UPPER CAPTIVA FIRE PROTECTION AND RESCUE SERVICE DISTRICT

September 30, 2024

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS,
TOGETHER WITH REPORTS OF
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS

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Independent Auditor's Report

Honorable Board of Commissioners
Upper Captiva Fire Protection and Rescue Service District
North Captiva Island, Florida

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the governmental activities of the Upper Captiva Fire Protection and Rescue Service District, (the "District") as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024, 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 financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the governmental activities of the District as of September 30, 2024, and the respective changes in financial position for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

Basis for Opinions

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

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; 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 twelve months beyond the financial statement date, including any currently known information that may raise substantial doubt shortly thereafter.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

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

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

- Exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks. Such procedures include examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the 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.

Required Supplementary Information

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

Required Supplementary Information, Continued

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.

Other Reporting Required by Government Auditing Standards

In accordance with *Government Auditing Standards,* we have also issued our report dated June 20, 2025, on our consideration of the District's internal control over financial reporting and on our tests of its compliance with certain provisions of laws, regulations, contracts, and grant agreements and other matters. The purpose of that report is to describe the scope of our testing of internal control over financial reporting and compliance and the results of that testing, and not to provide an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control over financial reporting or on compliance. That report is an integral part of an audit performed in accordance with *Government Auditing Standards* in considering the District's internal control over financial reporting and compliance.

Ashley, Brown & Smith, CPAs

Punta Gorda, FL
June 20, 2025

MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

This discussion and analysis of the Upper Captiva Fire Protection and Rescue Service District (the "District") financial statements is designed to introduce the basic financial statements and provide an analytical overview of the District's financial activities for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024. The basic financial statements are comprised of the government-wide financial statements, governmental fund financial statements, and notes. We hope this will assist readers in identifying significant financial issues and changes in the District's financial position.

District Highlights

- At the close of fiscal year 2024, the District's assets exceeded its liabilities, resulting in net position of $1,746,598.
- The District's total net position increased $365,013, or 26.42 percent, in comparison to prior year.
- The District had $710,423 of unassigned fund balance that can be used to meet the District's ongoing obligations.
- Total revenues increased $369,071, or 26.75 percent, in comparison to prior year.
- Total expenses increased $79,978, or 6.13 percent, in comparison to prior year.

Government-wide Financial Statements

Government-wide financial statements (statement of net position and statement of activities found on pages 9 and 10) are intended to allow a reader to assess a government's operational accountability. Operational accountability is defined as the extent to which the government has met its operating objectives efficiently and effectively, using all resources available for that purpose, and whether it can continue to meet its objectives for the foreseeable future. Government-wide financial statements concentrate on the District as a whole and do not emphasize fund types.

The *Statement of Net Position* (page 9) presents information on all of the District's assets and liabilities, with the difference between the two reported as *net position.* The District's capital assets (property, plant, and equipment) are included in this statement and reported net of their accumulated depreciation.

The *Statement of Activities* (page 10) presents revenue and expense information showing how the District's net position changed during the fiscal year. Both statements are measured and reported using the economic resource measurement focus (revenues and expenses) and the accrual basis of accounting (revenue recognized when earned and expense recognized when a liability is incurred).

Fund Financial Statements

The District accounts for its services in a *general governmental fund.* A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is being used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. Governmental funds are used to account for the sources, uses, and balances of a government's expendable general government financial resources (and the current liabilities). The main focus is on how money flows into and out of the general fund and the balances left at year-end that are available for spending.

Fund Financial Statements (continued)

The District, like other state and local governments, uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance-related legal requirements. The *Fund Financial Statements* can be found on pages 11 and 13.

Notes to the Financial Statements

The *notes* to the financial statements explain in detail some of the data contained in the preceding statements and begin on page 15. These notes are essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the government-wide and fund financial statements.

Government-Wide Financial Analysis

The government-wide financial statements were designed so that the user could determine if the District is in a better or worse financial condition from the prior year.

The following is a condensed summary of net position for the primary government for fiscal years 2024 and 2023.

Upper Captiva Fire Protection and Rescue Service District
Summary of Net Position
September 30,

	2024	2023
Assets:		
Current and Other Assets	$ 859,514	$ 618,794
Capital Assets	1,203,749	1,018,919
Total Assets	2,063,263	1,637,713
Liabilities:		
Current Liabilities	93,487	17,874
Long-Term Liabilities	223,178	238,254
Total Liabilities	316,665	256,128
Net Position:		
Net Investment in capital assets	980,571	780,665
Restricted for purchase of capital assets	182	22,785
Unrestricted	765,845	578,135
Total Net Position	$ 1,746,598	$ 1,381,585

Investment in capital assets totaled $980,571, which represents 56.14 percent of total net position and is comprised of land, building and improvements, and fire and rescue equipment, net of accumulated depreciation.

Government-Wide Financial Analysis (Continued)

The unrestricted net position balance of $765,845 represents resources available to meet the District's ongoing obligations. The restricted net position balance of $182 is comprised of impact fee funds received and restricted for the purchase of capital assets.

