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate Bond Index	3.00%	2.40%
Strategic Credit	FTSE High-Yield Cash-Pay Index	9.00%	3.39%
Direct Lending	Morningstar LSTA US Leveraged Loan TR USD Index	16.00%	6.95%
Distressed Debt	Cambridge Associates Distressed Securities Index (4)	4.00%	7.60%
REIT Equities	67% FTSE NAREIT All Equity REITs Index + 33% S&P Global (net) Index	2.00%	4.15%
Master Limited Partnerships (MLPs)	Alerian MLP Index	2.00%	5.30%
Private Real Estate Partnerships	Cambridge Associates Real Estate Index (5)	6.00%	5.70%
Hedge Funds	Hedge Fund Research, Inc. (HFRI) Fund of Funds Composite Index	6.00%	2.90%
Cash equivalents	90-day U.S. Treasury	2.00%	0.20%

- (1) Target asset allocation adopted at the March 2023 TCDRS Board meeting.
- (2) Geometric real rates of return in addition to assumed inflation of 2.3%, per Cliffwater's 2023 capital market assumptions.
- (3) Includes vintage years 2005-present of Quarter Pooled Horizon IRRs.
- (4) Includes vintage years 2007-present of Quarter Pooled Horizon IRRs.
- (5) Includes vintage years 2006-present of Quarter Pooled Horizon IRRs.

Discount Rate:

The discount rate used to measure the Total Pension Liability was 7.6%. The projection of cash flows used to determine the discount rate assumed that employee and employer contributions will be made at the rates specified in statute. Based on that assumption, the pension plan's Fiduciary Net Position was projected to be available to make all projected future benefit payments of current active and inactive employees. Therefore, the long-term

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued September 30, 2023

expected rate of return on pension plan investments was applied to all periods of projected benefit payments to determine the Total Pension Liability.

Changes in the Net Pension Liability:

	Total Pension	I	Plan Fiduciary Net	Net Pension
	Liability (a)		Position (b)	Liability (a) – (b)
Balance at 12/31/21	\$ 13,357,281	\$	13,389,111	\$ (31,830)
Changes for the year:				
Service Cost	1,326,534		-	1,326,534
Interest on total pension liability (1)	1,111,329		-	1,111,329
Effect of plan changes (2)	1,432,030		-	1,432,030
Effect of economic/demographic				
gains or losses	581,082		-	581,082
Effect of assumptions changes or inputs	-		-	-
Benefit payments, including refunds	(124,410)		(124,410)	-
Administrative expense	-		(8,447)	8,447
Member contributions	-		723,309	(723,309)
Net investment income	-		(930,955)	930,955
Employer contributions			1,113,896	(1,113,896)
Other (3)	-		252,336	(252,336)
Net changes	4,326,565		1,025,729	3,300,836
Balance at 12/31/22	\$ 17,683,846	\$	14,414,840	\$ 3,269,006

- (1) Reflects the change in the liability due to the time value of money. TCDRS does not charge fees or interest.
- (2) Reflects plan changes adopted effective in 2023.
- (3) Relates to allocation of system-wide items.

Sensitivity of the net pension liability (asset) to changes in the discount rate

The following presents the net pension liability of the District, calculated using the discount rate of 7.60%, as well as what the District's net pension liability would be if it were calculated using a discount rate that is 1-percentage-point lower (6.60%) or 1-percentage-point higher (8.60%) than the current rate:

1% Decrease	Current Single Rate	1% Increase
6.60%	Assumption 7.60%	8.60%
\$ 7,299,151	\$ 3,269,006	\$ 55,960

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued September 30, 2023

Pension Plan Fiduciary Net Position:

Detailed information about the pension plan's Fiduciary Net Position is available in a separately-issued TCDRS financial report. That report may be obtained on the internet at www.tcdrs.com.

5. Pension Expense and Deferred Outflows of Resources Related to Pensions

For the year ended September 30, 2023, the District recognized pension expense of \$2,161,903.

At September 30, 2023, the District reported deferred outflows of resources related to pensions from the following sources:

		Deferred
	Outf	lows of Resources
Difference between projected and		
investment earnings	\$	574,633
Changes in actuarial assumptions		811,550
Differences between expected and actual		
economic experience		1,142,029
Contributions subsequent to the		
measurement date		1,237,202
Total	\$	3,765,414

The District reported \$1,237,202 as deferred outflows of resources related to pensions resulting from contributions subsequent to the measurement date that will be recognized as a reduction of the net pension liability for the year ending September 30, 2024.