The following schedule reports the revenues, expenses, and changes in net position for the District for the 2024 and 2023 fiscal years:

	2024	2023
Revenues:		
General revenues		
Ad valorem taxes	$ 910,559	$ 888,872
Proceeds from insurance	321,044	-
Donations	5,108	21,867
Impact fees	772	3,070
Gain on disposal of fixed assets	-	-
Miscellaneous	60,095	15,462
Program revenues		
Charges for services	451,346	450,582
Operating grants	-	-
Total Revenues	1,748,924	1,379,853
Expenses:		
Public safety- fire and rescue services		
Personal services	875,661	941,759
Operating expenditures	396,753	270,148
Interest and fiscal charges	7,599	8,064
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	2,250	
Depreciation	101,183	83,962
Total Program Expenses	1,383,446	1,303,933
Increase in net position	365,478	75,920
Net Position - Beginning	1,381,585	1,305,665
Net Position - Ending	$ 1,747,063	$ 1,381,585

Total revenue increased $369,071 or 26.75 percent in comparison to prior year primarily due to $321,044 in proceeds from insurance for Hurricane Ian claim.

Total expenses increased in comparison to the prior year by $79,978 or 6.13 percent.

Budgetary Highlights

The District adopts an annual budget for the General Fund and the Special Assessment Fund as required by Florida Statute. The difference between the final budgeted expenditures and actual expenditures represents a positive variance of $90,863 or 7.59% of budgeted expenditures for the General Fund. The difference between the final budgeted expenditures and actual expenditures represents a positive variance of $28,017 or 5.82% of budgeted expenditures for the Special Assessment Fund.

Capital Assets

Non-depreciable capital assets include land, equipment not in serivce and construction in progress. Depreciable assets include fire and rescue equipment, building, fire and rescue vehicles, furniture and fixtures, and equipment.

The following is a schedule of the District's capital assets:

Upper Captiva Fire Protection and Rescue Service District
Capital Assets
As of September 30,

CAPITAL ASSETS	2024	2023
Land	$ 66,096	$ 66,096
Equipment not in service	110,052	-
Construction in progress	109,473	-
Total Capital Assets Not Being Depreciated	285,621	66,096
Buildings and improvements	834,690	828,277
Furniture and fixtures	1,433	1,433
Fire and rescue equipment	810,042	750,417
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated	1,646,165	1,580,127
ACCUMULATED DEPRECIATION		
Buildings and improvements	(355,115)	(326,513)
Furniture and fixtures	(1,433)	(1,433)
Fire and rescue equipment	(371,489)	(299,358)
Total Accumulated Depreciation	(728,037)	(627,304)
Total Capital Assets Being Depreciated, net	918,128	952,823
CAPITAL ASSETS, NET	$ 1,203,749	$ 1,018,919

Economic Factors and Next Year's Budget Rates

The following factors were considered when the 2024-2025 budget was prepared:

- Property values on Upper Captiva Island finally increased along, with many other housing markets in the Southwest Florida area, after recovery from Hurricane IAN began. New construction additions and existing valuations increased the tax roll by $23,863,162 and overall assessed values of existing property increased by 8% over the prior tax year.

- The District adopted the millage rate of 3.6214 to be applied to an estimated tax roll of $323,331,468 which is expected to generate $1,132,858 in net ad valorem tax revenue.

- Pursuant to a referendum election held on July 8, 2014 (and failure of a replacement referendum election on November 8, 2022 to extend the Special Assessment for another 10 years), the District lost our authority to levy the Special Assessment effective September 30, 2024. Without the Special Assessment, the District is using higher valuations, remaining below our maximum millage rates, and drawing down our substainatal reserve that was built for this eventuality. The District anticipates maintaining its favorable ISO rating.

- The District's elected officials and management desire to keep the ad valorem millage rate and non-ad valorem assessments to the minimum necessary to provide safe and efficient fire protection and emergency rescue services. The total District budget for fiscal year 2024-25 is $1,798,548.

Request for Information

Questions regarding any information provided in this report should be directed to:

Upper Captiva Fire Protection and Rescue Service District
Chief Jesse Cottrell
P.O. Box 322, Pineland, Florida 33945-0327
Phone (239) 872-2263
Email: Info@UpperCaptivaFire.org

BASIC
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Upper Captiva Fire Protection and Rescue Service District

STATEMENT OF NET POSITION

September 30, 2024

ASSETS	
Current assets:	
Cash	$ 851,521
Cash - restricted	182
Due from other governments	7,811
Total current assets	859,514
Noncurrent assets:	
Capital assets:	
Land	66,096
Equipment not in service	110,052
Construction in progress	109,473
Buildings and improvements	834,690
Furniture & fixtures	1,433
Fire and rescue equipment	810,042
Less: accumulated depreciation	(728,037)
Total noncurrent assets (net)	1,203,749
Total assets	2,063,263
LIABILITIES	
Current liabilities:	
Accounts payable	69,210
Accrued liabilities	24,277
Total current liabilities	93,487
Noncurrent liabilities	
Notes payable - Due within one year	15,557
Notes payable - Due in more than one year	207,621
Total noncurrent liabilities	223,178
Total liabilities	316,665
NET POSITION	
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	980,571
Restricted for purchase of capital assets	182
Unrestricted	765,845
Total Net Position	$ 1,746,598

The accompanying notes are an integral and essential part of these financial statements.

Upper Captiva Fire Protection and Rescue Service District

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

Year Ended September 30, 2024

PROGRAM EXPENSES:	
Salaries and benefits	$ 875,661
Operating	396,753
Interest and fiscal charges	7,599
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	2,250
Depreciation	101,183
Total program expenses	1,383,446
PROGRAM REVENUES:	
Fire service special assessment	451,346
Total program revenues	451,346
Net program (expenses)	(932,100)
GENERAL REVENUES:	
Ad valorem taxes	910,559
Impact fees	772
Interest	29,632
Donations	5,108
Proceeds from insurance	321,044
Miscellaneous	30,463
Total general revenues	1,297,578
Changes in net position	365,478
NET POSITION, OCTOBER 1, 2023	1,381,585
NET POSITION, SEPTEMBER 30, 2024	$ 1,747,063

The accompanying notes are an integral and essential part of these financial statements.

Upper Captiva Fire Protection and Rescue Service District

BALANCE SHEET - GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS

September 30, 2024

	Major		Non-major	
	General	Special Assessment	Impact Fee	Total
ASSETS				
Cash	$ 851,521	$ -	$ -	$ 851,521
Cash - restricted	-	-	182	182
Due from other funds	-	55,422	-	55,422
Due from other governments	7,811	-	-	7,811
Total Assets	$ 859,332	$ 55,422	$ 182	$ 914,936
LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE				
LIABILITIES				
Accounts payable	$ 69,210	$ -	$ -	$ 69,210
Accrued liabilities	24,277	-	-	24,277
Due to other funds	55,422	-	-	55,422
Total Liabilities	148,909	-	-	148,909
FUND BALANCE				
Spendable:				
Restricted	-	-	182	182
Committed	-	55,422	-	55,422
Unassigned	710,423	-	-	710,423
Total Fund Balance	710,423	55,422	182	766,027
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance	$ 859,332	$ 55,422	$ 182	$ 914,936

The accompanying notes are an integral and essential part of these financial statements.

Upper Captiva Fire Protection and Rescue Service District

RECONCILIATION OF THE BALANCE SHEET
TO THE STATEMENT OF NET POSITION
September 30, 2024

Fund Balance		$ 766,027
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of net position are different because:		
Capital assets used in governmental activities are not financial resources and are therefore not reported on the balance sheet.		
Cost of assets	$ 1,931,786	
Accumulated depreciation	(728,037)	1,203,749
Long-term liabilities are not due and payable in the current period and, therefore, are not reported in the governmental funds. Long-term liabilities at fiscal year-end consist of:		
Note payable		(223,178)
Net Position		$ 1,746,598

The accompanying notes are an integral and essential part of these financial statements.

Upper Captiva Fire Protection and Rescue Service District

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

Year Ended September 30, 2024

	Major		Non-major	
	General	Special Assessment	Impact Fee	Total
REVENUES				
Ad valorem taxes	$ 910,559	$ -	$ -	$ 910,559
Impact fees	-	-	772	772
Fire service special assessment	-	451,346	-	451,346
Miscellaneous				
Donations	5,108	-	-	5,108
Interest	29,507	-	125	29,632
Proceeds from insurance	321,044			321,044
Other miscellaneous	29,998	-	-	29,998
Total Revenues	1,296,216	451,346	897	1,748,459
EXPENDITURES				
Current				
Public safety				
Personal service	445,474	430,187	-	875,661
Operating expenditures	373,710	23,043	-	396,753
Capital outlay	264,763	-	23,500	288,263
Debt service	22,675	-	-	22,675
Total Expenditures	1,106,622	453,230	23,500	1,583,352
Excess of Revenues Over/(Under) Expenditures	189,594	(1,884)	(22,603)	165,107
FUND BALANCE, October 1, 2023	520,829	57,306	22,785	600,920
FUND BALANCE, September 30, 2024	$ 710,423	$ 55,422	$ 182	$ 766,027

The accompanying notes are an integral and essential part of these financial statements.

Upper Captiva Fire Protection and Rescue Service District

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

Year Ended September 30, 2024

Net changes in fund balance		$ 165,107
Amounts reported for governmental activities in the statement of activities are different because:		
Governmental funds report capital outlays as expenditures. However, in the statement of activities the cost of those assets is allocated over their estimated useful lives and reported as depreciation expense. In addition, gains and losses on the disposition of fixed assets are recorded on the statement of activities, however, they are not reported on the statement of revenues expenditures and changes in net position. These amounts are as follows:		
Capital outlay	$ 288,263	
Loss on disposition of capital assets	(2,250)	
Less current year depreciation	(101,183)	184,830
The repayment of the principal of long-term debt is an expenditure in the Statement of Revenue, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance, but reduce long-term liabilities in the Statement of Net Position.		15,076
Change in net position		$ 365,013

The accompanying notes are an integral and essential part of these financial statements.

NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Organization and nature of activities

The Upper Captiva Fire Protection and Rescue Service District (the "District") is an independent special taxing district located on Upper Captiva Island, which is a barrier island off the coast of Southwest Florida not accessible by automobile. The District was originally established in 1990 by a Special Act of the Legislature of the State of Florida (Laws of Florida, Chapter 90-397) and recreated and reenacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida in 2004 (Laws of Florida, Chapter 2004-470).

The business and affairs of the District are governed by an elected Board of Commissioners, which consists of five members and operates under state statutes. The Commissioners serve on a staggered four-year term basis.

The District provides fire control and protection services and rescue services within the District's legal boundaries. In providing these services, the District operates and maintains one (1) station house and their related equipment and employs forty-five (45) part-time firefighters.

Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The following is a summary of the significant accounting policies used in the preparation of these basic financial statements.

Reporting Entity

The Government Accounting Standards Board ("GASB") requires the financial statements of the District (the primary government) to include its component units, if any. A component unit is a legally separate organization for which the elected officials of the primary government are financially accountable. Based on the criteria established by GASB, there are no component units required to be included in the District's financial statements.

Government-wide Financial Statements

The government-wide financial statements consist of a statement of net position and a statement of activities that report information on all of the activities of the District as a whole. The purpose of the government-wide financial statements is to allow the user to be able to determine if the District is in a better or worse financial position than the prior year.

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.

Amounts paid to acquire capital assets are capitalized as assets in the government-wide financial statements, rather than reported as expenditures.

NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Government-wide Financial Statements (Continued)

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

Fund Financial Statements

The accounts of the District are organized on the basis of funds, each of which is considered a separate accounting entity. The operations of each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenues, and expenditures or expenses, as appropriate. Government resources are allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based upon the purpose for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled.

Fund financial statements are presented to report additional and detailed information about the District. Fund financial statements accompany the government-wide financial statements and present a summary reconciliation to explain differences between the data reported in the governmental funds and the data reported for the corresponding governmental activities in the government-wide financial statements.

Governmental Funds

Government 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. Expenditures generally are recorded when a liability is incurred, as under accrual accounting. However, expenditures related to compensated absences and claims and judgments are recorded only when such liabilities have matured.

Ad valorem property taxes are recorded as revenues in the fiscal year in which the taxes are due and collected within 60 days of fiscal year-end. Investment earnings are recognized when earned. All other revenue items are recognized when they become measurable and available to finance expenditures of the fiscal period. Generally, revenues are considered available when they are collected within the current period or within 60 days after the end of the fiscal year.

Fund Accounting

The accounts of the District are organized and recorded in individual funds. The operations for each fund are accounted for with a separate set of self-balancing accounts that comprise its assets, liabilities, fund equity, revenue, and expenditures, as appropriate. Resources are allocated to and accounted for in individual funds based upon the purpose for which they are to be spent and the means by which spending activities are controlled.

NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Fund Accounting (Continued)

The following fund types are used by the District:

General Fund (major)

The General fund is the general operating fund of the District. All financial resources, which are not required to be accounted for in another fund, are recorded in the General fund.

Special Assessments Fund (major)

This special revenues fund is used to account for special assessments that are legally restricted to expenditure for a particular purpose.

Impact Fees Fund (non-major)

This special revenues fund is used to account for impact fees that are legally restricted to expenditure for a particular purpose.

Major Funds

The District reports the general fund and the special assessments fund as major funds.

Capital Assets

Capital assets, which include property, plant, and equipment, are reported only in the government-wide financial statements. Capital assets are those acquired for general government purposes with an initial, individual cost equal to or more than $1,000 and an estimated useful life of more than one year. Such assets are recorded at historical cost if purchased or constructed. Donated assets are recorded at their estimated fair value at the date of the donation. The estimated fair value is based on the most recent appraisal documentation available.

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. Major outlays for capital assets and improvements are capitalized as projects are constructed.

Capital assets of the District are depreciated using the straight-line method over the following estimated useful lives:

Asset	Years
Building and Improvements	7-40
Fire and Rescue Equipment	5-25
Furniture and Fixtures	5-7

NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Budgets and Budgetary Accounting

The following procedures are used by the District in establishing the budgetary data reflected in the financial statements:

1. During the summer of each year, the District Fire Chief submits to the Board of Commissioners a proposed operating budget for the fiscal year commencing on the upcoming first day of October. The operating budget includes proposed expenditures and the means of financing them.
2. Public hearings are conducted to obtain taxpayers' comments.
3. The budget is adopted by approval of the Board of Commissioners.
4. Budget transfers can be made throughout the year between expenditure accounts within a fund by approval of the Board of Commissioners.
5. Budget amounts, as shown in these financial statements, are as originally adopted and as finally amended by the Board of Commissioners.
6. The budget for the general fund is adopted on a basis consistent with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. Budgeted appropriations lapse at year-end.
7. The legal level of control for appropriations is exercised at the fund level. There were no supplemental appropriations during the year ended September 30, 2024.
8. The District did not adopt a budget for the non-major fund, Impact Fees.

Impact Fees

The District receives impact fees in accordance with an interlocal agreement with Lee County, Florida. Impact fees collected by Lee County are remitted on a quarterly basis to the District. The District, with prior Lee County approval, may expend amounts collected on qualifying capital expenditures. Funds received that are not expended within six years must be refunded. Because of the eligibility requirements imposed in the agreement, (1) prior approval before expenditure and (2) refund if not expended, the District records receipts of funds as restricted. As of September 30, 2024, $182 of the District's Net Position was restricted for this purpose.

NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Fund Balance

The District follows the provisions of Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 54, "Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions." Accordingly, in the fund financial statements, governmental funds report fund classifications that comprise a hierarchy based primarily on the extent to which the District is bound to honor constraints on the specific purposes for which amounts in those funds can be spent. Fund balance is reported in five components: nonspendable, restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned.

Non-Spendable Fund Balance - Amounts that are (a) not in spendable form or (b) legally or contractually required to be maintained intact. "Not in spendable form" includes items that are not expected to be converted to cash (such as inventories and prepaid amounts) and items such as long-term amount of loans and notes receivable, as well as property acquired for resale. The corpus (or principal) of a permanent fund is an example of an amount that is legally or contractually required to be maintained intact.

Restricted Fund Balance - Amounts that can be spent only for specific purposes stipulated by (a) external resource providers such as creditors (by debt covenants), grantors, contributors, or laws or regulations of other governments or (b) imposed by law through constitutional provisions or enabling legislation.

Committed Fund Balance - Amounts that can be used only for the specific purposes determined by a formal action (resolution) of the District's Board of Commissioners, the District's highest level of decision making authority. Commitments may be changed or lifted only by the Board of Commissioners taking the same formal action (resolution) that imposed the constraint originally (usually by resolution). Resources accumulated pursuant to stabilization arrangements sometimes are reported in this category.

Assigned Fund Balance - Includes spendable fund balance amounts established by management of the District that are intended to be used for specific purposes that are neither considered restricted or committed.

Unassigned Fund Balance - Unassigned fund balance is the residual classification for the general fund. This classification represents fund balance that has not been assigned to other funds and that has not been restricted, committed, or assigned to specific purposes within the general fund. Unassigned fund balance may also include negative balances for any governmental fund if expenditures exceed amounts restricted, committed, or assigned for those specific purposes.

Unrestricted Fund Balance - The total of the committed fund balance, assigned fund balance, and unassigned fund balance.

The District's policy is to apply expenditures against restricted fund balance, committed fund balance, assigned fund balance, and unassigned fund balance in that order under circumstances where a particular expenditure can be made from more than one fund classification.

NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

Minimum Fund Balance Policy

Compliance with the provisions of this policy shall be reviewed after the annual audit. If prior committed or assigned fund balance causes the unassigned fund balance to fall below 17% of general fund operating expenditures, the District will take the necessary action to restore the unassigned fund balance to 17% of the General Fund operating expenditures within no more than two years.

Use of Estimates

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

NOTE 2. CASH

Custodial credit risk is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the District's deposits may not be returned to it. In accordance with its policy, all District depositories are banks designated by the Florida Chief Financial Officer as qualified public depositories. Chapter 280 of the Florida Statutes "Florida Security for Public Deposits Act", provides procedures for public depositories to ensure public monies in banks and saving and loans are collateralized with the Florida Chief Financial Officer as agent for the public entities. Chapter 280 defines deposits as demand deposit accounts, time deposit accounts, and non-negotiable certificates of deposit.

Financial institutions qualifying as public depositories shall deposit with the Florida Chief Financial Officer eligible collateral at the pledging level required pursuant to Chapter 280. The Florida Security for Public Deposits Act has a procedure for the payment of losses in the event of a default or insolvency. When public deposits are made in accordance with Chapter 280, no public depositor shall be liable for any loss thereof, and therefore, the District is not exposed to custodial credit risk for its deposits.

At September 30, 2024, the carrying amount of the District's deposits was $851,703 and the bank balance was $861,852.

NOTE 3. PROPERTY TAXES

Property taxes are levied on November 1 of each year, and are due and payable upon receipt of the notice of levy. The Lee County, Florida Tax Collector's Office bills and collects property taxes on behalf of the district. Property tax revenue is recognized in the fiscal year for which the taxes are levied.

Key dates in the property tax cycle (latest date, where appropriate) are as follows:

July 1	-	Assessment roll validated
September 30	-	Millage resolution approved and taxes levied following certification of assessment roll
October 1	-	Beginning of fiscal year for which tax is to be levied
November 1	-	Property taxes due and payable (levy date) with various discount provisions through March 1
April 1	-	Taxes become delinquent
Prior to June 1	-	Tax certificates sold by Lee County

The Board of Commissioners of the District levied ad valorem taxes at a millage rate of $3.1500 per $1,000 (3.1500 mills) on the January 1, 2023 taxable assessed value of real property located within the District.

NOTE 4. 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; injuries to employees; and the natural disasters for which the District carries commercial insurance. The financial impact of the District's risk management activities are reported in the accompanying financial statements. For 2024, the District paid $54,886 in premiums for policies to insure for these risks. No accrual has been provided for claims and incidents not reported to insurers.