Other amounts reported as deferred outflows and inflows of resources related to pensions will be recognized in pension expense as follows:

Year ended December 31:	
2023	\$ 247,825
2024	333,871
2025	359,903
2026	655,132
2027	250,828
Thereafter	680,653
	\$ 2,528,212

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, Continued September 30, 2023

D. Subsequent Events

On April 25, 2024, the District borrowed \$7,000,000. The loan proceeds will be used for: the purchase of real property for a new fire station, pay for construction costs for a new training facility, pay for construction and renovation of fire stations, and pay costs of the loan. The District agreed to pledge ad valorem taxes for loan repayment. The loan bears interest of 4.594% and will be repaid in ten annual installments of \$888,745 beginning on April 25, 2025 and ending on April 25, 2034.

Subsequent events were evaluated through April 30, 2024, the date the financial statements were available to be issued.

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BUDGETARY COMPARISON SCHEDULE - GENERAL FUND

For the Year Ended September 30, 2023

	Original & Final Budget	Actual	Variance Positive (Negative)
Revenues			
Capital grant revenue	\$ -	\$ 64,534	\$ 64,534
Property taxes	8,761,750	9,185,982	424,232
Sales tax	14,000,000	17,726,513	3,726,513
Licenses and permits	25,000	48,375	23,375
Other revenues	57,712	104,024	46,312
Investment earnings	10,000	732,649	722,649
Total Revenues	22,854,462	27,862,077	5,007,615
Expenditures Public safety	18,245,633	18,918,373	(672,740)
Capital outlay	1,025,000	1,494,836	(469,836)
Debt service:			
Principal	2,318,697	2,328,396	(9,699)
Interest	331,583	321,864	9,719
Total Expenditures	21,920,913	23,063,469	(1,142,556) *
Net Change in Fund Balance	\$ 933,549	4,798,608	\$ 3,865,059
Beginning Fund Balance		13,228,233	
Ending Fund Balance		\$ 18,026,841	

Notes to Required Supplementary Information:

^{1.} Annual budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP).

^{*} Expenditures exceeded budget at the legal level of control.

SCHEDULE OF CHANGES IN NET PENSION LIABILITY AND RELATED RATIOS For The Years Ended December 31,

	2022	2021	2020
Total pension liability			
Service cost	\$ 1,326,534	\$ 1,176,209	\$ 981,008
Interest (on the Total Pension Liability)	1,111,329	913,866	729,597
Changes in benefit terms	-	-	-
Differences between expected and			
actual experience	581,082	293,856	111,726
Changes of assumptions	-	139,631	1,037,106
Effect of plan changes	1,432,030		
Benefit payments, including refunds of			
participant contributions	(124,410)	(28,732)	(45,792)
Net change in total pension liability	4,326,565	2,494,830	2,813,645
Total pension liability - beginning	13,357,281	10,862,451	8,048,806
Total pension liability - ending (a)	\$ 17,683,846	\$ 13,357,281	\$ 10,862,451
Plan fiduciary net position			
Contributions - employer	\$ 1,113,896	\$ 705,503	\$ 635,881
Contributions - members	723,309	598,609	550,206
Net investment income (loss)	(930,955)	2,296,105	809,084
Benefit payments, including refunds of			
participant contributions	(124,410)	(28,732)	(45,792)
Administrative expenses	(8,447)	(7,244)	(7,161)
Other	 252,336	 38,828	 34,516
Net change in plan fiduciary net position	1,025,729	3,603,069	1,976,734
Plan fiduciary net position - beginning	 13,389,111	9,786,042	 7,809,308
Plan fiduciary net position - ending (b)	\$ 14,414,840	\$ 13,389,111	\$ 9,786,042
Fund's net pension liability - ending (a) - (b)	\$ 3,269,006	\$ (31,830)	\$ 1,076,409
Plan fiduciary net position as a percentage of the			
pension liability	81.51%	100.24%	90.09%
Covered payroll	\$ 11,931,839	\$ 8,551,553	\$ 7,860,089
Fund's net position as a percentage of			
covered payroll	27.40%	-0.37%	13.69%

Notes to schedule:

¹⁾ This schedule is presented to illustrate the requirement to show information for ten years. However, until a full ten-year trend is compiled, only available information is shown.