NOTE 5. CAPITAL ASSETS

Capital asset activity for the year ended September 30, 2024 is as follows:

	Balance Oct. 1, 2023	Increases	Decreases	Adjustments	Balance Sept. 30, 2024
Capital assets not being depreciated:					
Land	$ 66,096	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 66,096
Equipment not in service	-	-	-	110,052	110,052
Construction in progress	-	109,473	-	-	109,473
Total capital assets not being depreciated	66,096	109,473	-	110,052	285,621
Capital assets being depreciated					
Buildings and improvements	828,277	9,113	(2,700)	-	834,690
Furniture and fixtures	1,433	-	-	-	1,433
Fire and rescue equipment	750,417	169,677	-	(110,052)	810,042
Total capital assets being depreciated	1,580,127	178,790	(2,700)	(110,052)	1,646,165
Less accumulated depreciation for:					
Buildings and improvements	(326,513)	(29,052)	450	-	(355,115)
Furniture and fixtures	(1,433)	-	-	-	(1,433)
Fire and rescue equipment	(299,358)	(72,131)	-	-	(371,489)
Total accumulated depreciation	(627,304)	(101,183)	450.00	-	(728,037)
Total capital assets being depreciated, net	952,823	77,607	(2,250)	(110,052)	918,128
Total capital assets	$ 1,018,919	$ 187,080	$ (2,250)	$ -	$ 1,203,749

NOTE 6. LINE OF CREDIT

The District has a $500,000 revolving line of credit agreement with Centennial Bank, which requires interest only payments at a variable rate of the qualified tax exempt rate per annum, which is equal to 79% of the index rate. The "Index" is the highest rate of interest designated by the Wall Street Journal, Money Rates Section, periodically as the "Prime Rate". The prime rate as of September 30, 2024 is 8.00%. The line of credit is unsecured and expires July 17, 2025. During the year, the District did not utilize the line of credit.

NOTE 7. LONG TERM DEBT

Note payable

On October 15, 2021, the District purchased a Pierce Freightliner Pumper for a total cost of 274,785 by entering into an agreement with a financial institution carrying a fixed annual interest rate of 3.19%. The loan will be repaid in fifteen annual installments of $22,675 with a final payment due on November 15, 2035. The principal balance as of September 30, 2024 is $ 223,178

Total Note Payables $ 223,178

The annual debt service requirements for notes payable at September 30, 2024 were as follows:

Fiscal Year	Principal	Interest	Total
2025	$ 15,557	$ 7,117	$ 22,674
2026	16,054	6,621	22,675
2027	16,566	6,109	22,675
2028	17,094	5,581	22,675
2029	17,639	5,036	22,675
2030-2034	97,000	16,374	113,374
2035-2036	43,268	2,080	45,348
	$ 223,178	$ 48,918	$ 272,096

The following is a summary of changes in long-term liabilities for the year ended September 30, 2024:

	Balance Oct. 1, 2023	Increases	Decreases	Balance Sept. 30, 2024	Amounts Due Within One Year
Notes payable	$ 238,254	$ -	$ (15,076)	$ 223,178	$ 15,557
Total	$ 238,254	$ -	$ (15,076)	$ 223,178	$ 15,557

REQUIRED SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

Upper Captiva Fire Protection and Rescue Service District

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND
Year Ended September 30, 2024

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
REVENUES				
Ad Valorem taxes	$ 915,025	$ 915,025	$ 910,559	$ (4,466)
Miscellaneous				
Interest	15,000	15,000	29,507	14,507
Insurance proceeds	-	287,000	321,044	34,044
Contributions and donations	50,000	5,000	5,108	108
TIPS revenue	5,000	5,000	5,000	-
Fun run	15,000	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	2,000	2,000	24,998	22,998
TOTAL REVENUES	1,002,025	1,229,025	1,296,216	67,191
EXPENDITURES				
Public Safety Current				
Current				
Personal services				
Salaries	353,128	353,128	394,624	(41,496)
Payroll taxes paid	27,014	27,014	31,375	(4,361)
Retirement contribution	6,240	6,240	6,720	(480)
Workers' compensation	16,920	16,920	12,755	4,165
Total personal services	403,302	403,302	445,474	(42,172)
Operating expenditures				
Legal and professional services	20,000	36,872	85,725	(48,853)
Accounting and auditing	12,000	21,175	22,605	(1,430)
Property appraiser fees	5,711	5,711	6,363	(652)
Tax collector fees	18,301	18,301	19,633	(1,332)
Travel	8,250	8,250	46,274	(38,024)
Communications	6,800	6,800	8,282	(1,482)
Postage/freight	200	200	66	134
Utilities	14,480	24,680	24,508	172
Insurance	31,340	31,340	27,091	4,249
Repairs and maintenance	38,800	38,800	18,833	19,967
Access point maintenance	50,000	50,000	23,710	26,290
Promotional Activities	4,655	-	-	-
Bank service charges	2,000	2,000	2,395	(395)
Other expenses	4,200	-	-	-

Upper Captiva Fire Protection and Rescue Service District

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - GENERAL FUND (CONTINUED)
Year Ended September 30, 2024

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
EXPENDITURES				
Public Safety Current				
Current				
Operating expenditures				
Licenses and taxes	300	300	-	300
Office supplies	600	600	625	(25)
Operating supplies				
Medical supplies	8,000	8,000	4,683	3,317
Uniforms	3,000	3,000	4,603	(1,603)
Fuel	1,000	1,000	2,332	(1,332)
Equipment <$1,000	4,000	4,000	606	3,394
T-shirts for resale	1,500	1,500	-	1,500
Personal protective equipment	3,000	22,765	21,565	1,200
Other	17,000	17,000	46,717	(29,717)
Books, subscript and memberships	1,260	1,260	1,101	159
Station software	8,160	8,160	7,351.00	809
Training and education	1,094	1,094	2,000	(906)
Total operating expenditures	265,651	312,808	377,068	(64,260)
Capital outlay				
Building Improvements	-	287,000	88,673	198,327
Machinery & equip: Firefight	-	47,000	45,400	1,600
Machinery & equip: Vehicles	-	4,700	4,700	-
Machinery & equip: Equipment	-	-	119,577	(119,577)
Machinery & equip: Other	-	120,000	3,055	116,945
Total capital outlay	-	458,700	261,405	197,295
Debt service				
Principal	14,611	14,611	15,076	(465.00)
Interest	8,064	8,064	7,599	465.00
Total debt service	22,675	22,675	22,675	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	691,628	1,197,485	1,106,622	90,863
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	310,397	31,540	189,594	158,054
FUND BALANCE, October 1, 2023	495,000	570,000	520,829	49,171
FUND BALANCE, September 30, 2024	$ 495,000	$ 570,000	$ 710,423	$ 238,765

Upper Captiva Fire Protection and Rescue Service District

STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCE
BUDGET AND ACTUAL - SPECIAL ASSESSMENT
Year Ended September 30, 2024

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual	Variance with Final Budget
REVENUES				
Permits, fees & special assessment	$ 447,400	$ 447,400	$ 451,346	$ 3,946
TOTAL REVENUES	447,400	447,400	451,346	3,946
EXPENDITURES				
Public Safety Current				
Current				
Personal service				
Salaries	395,246	395,246	385,645	9,601
Payroll taxes paid	30,236	30,236	29,502	734
Workers' compensation	14,885	14,885	15,040	(155)
Operating expenditures				
Accounting and auditing	12,000	21,175	18,762	2,413
Property appraiser fees	696	696	-	696
Tax collector fees	1,009	1,009	1,281	(272)
Rental and leases	6,000	6,000	3,000	3,000
Operating supplies				
Fuel	12,000	12,000	-	12,000
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	472,072	481,247	453,230	28,017
EXCESS OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	(24,672)	(33,847)	(1,884)	31,963
FUND BALANCE, October 1, 2023	63,825	73,000	57,306	15,694.00
FUND BALANCE, September 30, 2024	$ 39,153	$ 39,153	$ 55,422	$ 47,657

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Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with *Government Auditing Standards*

Honorable Board of Commissioners
Upper Captiva Fire Protection and Rescue Service District
North Captiva Island, Florida

We have audited, in accordance with the auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America and the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States, the financial statements of the governmental activities of Upper Captiva Fire Protection and Rescue Service District, (the "District") as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the District's basic financial statements, and have issued our report thereon dated June 20, 2025.

Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements, we considered the District'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 opinion on the financial statements, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the District's internal control. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion on the effectiveness of the District'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 entity's financial statements will not be prevented, or detected and corrected on a timely basis. A *significant deficiency* is a deficiency, or a combination of deficiencies, in internal control that is less severe than a material weakness, yet important enough to merit attention by those charged with governance.

Internal Control Over Financial Reporting (continued)

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

Report on Compliance and Other Matters

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

Purpose of this Report

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

Ashley, Brown & Smith, CPAs

Punta Gorda, Florida
June 20, 2025

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Management Letter

Honorable Board of Commissioners
Upper Captiva Fire Protection and Rescue Service District
North Captiva Island, Florida

Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the financial statements of the Upper Captiva Fire Protection and Rescue Service District, (the "District") as of and for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2024, and have issued our report thereon dated June 20, 2025.

Auditor's Responsibility

We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America; the standards applicable to financial audits contained in *Government Auditing Standards,* issued by the Comptroller General of the United States; and Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General.

Other Reporting Requirements

We have issued our Independent Auditor's Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and on Compliance and Other Matters Based on an Audit of the Financial Statements Performed in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards and Independent Accountant's Report on the examination conducted in accordance with AICPA Professional Standards, AT-C Section 315, regarding compliance requirements in accordance with Chapter 10.550, Rules of the Auditor General. Disclosures in those reports, which are dated June 20, 2025, should be considered in conjunction with this management letter.

Prior Audit Findings

Section 10.554(1)(i)1., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we determine whether or not corrective actions have been taken to address findings and recommendations made in the preceding annual financial audit report. Corrective actions have been taken to address the findings and recommendations made in the preceding financial audit report.

Official Title and Legal Authority

Section 10.554(1)(i)4., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that the name or official title and legal authority for the primary government and each component unit of the reporting entity be disclosed in this management letter, unless disclosed in the notes to the financial statements. The District had no component units as of September 30, 2024.