 2019	 2018	 2017	 2016	 2015	 2014
\$ 975,961 603,456	\$ 891,091 478,968	\$ 732,593 353,933	\$ 711,053 244,478	\$ 569,713 192,348 (151,356)	\$ 512,481 140,238
38,788 -	125,738 -	367,068 (54,348)	54,931 -	(61,208) 9,410	80,620 -
 (85,352) 1,532,853 6,515,953	 (3,809) 1,491,988 5,023,965	 (24,005) 1,375,241 3,648,724	 (61,570) 948,892 2,699,832	 (47,133) 511,774 2,188,058	 (49,756) 683,583 1,504,475
\$ 8,048,806	\$ 6,515,953	\$ 5,023,965	\$ 3,648,724	\$ 2,699,832	\$ 2,188,058
\$ 582,695 511,777 954,138	\$ 582,027 488,512 (77,500)	\$ 519,629 445,215 503,505	\$ 435,331 348,663 180,095	\$ 394,090 311,007 (28,640)	\$ 326,871 258,834 78,594
(85,352) (5,951) 35,637	(3,809) (4,672) 32,263	(24,005) (3,193) 12,579	(61,570) (1,958) 64,799	(47,133) (1,521) (182)	(49,756) (1,132) (82)
 1,992,944	1,016,821	 1,453,730	 965,360	 627,621	613,329
5,816,364	 4,799,543	 3,345,813	2,380,453	 1,752,832	 1,139,503
\$ 7,809,308	\$ 5,816,364	\$ 4,799,543	\$ 3,345,813	\$ 2,380,453	\$ 1,752,832
\$ 239,498	\$ 699,589	\$ 224,422	\$ 302,911	\$ 319,379	\$ 435,226
\$ 97.02% 7,311,100	\$ 89.26% 6,978,742	\$ 95.53% 6,360,212	\$ 91.70% 4,980,902	\$ 88.17% 4,442,951	\$ 80.11% 3,697,632
3.28%	10.02%	3.53%	6.08%	7.19%	11.77%

Montgomery County

Emergency Services District No. 8

SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS TO PENSION PLAN

For The Fiscal Years Ended

	_	9/30/2023	9/30/2022	9/30/2021	_	9/30/2020
Actuarially determined employer contributions	\$	1,531,115	\$ 1,032,609	\$ 679,103	\$	617,396
Contributions in relation to the						
actuarially determined contribution	\$	1,531,115	\$ 1,032,609	\$ 679,103	\$	617,396
Contribution deficiency (excess)	\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$	-
Annual covered payroll	\$	11,931,839	\$ 10,183,812	\$ 8,276,198	\$	7,662,810
Employer contributions as a percentage						
of covered payroll		12.83%	10.14%	8.21%		8.06%

¹⁾ This schedule is presented to illustrate the requirement to show information for ten years. However, until a full ten-year trend is compiled, only available information is shown.

NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS TO PENSION PLAN

Valuation Date:

Notes Actuarially determined contribution rates are

calculated as of December 31 and become effective in January 13 months later.

Methods and Assumptions Used to Determine Contribution Rates:

Actuarial Cost Method Entry Age

Amortization Method Level percentage of payroll, closed

Remaining Amortization Period 17.6 years (based on contribution rate calculated in 12/31/2022

valuation

Asset Valuation Method 5-year smoothed market

Inflation 2.50%

Salary Increases Varies by age of service. 4.7% average over career including

inflation.

Investment Rate of Return 7.50%, net of investment expenses, including inflation

Retirement Age Members who are eligible for service retirement are assumed to

commence receiving benefit payments based on age. The average

age at service retirement for recent retirees is 61.

Mortality 110% of the MP-2014 Ultimate Scale after 2014.

Other Information:

Notes On January 1, 2023, the District changed their retirement benefits

for matching amounts for employee contributions from 2 to 1 to 2.5 to 1.

_	9/30/2019	 9/30/2018	9/30/2017	 9/30/2016	 9/30/2015
\$	581,548	\$ 566,816	\$ 496,614	\$ 419,994	\$ 366,438
\$	581,548	\$ 566,816	\$ 496,614	\$ 419,994	\$ 366,438
\$	-	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
\$	7,203,981	\$ 6,867,752	\$ 5,960,927	\$ 4,787,328	\$ 4,147,730
	8.07%	8.25%	8.33%	8.77%	8.83%