Financial Condition and Management

Section 10.554(1)(i)5.a. and 10.556(7), Rules of the Auditor General, require us to apply appropriate procedures and communicate the results of our determination as to whether or not the District has met one or more of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes, and to identify the specific condition(s) met. In connection with our audit, we determined that the District did not meet any of the conditions described in Section 218.503(1), Florida Statutes.

Pursuant to Sections 10.554(1)(i)5.b. and 10.556(8), Rules of the Auditor General, we applied financial condition assessment procedures for the District. It is management's responsibility to monitor the District's financial condition, and our financial condition assessment was based in part on representations made by management and the review of financial information provided by same.

Section 10.544(1)(i)2., Rules of the Auditor General, requires that we communicate any recommendations to improve financial management. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such recommendations.

Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) Programs

As required by Section 10.554(1)(i)6.a., Rules of the Auditor General, a PACE program authorized pursuant to Section 163.081 or Section 163.082, Florida Statutes, did not operate within the District geographical boundaries during the fiscal year under audit.

Special District Component Units

Section 10.554(1)(i)5.c., Rules of the Auditor General, requires, if appropriate, that we communicate the failure of a special district that is a component unit of a county, municipality, or special district, to provide the financial information necessary for proper reporting of the component unit within the audited financial statements of the county, municipality, or special district in accordance with Section 218.39(3)(b), Florida Statutes. In connection with our audit, we did not note any special district component units that failed to provide the necessary information for proper reporting in accordance with Section 218.39(3)(b), Florida Statutes.

As required by Section 218.39(3)(c), Florida Statutes, and Section 10.554(1)(i)6, Rules of the Auditor General, the District reported:

a. The total number of district employees compensated in the last pay period of the district's fiscal year is 30.

b. The total number of independent contractors to whom nonemployee compensation was paid in the last month of the district's fiscal year is 2.

c. All compensation earned by or awarded to employees in fiscal year 2024, whether paid or accrued, regardless of contingency is $786,990.

d. All compensation earned by or awarded to nonemployee independent contractors, whether paid or accrued, regardless of contingency is $27,317.

Special District Component Units (Continued)

e. Construction projects with a total cost of at least $65,000 approved by the District that is scheduled to begin on or after October 1 of the fiscal year being reported, together with the total expenditures for such project is $284,185 for post Hurricane Ian construction projects.

f. A budget variance based on the budget adopted under Section 189.016(4), Florida Statutes, before the beginning of the fiscal year being reported if the district amends a final adopted budget under Section 189.016(6), Florida Statutes, can be found on pages 24-26 of the financial statements.

As required by Section 218.39(3)(c), Florida Statutes, and Section 10.554(1)(i)7, Rules of the Auditor General, the District reported:

a. The millage rate or rates imposed by the district is 3.1500.

b. The total amount of ad valorem taxes collected by or on behalf of the district is $910,559.

c. The total amount of outstanding bonds issued by the district and the terms of such bonds is zero.

As required by Section 218.39(3)(c), Florida Statutes, and Section 10.554(1)(i)7, Rules of the Auditor General, the District reported:

a. The rate of non-ad valorem special assessments imposed by the District is determined based on the mathematical assessment determination amount for the project of $447,400. The assessment amount is fairly and reasonably apportioned based on the property's square footage and the building square footage (if the property is improved) for each eligible parcel.

b. The total amount of special assessments collected by or on behalf of the district is $451,346.

c. The total amount of outstanding bonds issued by the district and the terms of such bonds is zero.

Additional Matters

Section 10.554(1)(i)3., Rules of the Auditor General, requires us to communicate noncompliance with provisions of contracts or grant agreements, or abuse, that have occurred, or are likely to have occurred, that have an effect on the financial statements that is less than material but which warrants the attention of those charged with governance. In connection with our audit, we did not have any such findings.

Purpose of this Letter

Our management letter is intended solely for the information and use of the Legislative Auditing Committee, members of the Florida Senate and the Florida House of Representatives, the Florida Auditor General, Federal and other granting agencies, the Board of Commissioners, and applicable management, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

Ashley, Brown & Smith, CPAs

Punta Gorda, Florida
June 20, 2025

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Independent Accountant's Examination Report

Honorable Board of Commissioners
Upper Captiva Fire Protection and Rescue Service District
North Captiva Island, Florida

We have examined the Upper Captiva Fire Protection and Rescue Service District's (the "District") compliance with Section 218.415, Florida Statutes, in regards to investments for the year ended September 30, 2024. Management is responsible for the District's compliance with the specified requirements. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the District's compliance based on our examination.

Our examination was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. Those standards require that we plan and perform the examination to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the District complied, in all material respects, with the specified requirements referenced above. An examination involves performing procedures to obtain evidence about whether the District complied with the specified requirements. The nature, timing and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgement, including an assessment of the risks of material noncompliance, whether due to fraud or error. We believe that the evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Our examination does not provide a legal determination on the District's compliance with the specified requirements.

We are required to be independent and to meet our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with relevant ethical requirements relating to the engagement.

In our opinion, the District complied, in all material respects, with the aforementioned requirements during the year ended September 30, 2024.

The purpose of this report is to comply with the audit requirements of Sections 218.415, Florida Statutes and Rules of the Auditor General.

Ashley, Brown & Smith, CPAs

Punta Gorda, Florida
June 20, 2025